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MeT predicts light Rain, Snow in J&K on Nov 8 & 9

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 6

Meteorological Centre Srinagar on Monday predicted light rain over plains and light snowfall over the higher reaches on Wednesday and Thursday in Jammu and Kashmir.

MeT office said that the weather will remain cloudy but dry on November 8 but during the late evening there is a possibility of light snowfall at a few places over the higher catchments of Jammu and Kashmir.

On November 9, the MeT predicted light rain on the plains and light snowfall over the higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir and at a few places of Ladakh Union Territory.

"There is a possibility of 4-5 inch of snowfall on higher reaches of north western parts and the higher reaches, roads including Mughal road, Sinthan top, Razdan Pass and at Zojila pass

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No looking back, enhance capabilities of working to deliver better: J&K DGP to officers



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Jammu and Kashmir Police chief R R Swain on Monday chaired a meeting of senior officers from different wings here, urging them to enhance working capabilities to deliver better.

This was the first meeting chaired by the director general of police (DGP) at the police headquarters after assuming charge of the post on October 31.

Swain reviewed the

police functioning at zonal, range and district levels besides other wings of the organization from across the Union territory, a police spokesman said.

During the meeting, he said the discussions were held in an informal environment to identify the challenges, the work environment related difficulties, as also difficulties in planning and executing responses that are practical and effective.

The DGP listened to the participants patient-

ly, noted down issues, and gave his views, the spokesman said.

"It is absolutely necessary that leaders of the force at different levels must unhesitatingly interact with their junior colleagues and take their feedback so that the police and law enforcement responses are cost effective, public friendly and aligned to national security interests," the spokesman quoted the DGP as saying.

Swain said it is a great pleasure and privilege

for him to have an interaction with all the senior officers of a professional force at a big platform for the first time after assuming the charge of DGP. He said Jammu and Kashmir Police has faced many challenges with fortitude and have made a top position among the different forces of the country.

The DGP emphasized upon the officers to look forward and enhance their capabilities of working and functioning to deliver better to the people.

He also advised for developing competence of personnel in dealing with public, crime, law and order, and generating human intelligence.

Directing the officers to work out measures to enhance professional ethics among the personnel and to ensure

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3 passengers killed, 17 injured in Rajouri accident



JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, NOV 6

Three passengers travelling in a Tempo Traveller lost their lives while 17 others including children as well as women were injured in a road accident that took place at Charhan as the ill-fated vehicle fell off the road on Monday.

Police informed the news agency that an accident took place when a Tempo Traveller bearing registration number JK02AB-5535 on way to Rajouri from Budhal skidded off the road at

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LG Sinha condoles loss of lives in Rajouri mishap

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has condoned the loss of lives in the tragic road accident in Rajouri today.

"I am deeply shocked to learn of the unfortunate road accident in Rajouri today, in which precious lives have been lost and many others have been injured. I send my heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved families and wish those injured a speedy recovery. I have directed the district administration to provide all necessary assistance to the affected persons," the Lt Governor said.

Amarnath Cave Shrine gets Motorable Road, first set of vehicles reach Temple

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 6

In a first, vehicles have reached the Amarnath cave as the Border Roads Organisation has expanded road connectivity up to the cave shrine in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said here on Monday.

The widening of the road from Dumail to the Amarnath cave via Baltal base camp in Ganderbal district of central Kashmir has been completed, the officials said.

They said the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) personnel completed the formidable task and created history by expanding road connectivity up to the Amarnath cave shrine.

The first set of vehicles has also reached the shrine, the officials added.

The BRO was entrusted with the responsibility

of maintaining the twin tracks leading to the cave shrine last year.

The BRO's 'Project Beacon' is involved in the restoration and improvement of Amarnath Yatra tracks.

Earlier, the J-K government's Public Works Department (PWD) was maintaining the Baltal route in the Ganderbal district and the Pahalgam Development Authority (PDA) maintained the Pahalgam route in the Anantnag district.

The UT administration in September last year handed over the tracks to the BRO for maintenance and upgradation.

The BRO undertook the road widening project to ease the difficulties faced by the pilgrims who traditionally had to travel to the cave shrine on foot.

With the motorable

road reaching the Amarnath cave shrine, the pilgrimage would become more accessible and comfortable for the devotees, the officials said.

However, the People's Democratic Party (PDP) criticised the move calling it the "biggest crime" committed to the faith of Hindus.

"This is not history, it's the biggest crime one can commit to Hinduism and its faith in nature. Hinduism is all about immersing in spiritual mother nature, that's why our pilgrimages are in the lap of the Himalayas," PDP spokesperson Mohit Bhan posted on X.

Bhan said turning religious pilgrimages into picnic spots for "mere political gains" is worth condemnation.

"We have seen the wrath of God in

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Dr Jitendra inaugurates children science festival, emphasises harnessing of young aptitudes

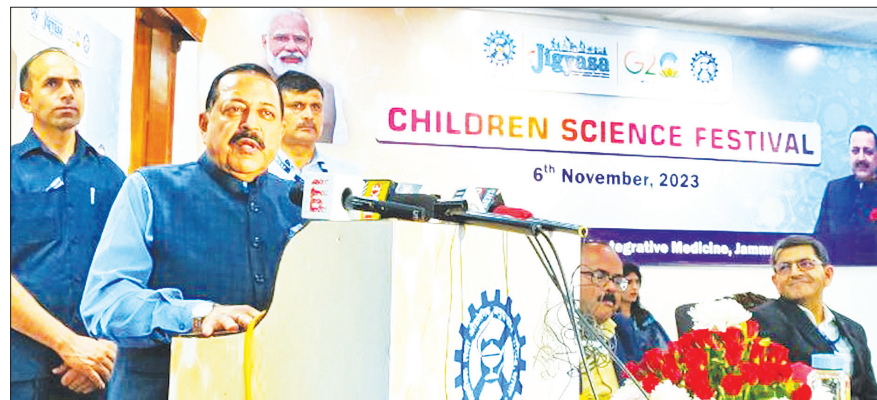
JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy & Department of Space and Vice President CSIR, Dr. Jitendra Singh has emphasised the harnessing of young aptitudes.

The union minister was speaking after inaugurating the "Children Science Festival" organized here today by CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM).

Dr. Jitendra Singh also took a round of the stalls in the exhibition put up on the occasion and witnessed different kinds of science models prepared by the students. The stu-

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dents drawn from the schools of Jammu region have also scripted slogans under the themes like Health & wellness, Water conservation, Waste management and Save mother Earth.

While addressing the school students, Dr. Jitendra Singh narrated how the Jigyasa programme is inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of

a new India and Scientific Social Responsibility (SSR) of Scientific Community and Institutions. Jigyasa is a student - scientist connect programme implemented by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in collaboration with Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS).

Dr. Jitendra Singh applauded the efforts of CSIR-IIIM for organizing

such outreach activities for students from schools and colleges. He said that such activities help to increase the scientific aptitude and inculcate the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship in young minds. He also distributed prizes to the winners of various competitions organized during the Children Science Festival.

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Four Cops injured as police vehicle skids off road in Kulgam

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 6

Four policemen were injured on Monday after a vehicle they were travelling in met with an accident in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district, officials said.

The police vehicle skidded off the road in the Mohipora area of south Kashmir district, following which four policemen suffered minor injuries, they added.

The injured policemen were taken to District Hospital Kulgam for treatment, the officials said.

Mortar Shell defused by BSF in Arnia Sector



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

The Border Security Force on Monday detected and defused a mortar shell in an agriculture field along the International Border in Jammu's Arnia, officials said.

Acting on the information of locals, BSF troops rushed to the Arnia sector, recovered the mortar shell and later successfully defused it in the fields, they said.

With this, they averted

a major tragedy in the area, officials said, adding that the shell was fired by Pakistan rangers during a recent ceasefire violation.

Two personnel and a woman were injured in unprovoked shelling by Pakistan rangers in the Arnia sector on October 27.

Today's recovery of a mortar shell is the second such incident in the past less than a fortnight. Earlier, one mortar shell was detected and defused on October 31 in Arnia.

Candles, Diyas made by Prisoners to light up homes this Diwali

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Candles and earthen lamps of various designs and colours made by jail inmates will light up the homes of hundreds of families this Diwali in Jammu.

As part of skill training and rehabilitation of inmates, the authorities in the district jail in Amphalla here are encouraging prisoners to make candles and diyas at a manufacturing unit set up within the premises.

"The prisoners are making diyas and candles of various designs and colours for Diwali. We will put up stalls outside the jail and other places for their sale," Harish Kotwal, Superintendent at Dis-

trict Jail Amphalla, told reporters here.

He said people should know that prisoners are part of their society and they, too, are trying to contribute to the community through such initiatives.

"This is a part of inmates' rehabilitation and skill training initiative. They are skilled and can earn a living for their families once they are out of jail. They can set up small-scale units", he said.

Shakti Kumar, who is serving lifetime imprisonment at the district jail, is part of this skill training initiative.

"We get wax from outside. The material comes from two companies. We boil it and then put it out in a

machine for turning it into candles and diyas of various colours. We make candles of several designs," Kumar, who has been in this jail for the past ten years, said.

He said he and his companions feel happy when the candles made by them are used by the people to light up their homes.

Kumar also said that he was grateful to the jail authorities for introducing various initiatives to impart skill training to the jail inmates on various trades.

The jail authorities are selling the candles and diyas at a shop outside Amphalla jail and are also putting them up on sale at shopping malls organised ahead of Diwali.

Chief Secretary review progress of implementation of JJM



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 6

Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta today took a detailed review of progress under the Jal Jeevan Mission in the UT of J&K. The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, Shaleen Kabra along with Mission Director, JJM, Chief Engineers of Jal Shakti Jammu/Kashmir besides other senior officers of the department.

At the outset, the Chief Secretary undertook live virtual review of several ongoing Water Supply Schemes at various far-flung areas of J&K such as Tangdhar (Kupwara), Chithi Bandy (Bandipora), Agar Balian (Reasi) and also took feedback from local community members/Pani Samitis regarding the pace and quality of the ongoing works. Dr. Mehta, while impressing that water is a basic necessity that touch-

es the life of every citizen, directed senior functionaries and field staff of Jal Jeevan Mission for strict adherence to the deadlines set for completion of the project with active on-boarding of Pani-Samitis. During the subsequent meeting, the Jal Shakti Department made a detailed presentation regarding the status of progress under the Jal Jeevan Mission. It was informed that 99% of

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3 Day District Level Kala Utsav takes off in GBHSS Gandhi Nagar

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 6

A three-Day District Level Kala Utsav-2023 Competition was inaugurated today here in Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Gandhi Nagar.

Chief Education Officer Jammu, Suraj Singh Rathore was the Chief Guest of the event. The host school Principal Govt. Boys HSS Gandhi Nagar Adarsh Bala welcomed the Chief Guest and other guests.

A bouquet of flowers was presented to the Chief Guest by Deputy Chief Education Officer, Ashok Kumar Raina, Principal GHSS Hari Singh, Dr. Kishor Kumar along with the Jury members.

Speaking on the occasion, Suraj Singh Rathore said that Kala Utsav-2023 competition will

be conducted in ten different art forms which includes Vocal Classical-Music, Vocal Music-Traditional Folk, Instrumental Music-Percussion, Instrumental Music-Melodic, Dance-Classical, Dance-Folk, Visual Arts(2D), Visual Arts(3D), indigenous Toys and Games, Drama (Solo Acting). He also said that in all ten art forms, one male and one female winner will participate in the Division Level Kala Utsav competition. Further he added that the competition was being organised every year for IX to XII class students giving them an opportunity to exhibit their talent in different art forms.

The Kala Utsav is an initiative of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India (GoI), launched in 2015, to pro-

mote different art forms in education, by nurturing and showcasing the artistic talent of school students in the country.

Lecturers, Masters and Teachers having expertise in different art forms were nominated as Jury members to judge the contestants. Deputy Chief Education Officer, Jammu Ashok Kumar Raina informed that Kala Utsav-2023 competition shall continue for three days till 08 November 2023 and the declaration of result for all the categories and the felicitation function shall be held on 08 November, 2023.

The inaugural function was attended by District Education Planning Officer, Jammu Tarlochan Singh Billowaria, DYSSO Sukhdev Raj Sharma, Lecturers, Masters, Teachers and a large number of parents.

DDC Chairperson Ramban kick starts work on road projects in sub-division Gool



JJ NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, NOVEMBER 6

Chairperson District Development Council Ramban, Dr. Shamshad Shan today kick started construction work on two road projects in Sub-Division Gool taken up at a cost of Rs 13.47 cr under NABARD.

The Chairperson launched the construction work on 3 KM long Kapanbass to Aloktop road at an

allotted cost of Rs. 7.15 crore in presence of local PRI, civil society members and officials.

Meanwhile, the Chairperson launched the work on another 4 KM road from Jamia Masjid Tharkharka to Sangalkundi via Panchayat Ghar Seripura with an allotted cost of Rs. 6.32 crore, also funded by NABARD.

AEE Vimal Sidha, JE Haider Ali, Sarpanches, PRIs and general public

were present on the occasion. Addressing the gathering, the Chairperson said that with the completion of the project, a long pending demand of the area will be fulfilled which will go a long way in easing the life of locals.

The Chairperson directed the officers of PW (R&B) Department and line Departments to ensure quality and timely completion of the construction work which will benefit thousands of souls of the area.

She asked the PRIs to personally monitor the execution of work to ensure quality and timely completion of development projects and implementation of all youth and beneficiary oriented schemes in their respective areas.

The Chairperson also interacted with the people and listened to their issues of developmental needs.

Ramban: AYUSH department organises farmers' awareness program on Agri-Ayurveda



JJ NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, NOVEMBER 6

Department of Indian System of Medicine (ISM)-AYUSH Ramban today organized an awareness camp on the theme, Agri-Ayurveda for farmers to promote cultivation of medicinal plants and their use, Senior AYUSH Medical Officer Dr. Masood Iqbal Zargar encouraged the farmers to develop Herbal Gardens to add to their income generation. He also high-

lighted the importance of AYUSH medicines, saying that these are helpful in strengthening the immune system, besides improving the overall strength and vitality in humans. He also dwelt in detail on different schemes launched by the Government for promotion of cultivation and marketing of medicinal plants.

The farmers appreciated the ISM Department Ramban for organizing awareness camps across the district and urged the officials to organize more such camps for the benefit of the farmers.

Legal Services Week

DLSA conducts Door to Door legal awareness campaign across Bandipora

JJ NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 6

As part of Legal Services Week and commemoration of Legal Services Day 2023, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Bandipora in collaboration with Tehsil Legal Services Committees, Bandipora, Sumbal and Gurez conducted two days door to door awareness campaign in remote areas of the district.

The campaign was organised to impart legal awareness and provide basic legal assistance to public living in far flung areas. The campaign was held under the supervision of Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Bandipora, Nusrat Ali Hakak.

It was given out that the main purpose of the campaign is to spread aware-



ness about welfare legislations, various schemes and to strengthen the community's access to the schemes being implemented by the Legal Services Authorities and other departments of the Government.

The campaign also aims at identifying and connecting people to NALSA Schemes to ensure that fruits of the welfare are passed to the eligible people.

During the course of campaign, PLVs conducted door to door

awareness/ counseling and apprised the public of far flung areas including Panhar, Hudbal, Aemshareef, Shahpora, Badwan Gurez, Asham, Inderkote, Parbal and Budgund, Sumbal, about free legal aid and services and those entitled under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

On the occasion, people interacted with the PLVs of the district to address their problems and to procure appropriate advice and guidance.

Power shutdown

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 6

Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL Jammu has informed that the power supply to Thanamandi, Fatehpur, Behrote, Plangarh, Bawali, Shadra Sharief and adjoining areas will remain affected on November 07 from 9 am to 5 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Village Dhar Mahanpur and adjoining areas will remain affected on November 09 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Meanwhile, Superintendent Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Channi, Rajbagh, Dalati, Hamirpur, Khillo Chack, Amala and adjoining areas will remain affected on November 9 and 10 from 6 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Ramkot, Nagrota Gujroo, Gurah Kalyal, Dharamkote, Ludera, Sadrota Kudetar and adjoining areas will remain affected on November 7 from 7 am to 11 am.

Vigilance awareness Week

Health Services Directorate Jammu concludes activities across Jammu Division

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 6

Vigilance Awareness week that commenced on 30th October 2023 was observed in all health institutions and offices under Directorate of Health Services Jammu in collaboration with Panchayati Raj Institution members and schools. The initiative aimed to raise awareness about detrimental effects of corruption on the society and to bring transparency and accountability in governance to achieve all round development of the country.

A series of activities were conducted during the week starting with taking of Integrity pledge by all health employees. The week-long activities undertaken included lectures cum discussions, drawing, painting, slogan



writing, essay writing, quiz competitions and signature campaign.

Grievance redressal camps were organised for citizens to ensure zero pendency of complaints.

Gram Sabha awareness camps, to sensitize the public regarding online services and the portal of health department, were also held. Information, Education and Com-

munication activities conducted included displaying posters, placards depicting messages of "Zero tolerance against corruption in offices, District Hospitals and all health blocks." At the Directorate of Health Services Jammu, an impressive skit related to the theme "Say No to Corruption; Commit to the Nation" was presented by the staff of Directorate in presence of Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Rajeev Kumar Sharma. The informative lectures on topics related to the theme were delivered

by Director Health Services Jammu, Dy. Director Dentistry, Assistant Director Schemes, State Epidemiologists, Technical Officer NIDDCP and Law Officer of the Directorate.

Kishtwar Administration hosts Diwali Mela from 9-12 November

JJ NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, NOVEMBER 6

The District Administration Kishtwar today finalized the arrangements for the celebration of Deepawali Festival in the district.

Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav chaired a meeting involving line and police departments as well as representatives of the civil society to address different aspects of the preparations for the festival of lights.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Inderjeet Singh Parihar, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Varunjeet Singh Charak, CEO Kishtwar Development Authority, Dr. Rishi Kumar Sharma, Tehsildar HQ, Chander Shekhar Sharma, ExEn Jal Shakti, Sunil Sharma, EO Municipal Council Kishtwar Ninad Sen, Chief Medical Officer, Dr M Y Mir, AEE PDD Sudheer Sharma, and other concerned individuals



and staff of DC Office attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the requirements for the effective celebration of the holy festival were highlighted by the representatives of the Sanatan Dharm Sabha. The DC assured them that all issues would be addressed through timely intervention by the concerned departments.

Various aspects of the festival, such as security, law and order, traffic regulation, drinking water and power supply, sanitation, healthcare, quality control of eatables, and fire safety, were discussed and finalized. A joint team of

departments was constituted to intensify market inspections to prevent overpricing, profiteering, and black-marketing, while ensuring the quality of food products.

Additionally, the health department will have 2 ambulances available at the District Hospital for emergencies. The Fire and Emergency services department will maintain an adequate number of fire tenders on alert at Dak Banglow and Hidyal Chowk, while firecracker stalls would be set up on Chowgan Grounds with all safety measures.

The police depart-

ment will ensure security measures in public and religious places during the festival. The ADC will deploy duty magistrates and establish a Control Room, while PRIs will help raise awareness of safety measures among the public. Authorities in charge of water supply (Jal Shakti) will plug leaks and ensure uninterrupted water supply, and the power supply (JPDCL) will remain uninterrupted during the Deepawali festival. The EO Municipal Council Kishtwar and CEO KDA will maintain cleanliness in and around the temples and ensure

streets in Kishtwar town and at the temples are well-lit.

The DC Kishtwar also announced that the district administration will host a 4-day Diwali Mela, from 9th November till Nov 12 at TRC Ground and surrounding area. The Activities and Attractions will be Traditional Food Stalls, Cultural Performances (Music, Dance, Drama), Craft and Merchandise Stalls, Rangoli Competitions, Fireworks Display, Diya Lighting Ceremony, Carnival Rides and Games, Charity and Community Service Initiatives and VR Gaming Centre.

The Deputy Commissioner asked the attendees to encourage the public to participate in the festive event enthusiastically.

SDMs were directed to hold preparedness meetings in their respective headquarters to ensure timely and smooth arrangements for the festival.

DC Bandipora reviews overall working of Revenue Department

JJ NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 6

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad Monday conducted a comprehensive review of the overall functioning of the Revenue Department in the district.

The meeting assessed the efficiency, transparency, and effectiveness of the departmental operations and its impact on the residents.

Dr Owais interacted with the officials and staff members of the department, discussing their roles, responsibilities, and challenges.

He also examined various aspects of revenue administration, including 5-Marlas land allocation, land records, mutation processes, land acquisition, and the issuance of important documents



like revenue extracts and Income certificates.

The meeting discussed identifying any bottlenecks in the system and ensuring that the services provided by the Revenue Department are accessible, efficient, and responsive to the needs of people.

The meeting also discussed various aspects of land allocation, including eligibility criteria, documentation procedures, and the timeline for implementation. The digitization process of land records and other e-services were also reviewed threadbare during the

meeting. Dr Owais emphasized the importance of transparency and accountability in the Revenue Department's functioning and urged the officials to adopt modern technology for record-keeping and service delivery.

The DC also stressed the need to address pending land disputes and expedite the disposal of cases to provide timely justice to the affected parties. He assured full support in addressing these issues.

The meeting, was attended by, ADC Bandipora Umar Shafi; ACR Bandipora, Shabir Ahmad; SDM Sumbal, SDM Gurez, Tehsildars, BDOs, Officials from Municipalities besides concerned officials from the Revenue Department, including senior officials and experts in land allocation and social welfare.

BIS conducts sensitisation program for Gram Panchayats in Kahra Block

JJ NEWS SERVICE
DODA, NOVEMBER 6

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) today conducted a sensitisation programme for Gram Panchayats Sarpanchs and Secretaries here

in Block Development Office Kahra of district Doda.

The programme was conducted by BIS Resource Person Raja Amir Karim and spread awareness about ISI marking, Hallmarking

and other things.

The programme was conducted on the directions of BIS Jammu and Kashmir Branch Office (JKBO) Director and head Tilak Raj.

During the programme, Sarpanches



and Panchayat secretaries of different Pan-

chayats of Block Kahra participated and were

made aware about the purpose of holding such campaigns.

Sarpanches were all praise for the BIS for holding such an informative programme which is useful for their daily life. Speaking on

the occasion, Sarpanch Malanoo Zafrullah Magray said that he has attended many programmes in the past but this one was unique and fruitful. "I congratulate BIS for holding this programme and making us

aware about ISI marking, Hallmarking and other things," he added.

The BIS resource Person presented the Indian National Flag, which the Indian Standards 1 of BIS to BDO Kahra Shabir Ahmed.

DC Reasi inspects progress of work on Delhi Katra- Expressway project



JNEWS SERVICE REASI, NOVEMBER 6

District Development Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan today inspected the progress on Delhi Amritsar Katra Expressway Project in the jurisdiction of the Reasi District. He also reviewed the status of Land acquisition, besides compensation disbursement to the owners.

the prestigious project & expeditiously remove hindrances, if any, being faced by project Executing Agencies. During the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner directed the executing agency to expedite the pace of the work to meet the set deadlines. He asked for deployment of additional men and machinery to complete the important project connecting the national capital to the revered shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi,

Katra. The Deputy Commissioner asked residents of Katra and the surrounding areas to extend their full cooperation and support to the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) in its efforts to ensure the timely completion of a critical highway project in the region. During the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by Director NHAI Anuj Kumar Singh, Project Manager RK Asthana and other concerned officers.

DC Kupwara chairs CLU Meeting

JNEWS SERVICE KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 6

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan today convened a meeting of the District Level Committee regarding Change of Land Use (CLU) cases in the district. At the outset, detailed discussion was held regarding pending cases of CLU in the district. As many as 16 cases were put up for discussion; after thorough deliberation on various aspects of the policy, 3 cases were approved by the committee, 4 were rejected and 9 cases were reverted to applicants to get some observations cleared.

Director Horticulture conducts comprehensive tour of Kupwara, assesses progress of various developmental works

JNEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 6

The Director Horticulture Kashmir, G. R. Mir conducted a comprehensive tour of district Kupwara and made significant visits to key horticultural facilities, besides engaging with departmental staff. During the tour, the Director actively assessed the progress of various developmental works and addressed critical issues within the region.



He shared insights into further promoting hi-tech techniques in walnut production for the benefit of local farmers and the overall economy.

Mir, who is also the Prabhari Officer for Panchayat Halqa Chandigam-A, Sogam convened a crucial meeting there which brought together representatives from various government departments. The meeting served as a platform for a comprehensive review of developmental initiatives across departments such as Jal shakti, KPDCL, Revenue, R&B, RDD schemes, Health, Education, Agriculture and Horticulture.

During this meeting, Panchayat Raj Institution (PRI) members presented their concerns and issues to the Director. In response, it was directed that the Secretary Panchayat would compile a comprehensive report addressing these concerns, to be forwarded to the relevant authorities for prompt resolution.

ined the ongoing activities and offered valuable guidance to the staff to optimize their efforts and resources. His visit aimed to ensure that the nursery continues to serve as a hub for nurturing quality fruit plants.

The Director also visited the Hi-Tech Walnut Nursery in Chandigam, where he highlighted the critical role of walnut cultivation in the region's Horticultural landscape.

GDC Vijaypur hosts Slogan-Writing Competition to mark Constitution Day

JNEWS SERVICE SAMBA, NOVEMBER 6

To foster a safe and welcoming academic environment and to commemorate Constitution Day, Government Degree College on Monday organized two significant events. The Department of Political Science, in collaboration with the Anti-Ragging Committee and NSS Unit (KHIDMAT), organised an Anti-Ragging Slogan Competition on the theme "Anti-Ragging Laws" under the flagship banner of "My Constitution My Pride." The event was guided by the unwavering vision of the Head Prof. Anita Jamwal. This initiative underscores the institution's commitment to eradicate ragging and to cultivate healthy relationships among students.



and a sense of camaraderie among all students. The competition invited young minds to come forward with their innovative ideas and compelling words to inspire change. The discerning eyes of Prof. Poonam Kundan, Convenor Anti-ragging Committee and Prof. Renuka Kundal, Lecturer, Department of Political Science, expertly assessed the entries. The Principal of the College, while speaking on

the occasion, articulated that ragging is a crime because it affects an individual's mental and physical health and it should not be propagated in the college campus. She congratulated all the winners of the competition. The first place was bagged by Tanshu Gakhar of B.A. sem.V stood First, Iqra of B.A. sem.V secured the second place and the third place was shared by Manvi Sharma of B.Sc. Sem. III and Pallvi Sharma

of B.A. sem.III. The students were also provided certificates for their endeavours. Meanwhile, the Career Counseling Cell of the College, in collaboration with NSS Unit (KHIDMAT), organised a one-day workshop cum awareness programme on "Career Guidance" in collaboration with Wings- Ek Udaan Institute. NSS volunteers and other college students actively participated in the awareness programme with great interest and zeal.

The team of Wings- Ek Udaan briefed the students about different government sponsored self-employment schemes. They presented a talk on how individuals can start preparations for different competitive exams and highlighted the strategies of cracking the same. It was followed by a question and answer session with the students.

FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2023

In order to clear extra rush of passengers during Deepawali and Chhath Puja Festivals, Northern Railway, in association with other zonal railway, has planned to run the following Festival Special Trains as per schedule given below:-

LIST OF FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS ORIGINATING/TERMINATING IN NORTHERN RAILWAY

Table with columns: Spl. Train No., Station From, Dept. Time, Station to, Arr. Time, Frequency / Day, Period. Lists various festival special trains with their routes and schedules.

LIST OF FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS PASSING THROUGH NORTHERN RAILWAY NETWORK

Table with columns: Spl. Train No., Station From, Dept. Time, Station to, Arr. Time, Frequency / Day, Period. Lists festival special trains passing through the network.

Industrial visit of Tribal Youth from Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Telangana to Bari Brahmana Industrial Complex

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan under Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India is organizing 15th Tribal Youth Exchange Program sponsored by Ministry of Home Affairs from 02-11-2023 to 08-11-2023 under which 70 Tribal Youths and 20 Escorts leaders from Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Telangana today visited Bari Brahmana Industrial Complex along with officials from Office of State Directorate Youth Affairs & Sports, J&K State, Ladkh. Sh. Lalit Mahjan, Pres-

ident, BBIA along with Sh. Tarun Singla, Sr. Vice President, BBIA, Sh. Vivek Singhal, Treasurer BBIA and Sh. Ravinder Raina, Manager Estate, J&K SIDCO welcome all the Youths, Escort Officers from different States along with Mr. Nitin Hangloo, District Youth Officer, Rajouri & Poonch, Miss Jigmit Spaldon District Youth Officer, Kargil to BBIA Bhawan. Sh. Lalit Mahjan, President, BBIA conveyed his heartiest thanks to Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Union Home Minister Sh. Amit Shah

and Hon'ble Lt. Governor Sh. Manoj Sinha for the Central Package of Incentives 2021 granted to J&K resulting in rapid Industrialization in Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir on the card which will boost the Economy of the State by providing the Direct and Indirect Employment avenues to the Local peoples of the State. Sh. Lalit Mahjan, President, BBIA & Sh. Tarun Singla, Sr. Vice President, BBIA interacts with youths & told them about Industrial Scenario in J&K which includes types of Industries working in Bari Brahmana, Package of Incentives etc.

Koul addresses Booth Jan Samvad Abhiyaan at Rajouri

JJ NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, NOV 6

Ashok Koul, general secretary (org.) Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, addressed two "Booth Jan Samvad Abhiyaan". programmes in Rajouri. While speaking in these programmes, Ashok Koul said that it was in the year 2014 that BJP led government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi came into existence and in its rule of over nine years, many historical works has been done for development and welfare of different sections of the society.

Ashok Koul said that a new chapter in the history of J&K was written when the special provision of Article 370 and 35A were



abolished with the thumping majority in both the houses of the parliament. This historic step mitigated the sufferings of the refugees, Valmiki Samaj, and other sections, it restored rights of the daughters of the soil, national flag got true honour after repeal of these controversial Articles, Koul said and added that each one of us should take responsibility to reach the doorsteps

of the people and make them aware of the splendid works of Narendra Modi government. He said that every booth has to be strengthened to ensure that the party registers victory by winning maximum votes of the area and gets chance to serve the people. General Secretary & former MLC, Vibodh Gupta, while addressing these programmes, said that the twin districts

the government is considering to empower the Pahari speaking people of Rajouri and Poonch, which will bring revolutionary changes in their lives. He said that the party is organizing Booth Jan Samwad programmes to have more close interaction with the people and share with them the pro-development, pro-poor initiatives and also expose the opportunist parties,

which always took the innocent people for granted for vote bank politics.

Garu Sanehi addressed the programme in Booth-5,6, Panchayat-Kotli Kalaban, Mandal-Manjakot, Constituency-Thanamandi, in District-Rajouri. Harish Bharti, addressed the programme in Booth-57,60, Panchayat-Mubarak Pura, Mandal-Muradpur, Constituency-Rajouri in District-Rajouri. The programmes were organized by Aijaz Khan and Karan Saryal respectively.

District President Dinesh Prabhari Jugal Dogra, Sarpanch Karan Saryal Panchayat Mumarakpura And Panchayat Kotli Kalaban BDC Samshad Begum were amongst the prominent present in the programmes.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

No looking back...

transparency and accountability in the working, Swain said "there should be no hesitation in self correction".

He also called for optimum use of resources and assured that at PHQ level all possible support and resources will be provided to augment and strengthen the working and functioning.

The DGP emphasized upon officers to ensure that welfare of personnel should be taken care of at different levels.

The senior officers briefed him regarding the functioning of different units and measures taken to extend better police service to the people.

The meeting was, among others, attended by Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) and Director of Sher-i-Kashmir Police Academy Udhampur Garib Dass, Inspector General of Police (Jammu zone) Anand Jain, IGP (CID) Nitish Kumar, IGP (police headquarters) B S Tuti and IGP (armed Jammu) M N Tiwari.

From Kashmir, ADGPs J M Gillani and Vijay Kumar and other officers, including DIGs and SSPs, attended the meeting through video conference, the spokesman said. (Agencies)

3 passengers killed...

Charhan, around 15 kilometres away from Rajouri. The vehicle fell into a deep gorge, resulting in injuries to 20 passengers.

Dr. Mehmood H Bajar, Medical Superintendent of GMC Associated Hospital Rajouri, said that all the injured were brought to the hospital where three among them were declared as brought dead whose bodies have been handed over to the police after conducting medico-legal formalities.

He said that three injured have been referred to Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu due to some serious complicated injuries whereas other injured are undergoing treatment at GMC associated hospital.

Those who have been referred to GMC Jammu include an adult and two children.

The three passengers, who lost their lives in the accident, include Abdul Rashid (34), son of Chandia of Hubbi Kandi, Mohammad Shabir (40), son of Nazir Hussain of Badhal and Mohammad Azam (37), son of Ghulam Din of Draj Budhal.

Meanwhile, the injured have been identified as Jagdev Singh (30) son of Lal Chand, Kirna Devi (25) wife of Jagdev Singh (25), Jajant Singh (2) son of Jagdev Singh, Naseem Akhter (30) wife of Abdul Rashid, Saika Kouser (4) daughter of Abdul Rashid, Wajid Ali (2) son of Abdul Rashid, all residents of Hubbi, Showket Ali (35) son of Nazir Hussain resident of Kandi, Mohammad Kafil (15) son of Ghulam Rasool resident of Dhar Sakri, Imtiaz Ahmed son of Ghulam Mohammad (20) resident of Mogra Draj, Mashooma Begum (64) wife of Abdul Aziz resident of Jaglanoo, Mohammad Alani (34) son of Abdul Aziz resident of Jaglanoo, Mohammad Younis (55) son of Ali Mohammad resident of Dhar Sakri, Vinod Kumar (55) son of Parshotam Kumar resident of Khawas, Hamida Begum (55) wife of Abdul Aziz resident of Kotranka, Abdul Aziz (62) son of Hassan Mohammad resident of Kotranka, Imtiaz Ahmed (24) son of Yaseen resident of Hubbi and Rajeev Singh (38) son of Daleep Singh resident of Sakri-(KNO)

MeT predicts light...

while most parts of the plains will be lashed with rains throughout the valley", the MeT office said.

The weather will remain dry as there is no significant chance of any heavy precipitation from November 10 to 16, it said.

The weather remains mainly clear to partly cloudy today with a forecast of dry weather to continue during the next 24 hours in Jammu and Kashmir.

The minimum temperature recorded at Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, is 2.7 degree Celsius, Qazigund 1.8, Pahalgam -0.3, Kupwara 1.2, Kokernag 4.2 and Gulmarg 2.4, the MeT office said.

Amarnath Cave Shrine...

Joshimath, Kedarnath and yet we are learning no lessons instead inviting a catastrophe in Kashmir," the PDP leader said.

The BJP's J-K unit hit back at the PDP saying laying of the concrete road up to the holy cave shrine is being done after proper Environmental Impact Assessment and no trees have been cut.

"With the shrine of Baba Amarnath, lakhs of people have their faith. PDP by opposing and finding faults in the road stretch is trying to repeat the 2008 land row, but people are wise enough and won't fall prey to poli-

tics of deceit again," the BJP's J-K spokesperson Altaf Thakur said in a statement. (Agencies)

Dr Jitendra inaugurates...

Dr. Jitendra Singh said, India's first Virtual Science Lab for Children under CSIR Jigyasa Programme was launched, which built a strong connect between students and Scientists with scientists across the country. He also said, the main objective of establishing the Virtual Lab was to provide quality research exposure and innovative pedagogy for school students based on an online interactive medium. He said, the new facility will immensely benefit students from Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas and Government Schools of various States Boards and will help in catching them young.

Today, in the Children Science Festival, more than 350 students from about 55 schools under the government of J&K, Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas, Army Public Schools, Bhartiya Vidya Mandir Schools, etc, from various districts of Jammu region showcased their talent in various competitions such as Science models (Themes : Health & wellness; Water conservation; Waste management; Save mother Earth), Science/current affairs Quiz Competition, Poster competition on 'Swachh Bharat Mission' and Slogan writing competition on 'Space Mission of India'. Students of Seva Bharti, an NGO that provides free education and vocational training to children from economically weaker sections of society. These students displayed various products developed under the 'Waste to Wealth' theme.

Earlier, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM, Jammu, in his welcome address gave the details of this event and said that the main objective of the Children Science Festival is to ignite the scientific spirit in young minds. He informed the audience that CSIR-IIIM, Jammu, has been regularly organizing various youth conclaves and startup expo, as outreach activities and to support and nurture the startup ecosystem of the UT of J&K. Dr. Zabeer also informed that CSIR-IIIM has three incubation centers viz. Technology Business Incubator (TBI), BioNEST Incubator and Atal Incubation Centre (AIC) for hand-holding and promoting the startups.

Prominent among the dignitaries present in the function were Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, Principal Govt. Medical College, Jammu, Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor of Central University of Jammu, Ashok Kumar Sharma, JKAS, Director School Education, Jammu, Nagendra Goyal, Deputy Commissioner, KV Sangathan, Jammu. The main programme in the auditorium was conducted by Rajni Kumari while as Er. Abdul Rahim, Chief Scientist & Head Srinagar Branch presented formal vote of thanks. The event was organized under the chief patronage of Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director CSIR-IIIM, Jammu and coordination by Dr. Asha Chaubey, Senior Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer Jigyasa Programme, CSIR-IIIM. Among other organizing committee members were: Dr. Shashank Singh, Dr. Dhiraj Vyas, Dr. Tasduq Abdullah, Dr. Sumit G Gandhi (Sr. Principal Scientists), Dr. Deepika Singh and Saurabh Saran (Principal Scientists), Shri. Vikram Singh (Sr. CoA), Shri Rajesh Gupta, Administrative Officer and Shri Dileep Gehlot, Store & Purchase Officer.

Chief Secretary review...

the works in Kashmir division and 95% of works in Jammu division out of the total 6623 works in the UT stand allotted; and that by December end, 91% of the functional household tap connections shall be made functional. It was also highlighted that the pace of the providing of household tap connections have increased from the average rate of 3200 per month previously to 37400 per month during the current year with 41000 tap connections provided in the month of October this year.

It was also apprised that at the current pace of work, J&K was expected to enter into the above 75%- High Achiever Category (4 star) by November end. On the district front, it was informed that 09 districts have entered the 4 star category (more than 75%), 07 districts have entered the 3 star category (more than 50%) in this current year with 02 district- Srinagar and Ganderbal having achieved the 100% target already.

Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Jeevan Mission apprised that J&K stands at the top among UTs and 3rd overall in the country with respect to Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance with 1.7 lakh test conducted through a network of 98 water testing labs and 32000 women having been trained for use of Field Test Kits for water quality testing so far.


He also stated that a total of Rs. 2100 crores stand spent on Jal Jeevan Mission in the current financial year with transparency, accountability being fostered through disclosure of real-time status of physical and

financial progress available on the JJM-IMIS portal of Gol, disclosure of details of release of UT funds available on the Janbhagidari Portal and disclosure of details of allotments of works under various scheme under JJM available on the departmental website of respective Chief Engineers besides various robust interventions like monitoring through District level Project Management Units (DPMUs), Consultants and Third Party Inspection Agencies (TPIAs).

During the review, Dr. Mehta observed that the public involvement through Pani Samitis is key tool for real-time feedback of the work and to create a sense of public ownership of these works. In view of the onset

of winter in the Kashmir division, the Chief Secretary directed carrying out work on war-footing and to innovate to ensure that works are completed before peak winters. He enjoined upon all present to ensure that timelines are not breached and works are completed within the timelines set for completion.

Also, the Chief Secretary observed that the upcoming visits of Prabhari Officers during the upcoming 5th Phase of Back to Village Program presents a great opportunity to review the ongoing/completed scheme under JJM and accordingly, issued directions that the same be made one of a focus areas in this edition of Back to Village Program.



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION REASI

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Fresh e-NIT No. 84 of 2023-24 Dated 03-11-2023
(Single Cover System)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works: -

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (₹ in lacs)	Cost of doc.t (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in Rs.₹)	Time Allowed for completion	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD FROM SUNGAL SCHOOL TO MAJRA KUND (KHARRHA) POUNI (L=3.00KMS) UNDER STATE CAPEX BUDGET.	96.45	1500/-	192900/-	24 Month	A Class

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

1	Date of Publishing of Tender Notice	03-11-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 03-11-2023 to 18-11-2023, 1600 Hrs
4	Bid submission Start Date	03-11-2023
5	Bid Submission End Date	18-11-2023 up to 1600 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	20-11-2023 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Reasi.
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Reasi uploading a copy of treasury challan and EMD/Bid Security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date of Treasury Challan/ Bid Security/Affidavits between date of start of bid submission and bid submission end date) duly pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Reasi as mentioned in the bid documents.
- The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address.
- The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division, Reasi .
- The earnest money of the unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Treasury Challan.
- The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids after due date and time as per 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 make any additional payment towards the cost of tender document. For bid modification and consequential re- submission, the bidder is not required to withdraw his bid submitted earlier. The last modified bid submitted by the bidder within the bid submission time shall be considered as the bid. For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted. In online system of bid submission, the modification and consequential- submission of bids is allowed any number of times. The bidders may withdraw his bid by uploading their request before the deadline for submission of bids; however, if the bid is withdrawn, the re-submission of the bid is not allowed. No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the deadline of submission of bids.
- The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Reasi. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

No:- 5619-23
Dated:- 03-11-2023

SD/-
(Er. Rajesh Sharma)
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division
Reasi

DIP/J-10701/23
Date: 7-11-23

DC Rajouri reviews preparedness for Back to Village Phase-V

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, NOVEMBER 6

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal on Monday presided over a meeting of concerned officers to assess preparations for the 'Fifth Phase of Back to Village Programme (B2V5)'.

The 'Back to Village' initiative is the flagship public outreach, participation, and feedback program of the Jammu and Kashmir Government. Threadbare discussion on a number of activities scheduled to be carried out during the program was held in the meeting.

Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal underlined the significant impact of the previous phases of the Back to Village program. He noted that these initiatives have been instrumental in identifying the specific needs and priorities of villages, allowing for the prioritization of essential public works, and ensuring the efficient last-mile delivery of different government services. Furthermore, the program has played a pivotal role in spreading awareness about the numerous government services and initiatives.

The Deputy Commissioner asked the stakeholder departments to mobilize the people for

enthusiastic participation in the program, emphasizing that their involvement is imperative for the success of the program. He also encouraged all government officers to actively engage in B2V activities to achieve the specific objectives set for this phase.

The 'Back to Village' program has evolved over the years and is now an integral component of the Aspirational Panchayat Program. The primary aim of this program is to achieve the saturation of services and bridge the existing gap between the government and the people it serves.

The 'Back to Village' program has proven to be a pivotal means of promoting community engagement, strengthening government-citizen relations, and ensuring effective service delivery. As Jammu and Kashmir progresses in its commitment to the welfare of its citizens, the B2V5 program serves as a beacon of hope and progress, bringing the government closer to the people it serves. The meeting was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Rajiv Kumar Khajuria; Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Khurshid; Assistant Commissioner Development, Vijay Kumar; District Panchayat Officer, Auqil Nuvaid and other concerned officers.

Summary Revision Electoral Rolls DEO Reasi discusses activity schedule with political representatives



JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, NOVEMBER 6

District Election Officer (DC), Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan today discussed the schedule of activities for Special Summary Revision of the photo Electoral Rolls with the Political parties here at a meeting held in the video conference hall of the DC office. The Special Summary Revision of the photo Electoral Rolls is being conducted with 1st January, 2024, as the qualifying date.

The schedule of the Revision was read out in the meeting and the rep-

representatives of the Political parties were requested to disseminate the information among the people to encourage the eligible persons of the District to as Voters. The Political parties were invited to appoint their Booth Level Agents to work and co-ordinate with the Booth Level Officers to facilitate error free revision of the electoral rolls. Copies of the draft Electoral Rolls were also given to the Political parties. ADC, Abdul Star, DY. District Election Officer Rakesh Kumar and other concerned officers attended the meeting.

Yasha Mudgal reviews functioning of J&K SCARD bank branches across J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 6

Commissioner Secretary, Co-operatives, Yasha Mudgal, on Monday reviewed the functioning of J&K State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank Ltd., (J&K SCARD Bank) Branches operating across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir at Civil Secretariat here.

During the meeting, the Managing Director/CEO, J&K SCARD Bank appraised the Commissioner Secretary of key financial parameters of the bank.

Commissioner Secretary urged concerned officers/officials to further intensify their efforts to achieve the

set targets within the stipulated time frame and make the Bank profitable up to end of current financial year. She emphasized the need for stringent action against poor performing Officers/ Officials of the Bank.

The meeting had a detailed discussion on various vital aspects including Deposits, Loan and Advances, CD ratio, Recovery against NPAs, Loan disbursement and other related matters too.

The meeting was also attended by Director Finance Cooperative Department, Joint Registrar, Additional, Administrator, J&K SCARD Bank Limited and other officers and officials of the Bank.

Rajouri road mishap: Deputy Commissioner meets victims at GMC & AH

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, NOVEMBER 6

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Vikas Kundal today rushed to GMC&AH to inquire about the condition of injured who had endured a dreadful tempo accident at Kanchi Morh on Rajouri-Kotranka Road. The accidents victims were shifted to the hospital for specialized care. Deputy Commissioner Vikas kundal assured that appropriate compensation under rules shall also be given to the sufferers of the mishap.

Tragedy struck as eighteen people were left injured, while the lives of three innocent souls were tragically cut short in a road accident that unfolded at the fateful Kanchi Morh, situated near Rehan. The heart-wrenching incident occurred when a tempo traveler, en route to Rajouri from Kotranka, lost control and veered off the road, tumbling down a steep gorge.

The aftermath of the accident was nothing short of chaos, with a total of eighteen individu-



als bearing the brunt of the catastrophe, all left grappling with injuries of varying degrees. These brave survivors were rushed to the GMC Associated Hospital in Rajouri, where a dedicated medical team worked tirelessly to assess and address their conditions. Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal engaged with the injured, inquiring about their health and offering words of solace and encouragement. Furthermore, he directed the medical team to provide the injured with the most comprehensive and effective treatment, minimizing the risk of complications and ensuring a smoother path

to recovery. In this trying hour, the Deputy Commissioner extended a heartfelt promise to the injured and their distraught families, assuring them that the District Administration would stand by their side, offering unwavering support and all the necessary assistance required during this difficult and trying time.

Among the others DDC Member Budhal New, Shazia Kouser; ACR, Imran Rashid Kataria; MS DH, Dr Mehmood Bajar; Tehsildar Rajouri, Varinder Sharma; DySP HQR, Mudasir Chowdhury and other officers accompanied the DC during his visit.

DC Ganderbal reviews land acquisition cases for Z-morh, Zojila tunnel projects



JI NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 6

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today convened a meeting to review the status of land acquisition for the construction of Z-morh and Zojilla Tunnel projects.

At the outset, DC sought details of all pending land acquisition cases/rent agreements coming under the construction of Z-morh and Zojilla tunnel projects.

While reviewing the status of land acquisition, the DC directed the official of NHIDCL to ensure consent is taken from the land owners for acquiring the land besides all

agreements with the land owners shall be notarized at Sub-Registrar Office.

He also directed the concerned to disburse the compensation amount in the cases where final awards have been issued and asked for clearing the pendency with regard to the acquisition of land within the shortest possible time. The Executing Agencies were asked to work in coordination with the SDM Kangan and Tehsildar Gund for resolving the issues regarding revenue matters.

Meanwhile, the DC also reviewed the preparation of Z-morh tunnel for winters and maintenance of approach roads. He maintained that the dis-

trict administration has made all preparations for keeping Sonamarg open to tourists during winter and directed the Executing Agency to ensure one tube of tunnel is made functional from 10th of December for emergency purposes during winter.

Earlier, the DC disbursed an amount of Rs 1.07 Crore compensation among the families of Rezan Kullam whose houses and shops were damaged due to the avalanche.

The meeting was attended by SDM Kangan, Javid Ahmad Rather; Tehsildar Gund, Executive Director, NHIDCL (projects) and officials of Executive Agencies.

GDC Ramgarh organises awareness workshop on Critical Issue of Domestic Violence

JI NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, NOVEMBER 6

Women Development Cell, Government Degree College Ramgarh on Monday organised an Awareness Workshop for students on 'Critical Issues of Domestic Violence and its far-reaching impact on individuals and Communities.' The event was organized under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, Principal of the College.

Advocate Kiran Thakur, a cyber security expert and Human rights expert was the Resource Person.

In her address, Advocate Kiran Thakur introduced the students to her initiative namely 'DHIRA'-the undistracted mind, a commitment to empower individuals with knowl-



edge, understanding and confidence in the realms of legal protection and digital security. She emphasized the need to create awareness among the general public regarding different forms of Domestic Violence and the legal services available. She further added that Domestic Violence is violence or other abuse that occurs in a domestic setting, such as in a marriage or cohabitation. She urged an end to the silence around any sort of abuse.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali

Andotra said that Domestic Violence is not an issue specific to one gender or one place, it can happen to anyone. The more we talk about domestic violence, the more we will be able to spread awareness about it and be better able to identify abusive behaviors and take active steps to fight against it.

All the faculty members as well as students of the college attended the event with great zeal and enthusiasm and had a patient hearing. In the end, a question answer session was also held.

DLSA Ganderbal conducts Door to Door Legal Awareness

JI NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 6

On the eve of celebration of Legal Services Week, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Ganderbal in collaboration with Tehsil Legal Services Committees Ganderbal and Kangan conducted two days mass Door to Door Legal awareness and Legal Literacy in their mission of justice at doorsteps in the district.

The campaign was organised under the guidance of Chairman DLSA, Ganderbal, Ritesh Kumar Dubey and under the supervision of Secretary/Civil Judge (Sr. Division) Nusrat Ali Hakak and Chairman Tehsil Legal Services Committee (TLSC) Ganderbal, Mohammad Waseem Mirza.

DLSA Ganderbal has taken this proactive step towards providing free legal aid services in far-flung areas by conducting this two days door-to-door awareness programme.

Through door-to-door awareness programmes conducted by para-legal volunteers of the DLSA Ganderbal, DLSA aims to



empower individuals by disseminating information about their rights and the legal assistance available to them.

During the door to door awareness programmes, number of applications have been received from the legal aid help seekers especially those residing in rural and far-flung areas, of district Ganderbal particularly Anderwan A&B, Yarmukam, Yarmukam C, Jabalpati Anderwan, Rabitar, Khan Mohalla Gund Roshan, Takanwari, Dab, Haknar Gund and Doieepati Gund.

Secretary DLSA Ganderbal, expressed immense satisfaction over the successful implementation of the door-to-door awareness programmes. She

stated, "By organizing these targeted awareness programmes this authority aims to bring the benefits of legal aid services to the farthest corners of Ganderbal. DLSA Ganderbal efforts align with the vision of ensuring equal access to justice for all our citizens, regardless of their geographical location."

DLSA, recognizing the dire need for accessible and affordable legal aid services across the district, organised this door-to-door awareness programmes to eliminate barriers and raise awareness among the residents of far-flung regions, ensuring they are informed about the free legal assistance available to them.

National Level Workshop on New Working plan held at SKICC, Srinagar

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 6

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in collaboration with department of Forest, Ecology and Environment J&K Govt today organized a one day National Level Workshop on New Working plan at SKICC, here.

As part of the workshop, different stalls were installed under various themes by the officials of different wings of the Forest Department including the stall installed by the scientists of J&K Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC) Kashmir.

On the occasion, the scientists from Air Lab, Water lab and micro lab of JKPC Kashmir presented a main description of their research work in presence of delegations and highlighted achievements in various sectors of JKPC in Kashmir region.

Samba admin steps up Surveillance against illegal mining

JI NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, NOVEMBER 6

Deputy Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma on Monday chaired a Multi Departmental District Level Task Force Committee meeting to address the issue of illegal mining activities in the district. During the meeting a series of instructions were issued to district and tehsil level officers for effective check on the unlawful mining.

Earlier, District Mining Officer M Sayeed J presented a comprehensive overview of the targets, achievements, and challenges faced with regard to the enforcement of mining laws. Following

a thorough discussion on e-challans, e-market places, mining pits, mineral based units, and transportation, it was emphasized that the government's notified rates for minor minerals must be strictly implemented.

To strengthen enforcement mechanism, the establishment of special check posts and the strengthening of existing checkpoints including police nakkas and forest check points were deemed necessary.

To tackle illegal mining activities, strict instructions were given to the police to lodge FIRs against individuals involved, particularly those operating during night hours.

DC Kulgam reviews arrangements for smooth conduct of B2V-5

JI NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, NOVEMBER 6

In order to take a detailed review of arrangements put in place for smooth conduct of 'Fifth Phase of Back to Village Programme (B2V5)', a meeting of officers was today held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat at mini-secretariat, here.

The meeting was informed that the Back to Village programme, which is J&K Government's flagship public outreach, participation and feedback programme will commence from 7th of November.

During the programme, Prabhari Officers shall visit their respective panchayats and interact with the public and undertake review of previous and



current year deliverables with special focus with respect to improving e-services penetration, user experience for greater accessibility and usage by citizens at large etc.

The DC instructed all the officers and line departments to ensure close coordination and

liaisoning to ensure smooth and successful conduct of this programme.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Showkat Ahmad Rather, ADC Viqar Ahmed Giri and other district/sectoral and subdivisional/tehsil officers.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice						
Sr.DEE/G/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders www.ireps.gov.in against below titled Tenders Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.						
Tender No	Name of Work	App Cost (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Completion Period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
251-Elect/T-40-2023-24	Electrical work in c/w Illumination improvement and associated work for Various infrastructures to improvement security in J&K valley region.	1,97,17,766.73	2,48,600.00	06 Months	27.11.2023 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in
251-Elect/T-Notice No. 32-Elect/2023-24 Dated: 06.11.2023						
Serving Customers With A Smile						
						3461/2023

EDITORIAL

Restrict human interference on glacier melt

There have been reports that at least 15 major Himalayan glaciers in the Union Territory of Ladakh have retreated significantly due to climate change during the last five decades (from 1971 to 2021). This followed the recent study that three glacial lakes are likely to form around Parkachik Glacier in Ladakh due to rapid ice melt. It calls for a serious introspection from all stakeholders for human interference in the growing problem of glaciers retreating. The report on retreating of Himalayan glaciers is based on the various scientific studies and regular monitoring of several Indian institutes, universities and organizations funded by the Government of India through Ministry of Earth Sciences, Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Department of Space- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Ministry of Mines and Ministry of Jal Shakti. Responding to a query in the Rajya Sabha, Union Minister of Earth Sciences Kiren Rijju revealed that a total of 15 Himalayan glaciers in Ladakh, including Pensilungpa, DurungDurung, Parkachik, Sagtogpa, Sagtogpa East, Thara Kangri, Garam Pani, Rassa-I, Rassa-II, Arganglas Glacier, Phunangma, Panamik-I, Panamik-II, Saser-I and Saser-II, have witnessed annual retreat between 1971 and 2021. Except Thara Kangri glacier that reported a surge of 11.13 m per year, all other glaciers have witnessed average retreat ranging from a minimum of 2.85 meter per annum (Saser-II) to the maximum 18.86 meter per annum in case of Arganglas Glacier. The mass balance (gain and loss of ice from the glacier) assessment of nine glaciers in the Himalay region, including two each in J&K and Ladakh UTs, have also reported net change in its mass during the last five years. Kolahoi Glacier and Hoksar Glacier in J&K with Jhelum as their basin have reported shrinking as their mass balance was negative which means melting across these glaciers increased. Similarly, Stok Glacier with Indus as its basin and Pensilungpa Glacier with Suru river as basin, both in Ladakh, have also reported negative mass balance. A new study by scientists of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology has observed that the Parkachik Glacier in Ladakh is likely to have three lakes of different dimensions due to subglacial over-deepening - a characteristic of basins and valleys eroded by glaciers. The glacial melt is worrying as it not only increases chances of glacial lake outbursts but can also lead to paucity of water, glaciers being the region's primary source of water. The study, published in the journal 'Annals of Glaciology', is based on satellite imagery between 1971 and 2021 and supplemented by extensive field surveys between 2015 and 2021. According to the experts, Jammu and Kashmir has lost 22 percent of its glaciers in just five decades and if this trend continues, it will lead to a serious water crisis in the next 30 years. Many reasons including accumulation of black carbon, generated mainly by use of coal and petroleum products remains trapped due to the peculiar geological shape of the valley, surrounded by majestic Himalayan ranges are attributed to be affecting the glaciers, source of several high altitude lakes and rivers. The need of the hour is to ensure minimum human interference in the natural processes.

Why School-Based Assessment Can Transform School Education

DR GHULAM HASSAN WANI

School-Based Assessment is more than just a method of evaluation; it is a transformative approach that personalizes learning, promotes engagement, and enhances the quality of education.

Education is not merely a destination; it is a journey and over the decades traditional assessment methods, primarily relying on high-stakes summative tests, have dominated the educational landscape. However, these tests often miss the essence of this journey by failing to appreciate the learning process. School-based assessment is changing this paradigm by placing learning at the core of evaluation. SBA encompasses a range of assessments, from formative evaluations to projects, portfolios, and continuous feedback, enabling a more comprehensive and personalized understanding of a student's abilities. School-based assessment (SBA) has emerged as a dynamic and holistic approach to evaluating student learning. Unlike traditional summative assessments that primarily measure the outcomes of education, SBA focuses on the learning process, enabling teachers to tailor their instruction and students to take an active role in their own education. This article explores the significance and impact of school-based assessment in modern education.

Understanding School-Based Assessment

School-based assessment, often abbreviated as SBA, refers to a range of assessment methods and tools conducted within the school environment to measure students' performance and understanding. It involves ongoing evaluation and feedback, allowing educators to gain insights into students' progress over time. In essence, SBA refers to the practice of evaluating a student's learning process within the school environment. Unlike summative assessments, such as final exams, which measure the output of learning, SBA gauges the learning journey itself. This involves ongoing assessments, formative evaluations, observations, and feedback that can occur throughout the academic year.

The primary objectives of SBA are

To provide teachers with insights into their students' progress, enabling them to tailor their instruction.

To empower students to become active participants in their learning, promoting self-

regulation and motivation.

To create a comprehensive and well-rounded understanding of a student's strengths and areas that need improvement.

To provide an opportunity for students to their own assessments and assessments of their peers.

In contrast to traditional assessments, which often emphasize memorization and test-taking skills, SBAs focus on developing deeper knowledge and practical skills.

Key Elements of SBA SBA comes in various forms, each serving distinct educational goals:

Formative Assessments: SBA includes formative assessment, which occurs during the learning process. It helps teachers understand their students' strengths and weaknesses, enabling them to tailor instruction to meet individual needs. These assessments are conducted during the learning process to inform instruction. They may include quizzes, debates, class discussions, projects and assignments etc. Formative assessments are not graded as final evaluations but are used to identify areas where students need help and adapt teaching strategies accordingly.

Summative Assessments: These are end-term assessments designed to summarize a student's learning at a particular point in time. They have their place but are complemented by other forms of SBA. Summative assessments evaluate students' learning outcomes at the end of a specific period, such as a semester or school year. These assessments may take the form of final exams, final activities or projects.

Performance Tasks: SBA often includes performance tasks that require students to apply their knowledge and skills in real-world or real-life situations. These tasks assess not only a student's content knowledge but also his/her critical thinking and problem-solving abilities.

Self-assessment and Peer Assessment: Through these assessments students are encouraged to assess their own work and the works of their peers, aiming to provide feedback of learning their learning progression. This promotes self-realization, self-regulation and collaborative learning among the learners.

Projects and Presentations: These multifaceted assessments encourage students to explore a specific topic in-depth and present their findings. They promote critical thinking, research skills, and communication abilities.

Continuous Feedback: Continuous and constructive feedback from teachers, peers, and students can foster improvement and ongoing reflection. This feedback system is a lifeline of the SBA approach. Students receive continuous feedback on their progress, allowing them to track their own development and make improvements in real time. Similarly, teachers also receive regular feedback data, enabling them to refine and improve their teaching.

Advantages of School-Based Assessment

SBA has gained momentum in modern education due to the many advantages it offers:

Personalized Learning: SBA recognizes that each student is unique. It allows educators to tailor their teaching methods to individual needs, promoting personalized learning and addressing learning gaps effectively. Teachers can identify each student's strengths and weaknesses and tailor their teaching methods accordingly.

Increased Student Engagement: The focus on the learning process, as opposed to a single final exam, keeps students engaged and motivated throughout the academic year. They see the immediate relevance of their studies to the day-to-day affairs and real-life situations. They feel like a part of the teaching-learning process.

Improved Learning Outcomes: SBA provides doable and actionable insights into student performance. It helps students understand their strengths and weaknesses and encourages their continuous improvement.

Comprehensive Assessment: Unlike traditional exams, which may favour specific learning styles, SBA offers a more comprehensive view of student capabilities. It values skills like critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, and effective communication.

Development of Soft Skills: Through presentations, projects, practicals and portfolios, SBA promotes the development of soft skills that are crucial for success in the modern workforce.

Holistic Assessment: SBA assesses various generic skills, including logical thinking, communication skills, creativity, and problem-solving, in addition to subject-specific knowledge and competencies.

Reduced Stress: Students may experience less stress compared to high-stakes exams because SBA is integrated into the learning process and is not solely focused on a final exam but a comprehensive and continuous

assessments.

Authentic Assessment: Performance tasks in SBA mirror real-world situations, providing students with valuable skills and experiences.

Teacher-Student Interaction: SBA encourages more teacher-student interaction, which can foster a supportive learning environment as well as collaborative efforts.

Implementation and challenges thereof

Objectives must be clear: School heads and teachers must know clearly the objectives behind SBA. What skills and knowledge they are trying to assess, and how should these be aligned with the curriculum goals and learning outcomes and finally achieved through SBA

Need extensive teacher training: For its successful implementation, proper training and professional development for educators are essential, to ensure that they can effectively use SBA in their teaching practices.

Selection of appropriate assessment tools: The selection of appropriate assessment tools, such as rubrics, checklists, portfolios, peer and self-assessments etc, that align with their educational goals and the content to be taught need a deep knowledge and expertise that will take time and need resources.

Regular feedback and reflection: Regular feedback and reflection sessions among teachers can help improve SBA practices and maintain consistency, but for this to happen, the department must free teachers from non-teaching assignments.

Active student involvement: Students should be involved in the assessment process, including self-assessment and peer assessment, to encourage self-regulated learning.

Clear communication: Effective communication among teachers, students and parents is essential to serve the purpose and meet the expectations of SBA.

Grading consistency: Ensuring consistent and fair grading can be a challenging task for teachers in SBA, as it often relies on subjective and individual judgment. Teachers must work to establish clear criteria and standards beforehand. Quantifying the marks with the levels of competencies is a difficult and a bit confusing task. Hence the grading can be a challenge for teachers.

Potential for bias: SBA can be sometimes subject to teacher bias and subjectivity, making it crucial to establish clear rubrics and guidelines. Teachers may

unintentionally favour certain students, affecting the fairness of the assessment.

Time-consuming job: Implementing SBA requires time for planning, assessment, and feedback. Teachers need to manage their workload effectively and the department needs to relieve teachers from non-teaching tasks.

Resource allocation: Schools may need to invest in training, technology, intellectual resources and material resources to implement SBA effectively.

Assessment overload: Excessive assessments may sometimes lead to teachers' fatigue and may not always align with the curriculum's objectives.

Despite these challenges in the implementation, SBA is the best small-scale assessment method, and to maximize its benefits teachers should consider the following practices:

Frame clear criteria for assessment, ensuring both students and teachers understand the expectations.

Providing continuous and constructive feedback. As it will foster improvement and help students identify areas for growth, and maintain transparency in the assessment process.

Teachers should encourage students to take an active role in their learning by setting goals, self-assessing, and participating in the assessment process.

Make regular data analysis to identify trends, areas for improvement, and strategies for enhancing teaching and learning.

Conclusion

In the ever-changing landscape of education, school-based assessment has emerged as a potent tool. It recognizes the value of the learning process and empowers both educators and students to grow. School-Based Assessment is more than just a method of evaluation; it is a transformative approach that personalizes learning, promotes engagement, and enhances the quality of education. While it comes with challenges, its benefits in terms of holistic learning, feedback, and reduced stress make it a valuable addition to modern education systems. Implementing it effectively requires clear objectives, teacher training, and collaboration among educators, students, and parents. By implementing best practices, addressing challenges, and embracing technology, SBA can lead the way toward more effective, relevant, and equitable education in the future.

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Qualification Concerns in Jammu and Kashmir

ARSHID KHAN

The Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, a government organization focused on rural development and local self-governance, has released an advertisement through Vision India, a respected organization dedicated to social causes. This advertisement offers a unique opportunity for qualified individuals to become Resource Persons at the Block and District levels.

The advertisement has generated significant attention and interest due to the potential impact these positions can have on rural areas. As Resource Persons, individuals will be responsible for providing expertise and guidance in various areas of development, such as agriculture, education, healthcare, and infrastructure. They will work closely with local communities, government officials, and other stakeholders to identify and implement effective strategies for progress.

This role requires individu-

als with the necessary qualifications, including relevant education and experience in rural development. Successful candidates will have the opportunity to contribute to the advancement of rural areas and make a meaningful difference in the lives of the people residing there. The Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj encourages interested individuals to apply and seize this remarkable opportunity to contribute to the development of rural areas and promote local self-governance.

The advertisement for the Swachh Bharat Mission has received considerable attention due to its emphasis on the urgent need for qualified individuals to contribute to the nationwide campaign. This campaign, also known as the Clean India Mission, aims to ensure cleanliness and sanitation throughout the country. Currently, there are 325 job openings available, providing a significant opportunity to make a substantial impact on the implementation of the mission at the grassroots level. By joining

this initiative, individuals can actively contribute to improving the overall cleanliness and hygiene standards in India. The Swachh Bharat Mission is a crucial step towards creating a healthier and more sustainable environment for all citizens. With the support of qualified individuals, this campaign has the potential to bring about positive and lasting change in communities across the nation. Joining the mission not only offers a chance to make a difference but also provides individuals with an opportunity to gain valuable experience and contribute to a national cause. By becoming part of the Swachh Bharat Mission, individuals can play a vital role in building a cleaner and healthier India for future generations.

However, there is a slight concern that has been raised regarding the specified qualification for these positions. The advertisement states that candidates must possess a graduation degree in Rural Development. Unfortunately, this particular field of study is not offered by any college or university in the state of

Jammu and Kashmir. This has led to a wave of queries and concerns from aspiring candidates who are eager to contribute to the mission but lack the specific qualification mentioned.

In light of this issue, it is crucial to address the need for alternative options at the graduation level. It is only fair to provide aspiring candidates with a wider range of educational backgrounds that align with the goals and objectives of the Swachh Bharat Mission. By doing so, Vision India can ensure that a diverse pool of talented individuals can be considered for these positions, ultimately leading to a more effective and efficient implementation of the mission in Jammu and Kashmir.

It is imperative that this matter be brought to the attention of Vision India. The Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, along with concerned individuals, must collectively voice their concerns and urge Vision India to reconsider the current qualification requirements. By doing

so, they can ensure that the recruitment process does not inadvertently result in the hiring of an incompetent team for the implementation of the Swachh Bharat Mission and Jaljevan Mission (Water Life Mission) at the grassroots level in Jammu and Kashmir.

The recent advertisement released by the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, in collaboration with Vision India, presents a remarkable opportunity for individuals to contribute to the Swachh Bharat Mission. However, the specified qualification requirement has raised concerns due to the unavailability of the mentioned field of study in Jammu and Kashmir. It is crucial that Vision India considers alternative options at the graduation level to ensure a diverse pool of qualified candidates. By addressing this issue, the Department can avoid the risk of hiring an incompetent team and instead, assemble a highly skilled workforce that will effectively implement the mission at the grassroots level in Jammu and Kashmir.

IS COGNITIVE DECLINE RELATED TO METABOLIC HEALTH?

GUNJAN SOODEN

Excellent metabolic health means having correct levels of triglycerides, blood sugar, cholesterol, blood pressure, etc. Your metabolic health plays a vital role in keeping your body healthy and protecting it against various metabolic diseases. Multiple factors affect your metabolic health, but it is essential to understand that everyone's metabolic health is different. It depends on multiple parameters like sex, age, lifestyle, genes, etc. The main job of your metabolism is to convert the food you eat into energy. When your metabolism works properly, your body can easily perform the conversion.

Metabolic diseases are conditions that occur together due to any unusual activity or chemical reaction that cause disturbance with your normal metabolic function. It means that your body produces too much or too little of the substances and chemicals necessary to remain healthy. Different metabolic diseases fall into different groups; some are genetic, some affect your organs, and some affect the parts of your cell that produce energy. Among all these disorders, the most common one is organ dysfunction which occurs when the organs involved in metabolic function become diseased, like the pancreas and liver, leading to type2 or type1 diabetes.

Concerning metabolic disorders, a study suggests that people with diabetes, especially with type2, are more prone to have severe cognitive decline or problems like dementia, Alzheimer's, vascular dementia, amnesia, etc. In addition, older people with diabetes or someone who has had diabetes for a long time are more prone to such cognitive declines.

Cognitive impairment or decline causes frequent confusion, a noticeable decrease in mental ability, or memory loss. Not just diabetes but various other metabolic diseases affect different functions of your body like the brain, weight, etc., which also leads to cognitive decline.

The easiest way to keep your metabolic health and blood sugar level in check is HealthifyPro 2.0. It is an advanced and accessible approach for

managing different health aspects, from weight to blood sugar, diet, metabolic health, nutrition, and fitness training.

Interestingly, it has five pillars: calorie tracker, CGM, health coaches, smart scale and metabolic panel. It helps assess your internal health and provides real-time advice on eating right and exercising adequately. These pillars can help you manage your metabolism better. With the calorie tracker, you can easily track the carbs, protein, fats and fibre in your food, leading to more mindful eating. Then comes CGM with a BIOS device that monitors your blood sugar or glucose levels with every small bite of food you take that shows how different foods or combinations spike your glucose levels. As a result, it enables you to make more active and conscious lifestyle choices. It eventually leads to proper weight management and the right food intake based on your needs and daily routine. This together collates to nudging you towards making long-term behavioural changes that positively affect your metabolic health.

Note

Your metabolic health controls various vital functions in your body. Poor metabolic health can lead to metabolic dysfunctions like mitochondrial disorders, diabetes, phenylketonuria, Hemochromatosis, etc. Such diseases can affect various organs and parts of the body, including the brain, leading to cognitive decline. Therefore, it is vital to keep your metabolic health in check.

Different Types of Cognitive Decline

Before reading about the relation of metabolic health with cognitive decline, it is necessary to understand how different cognitive disorders affect your health. According to WHO, more than 55 million people live with mental decline dementia, with 10 million new cases yearly.

Different types of cognitive decline are:

Mild cognitive impairment is the early stage of memory loss. A person suffering from mild cognitive decline shows slight memory loss, which, if not treated timely, raises the



risk of dementia.

Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's is the most common form of cognitive decline. According to different studies, almost 80% of memory loss is caused by Alzheimer's. The symptoms of Alzheimer's occur over time and decrease the ability to understand and perform daily tasks. In addition, it interferes with the communication between cells and nerves.

Dementia

Dementia is another cognitive condition that causes deterioration in mental cells. Symptoms of dementia cause damage to reasoning, memory, communication and mobility skills. Dementia develops over time and is more complex and severely impacts daily functions.

Frontotemporal Dementia

It is a form of dementia that affects the temporal and frontal lobes of the brain. In other words, it affects the brain's nerves responsible for behavioural, language, and personality development.

Vascular Dementia

Vascular dementia occurs due to the lack of blood supply to the brain. It primarily happens due to the build-up of plaque that affects the arteries and increases the risk of stroke. It also affects the ability to make judgments and interferes with the thought process.

Lewy Body Dementia

Lewy body dementia occurs

due to the abnormal build of protein in cells and different brain parts responsible for thinking, movement and memory. This affects problem-solving and reasoning ability, which causes sleep disorders, hallucinations and memory loss.

Metabolic Disorders and Cognitive Decline: The Connection

Your metabolism works even when you're resting to ensure essential bodily functions like breathing, regulating body temperature, digestion, blood circulation, etc. But sometimes, your metabolic health can go haywire due to various external and internal factors, leading to serious metabolic diseases or dysfunctions. Some metabolic disorders are inherited, and some occur due to the improper functioning of the organs.

Different metabolic disorders affect how enzymes, energy, heart, insulin, the brain and the digestive system work, leading to cognitive decline in the long run. In addition, a study suggests that metabolic syndrome leading to cardiovascular disease, type2 diabetes etc., are associated with various brain abnormalities and cognitive decline.

Diabetes and Cognitive Decline

Type2 diabetes affects how the body takes up insulin, which means the body does not properly use glucose from the blood, which causes the pancreas to make more insulin, raising blood sugar levels

and resulting in insulin resistance. In type1 diabetes, also known as insulin-dependent diabetes, your pancreas produces little to no insulin resulting in low blood sugar levels. Both these conditions can affect many bodily functions, including the brain, which can cause cognitive decline.

The brain needs insulin for energy and to function properly. When the brain detects a shortage of insulin, it generates energy from ketones. However, the brain can become prone to insulin resistance in the long run, affecting various memory, mood and appetite-related functions.

A study suggests that insulin plays two vital roles in the brain: regulating food intake and controlling cognitive functions. When the brain does not respond effectively to insulin, it can cause severe problems in protecting and generating neurons that safeguard the information and communication functions in the brain. Furthermore, when the insulin receptors in the brain are at a higher density, it affects the signalling system. As a result, it causes various energy and glucose metabolic disorders.

Insulin resistance that reduces capillaries reactivity is more common in people with type2 diabetes and can result in different dementia states causing Alzheimer's. It mainly affects the learning and memory centre of the brain called the hippocampus. In the longer run, metabolic disorders affecting insulin function can lead to neurodegenerative diseases.

Obesity and Cognitive Decline

Metabolic disorder and insulin resistance are the leading causes of obesity and are closely linked to inactivity and being overweight. Your digestive system breaks down foods into sugars. However, due to metabolic disorders, your body can not efficiently use those sugars to be used as fuel for your body to run. As a result, it accumulates as fats, making the person gain weight.

Concerning metabolic disorders, a study reveals that obesity changes the function of the hippocampus, the memory and the learning part of the brain. The same research also suggests that obesity-inducing inflammation can disrupt the brain's processing speed, causing various abnormalities and cognitive decline. In addition, disturbances in carbohydrate metabolism can impair the brain's learning, reasoning and verbal fluency.

Energy and Cognitive Decline

Metabolic disorders occur when various chemical reactions impair the body's metabolism. Such conditions affect how the body uses and breaks down molecules for energy for your body to work correctly. Also, it can cause problems with energy-producing organs and how well your body and brain distribute and regulate energy. Metabolic disorders can cause energy deprivation and a decline in the efficiency of energy metabolism, which causes various brain abnormalities.

A study revealed that a complex neuroendocrine system is responsible for energy regulation in the body. In case of metabolic disorders, the brain can not effectively use the energy. Less energy metabolism results in brain malfunction and ageing, causing cognitive decline called Alzheimer's Disease.

Factors Affecting Cognitive Functions and Metabolism

Some common factors affect both cognitive function and metabolism, and it is often co-related resulting in various brain abnormalities:

Age

Your age plays a vital role

in how your metabolic health performs; with age, your metabolic health and energy metabolism do not respond well. In addition, the brain also does not function properly due to decreased basal metabolic rate, resulting in various cognitive declines.

Oxidative Stress

Stress is another common factor that affects both metabolism and cognitive decline. For example, oxidative stress impairs various bodily functions. It impairs the wound healing process, resulting in chronic diseases and overproduction of free radicals involving the brain's function and causing inflammation.

Diet

A balanced diet and proper nutrition are vital in managing healthy body functions, including the brain. Conversely, not eating proper meals and oily or processed foods can impair body functions. It can cause different metabolic diseases and energy deprivation resulting in brain abnormalities.

How to Take Care of your Cognitive Health?

So far, there is no sure-shot solution to Alzheimer's or other cognitive declines. Still, researchers are working on finding solutions to curb brain malfunctions. However, there are some standard solutions or lifestyle changes that you can adopt to help strengthen your metabolic and brain activities health

Exercising

Keeping your body active and doing daily exercise manages various metabolic diseases. You do not have to do heavy workouts or weight training daily; you can do Zumba, cardio or other forms of activities as well. Exercising daily keeps your physical health in check, stimulates your brain cells, reduces inflammation, and helps decrease brain disease risk.

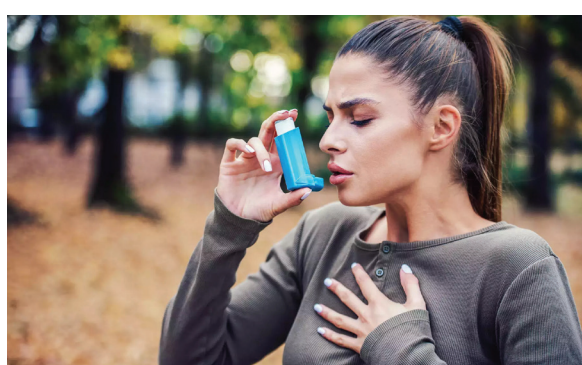
Everyone, especially adults, should do some form of exercise as it helps increase memory, learning, reaction and attention span. Exercise also helps develop the hippocampus, improving the understanding and memory formation that strengthens the brain and cell connection.

Careful - Common steroids like inhalers may change the brain structure

The use of prescribed steroids, including inhalers, is linked to changes in the structure and volume of white and grey matter in the brain, finds a new study.

The study, published in the journal *BMJ Open*, indicates that the associations found might help to explain the neuropsychiatric effects, such as anxiety, depression, mania, and delirium frequently seen after long-term use, say the researchers.

"This study shows that both systemic and inhaled glucocorticoids are associated with an apparently widespread reduction in white matter integrity, which may in part underlie the neuropsychiatric side effects observed in patients using glucocorticoids," said researchers, including Merel van der Meulen from Leiden University Medical Center.



Their immunosuppressive properties mean that glucocorticoids, a class of synthetic steroids, are among some of the most frequently prescribed drugs. They are used to treat a wide variety of medical conditions.

Previously published research suggests that long-term medical steroid use is associated with structural abnormalities and shrinkage of certain brain areas. But most of these studies

have involved only small numbers of people with specific conditions.

For this study, the team drew on data, comprising half a million 40-69-year-olds from the general population to see if there were any detectable differences in brain volume and structure between users and non-users of systemic and inhaled steroids.

The MRI brain scans of 222 people using systemic steroids and 557 using

inhaled steroids were compared with those of 24,106 non-users.

None of the study participants had previously been diagnosed with neurological, psychiatric, or hormonal (endocrinological) disorders or were taking mood-altering drugs, such as antidepressants. A comparison of the MRI scan results showed that systemic and inhaled steroid use was associated with less intact white matter structure than was seen on the scans of those, not on these drugs. White matter has a role in neuronal connectivity and signalling in the brain.

The effects were greater in systemic users than in users of inhaled steroids. And further detailed analysis suggested that the effects might be even larger among long-term users.

Take note: A popular everyday drink could be key to a longer life

There is nothing quite as soothing as a cup of tea - a hot, well-brewed cup of the beverage is known to have a calming effect on the nerves like no other. And now, the wonder that tea is, experts associate it with longer and healthier life.

Across various cultures, people enjoy various forms of tea - green tea, chai latte, black tea, or herbal tea. Some like drinking it as it while others prefer adding whole spices to raise the flavour and nutrition quotient of the beverage. And according to a new study, those who drink two or more cups of black tea in a day have a 9 to 13 per cent lower risk of dying as opposed to those who do not drink black tea. And what's more, the benefits were the same regardless of whether one used milk



or sugar or not - the same goes for coffee.

The study which appeared in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* journal discovered that 89 per cent of regular tea drinkers consumed black tea. Other variations of the drink included green tea which is also known to have several health benefits.

Talking of the health benefits of tea, studies have previously stated how drinking the beverage regularly could combat heart disease, dementia, and cancer. This effect is attributed to antioxidants in the drink which clear out damaging atoms from the blood and reduce inflammation. Another study revealed that drink-

ing five brews in a day could help improve brain function as well.

At the same time, it is important to not gulp a boiling hot cup of tea as it could significantly raise the risk of throat cancer or esophageal cancer by damaging the food pipe, known as

thermal injury. Disclaimer: Tips and suggestions mentioned in the article are for general information purposes only and should not be construed as professional medical advice. Always consult your doctor or a dietician before starting any fitness programme or making any changes to your diet.

DM Jammu chairs RTA meeting, calls for strict action against violators of traffic rules



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 6

District Magistrate, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, today chaired a meeting of the Regional Transport Authority to discuss the issues related to public transport and traffic management in the district.

The meeting was attended by SSP Traffic, M. Fiesel Qureshi, Regional Transport Officer, ARTOs and other concerned officers.

The District Magistrate has given strict orders that the transport operators who are not plying on their allotted routes will face cancellation of their permits. They will also be ineligible for any future

applications, he said.

The DM stressed on the need for strict adherence to the authorised public transport plying only on the peak passenger movement routes. He directed the enforcement departments to suspend the permits and licences of those found in violating the rules.

He also reviewed the status of applications for route permits and asked the concerned authorities to expedite the process and ensure transparency.

The DM passed strict directions against vehicle modification and said that all such vehicles are to be seized and the drivers' licences are to be suspended. He also suggested

that FIRs be filed against serious offenders.

He further said the officers to issue notices to offenders impose penalties as per the law.

The DM also called for monitoring traffic and route violations on the outskirts of the Jammu city. He directed concerned departments to depute special teams for routine inspection and checking for overloading and other traffic rules violations. He underlined that passenger comfort and safety be kept as the priority.

The DM also laid emphasis on the enforcement drives and adherence to traffic rules by anyone driving on the district roads.

DC Kulgam visits Mahipora, inaugurates playfield

JI NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, NOVEMBER 6

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today visited village Mahipora where he inaugurated the playfield in presence of officers and youth of the village.

It was informed that this playfield in the village was a demand from youth of the area to provide them a platform for sports activities and the demand was fulfilled by District Administration and was developed at an estimated cost of Rs.12 lac.

ADDC, Showkat Ahmad Rather; ACR, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz; ACD, Mohammad Imran Khan and other officers besides scores of people and Sports lovers were present at the inaugural function.

Later, the DC also listened to issues and demands of people for early and timely redressal.

SOTTO organizes awareness programme for faculty, students, paramedical staff of GMC Handwara



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Jammu And Kashmir State Organ & Tissue Transplant Organization (SOTTO) organized an Awareness Programme for faculty, students and paramedical staff of GMC Handwara in association with Hospital Administration Department of GMC Handwara.

Principal GMC Handwara, Prof Dr Ifat Hassan Khan and other officers presided over the event and Prof Dr M Saleem Wani, Head Department

of Urology and Kidney Transplant Unit, SKIMS, Srinagar was the guest of honour.

Head of Urology GMC Jammu cum Nodal Officer SOTTO J&K, Dr Elias Sharma gave a detailed presentation on Human Organ Donation and Transplantation and he clarified various myths associated with it. He said that only Cadaveric Organ donation in India can be the answer to fill the gap between demand and availability of organs,

thereby saving many lives.

Joint Director, SOTTO J&K, Dr Sanjeev Puri explained the importance of the National Organ Transplant Programme (NOTP) in India which was launched under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to give impetus to the cadaveric donation in this country. He also described steps to register in Organ Donation Pledge Drive under Ayushman Bhav to become an organ donor.

Professor M Saleem Wani explained the role of

the religion in the cadaveric donation and informed everyone that Islam permits organ donation. He encouraged every one to pledge online for organ donation.

Irfan Ahmed, Transplant Coordinator, SOTTO enlightened about the sequence of events happening in a hospital during the cadaveric organ donation. The event was coordinated by Assistant Prof Dr Mohd Sarwar, Hospital Administration Department, GMC Handwara.

DC Rajouri reviews working, achievements of Social Welfare Department

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, NOVEMBER 6

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, today chaired a crucial meeting to review the functioning and achievements of the Social Welfare Department in the district. The meeting served as a platform to assess the various schemes and initiatives of the department aimed at the welfare of the general public.

During the meeting, it was informed that the department has been steadfast in its commitment to welfare, with an impressive tally of 47,685 beneficiaries currently benefiting from a range of programs. Among these beneficiaries, 34,003 individuals are receiving old age pensions, while 4,392 widows are availing widow pensions and 9,290 persons with disabilities (PCP) are beneficiaries of different schemes.

The Social Welfare Department is also actively involved in the implementation of several scholarship schemes, such as pre-matric, post-matric, and merit-cum-means



scholarships for minority students, further enhancing access to education and promoting inclusivity.

Notably, the department has demonstrated its dedication to the specially-abled community by conducting 7 camps this year alone to assess the needs of 645 individuals. In the previous year, 264 prosthetic aids were distributed to enhance the mobility and quality of life for these individuals. Moreover, 216 motorized tricycles have been provided to specially-abled persons, significantly improving their mobility and independence.

The department has also shown an admirable commitment to social welfare with the approval of 1,567 cases under the State Marriage Assistance Scheme (SMAS). This scheme plays a pivotal role in assisting financially disadvantaged fami-

lies during matrimonial events, thereby promoting social equality.

Furthermore, 249 cases have been sanctioned under the militancy pension scheme, ensuring that those affected by conflict receive the support they need. The department is also committed to raising awareness on social welfare schemes and combating drug abuse, with a dedicated drug de-addiction center established in the district. The Deputy Commissioner underscored the significance of effective implementation of welfare schemes and directed the department officers to ensure that the benefits reach those who need them most. This meeting served as a testament to the commitment of the district administration to social welfare and its unwavering support for the marginalized and

vulnerable segments of society.

The department is actively engaged in different projects under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Adarsh Yojana (PMAAGY), reflecting a dedication to holistic development in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner expressed his optimism about the transformative impact of these welfare programs and their vital role in building a more inclusive and equitable society. The meeting concluded with a renewed commitment to ensuring that the benefits of these schemes are extended to the last mile, ensuring no one is left behind.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Khurshid; District Social Welfare Officer, Abdul Rahim and Tehsil Social Welfare Officers.

Legal Services Week campaign

Chairman DLSA Kathua flags off Mobile Van for providing legal services

JI NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, NOVEMBER 6

For the "Observance of Legal Services Week" launched by the Jammu and Kashmir Legal Services Authority under the Patronage of Justice Tashi Rabstan who is also Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority and in compliance to his directions, District Legal Services Authority Kathua on Monday kick started the Campaign by flagging off a Mobile Van here from the District Court Complex.

The Mobile Van was formally flagged off by Chairman District Legal Services Authority Kathua Ashok Kumar Shavan.

The idea behind deploying Mobile Van was to give



wide publicity about the legal services being provided by legal service institutions at the doorsteps of the litigants besides creating Legal Awareness among the masses in remote and backward areas of the District Kathua. After leaving the District Court Complex, the Mobile Van traversed through the interior areas and stopped at Kathua Main Market, Kalibari,

Shaheedi Chowk, Shiva Nagar, PWD Colony, Govt. Hr. Sec. School (Boys) Kathua and Govt. Degree College Kathua to spread awareness about the Legal aid being provided by the Legal Service Institutions to the people. The campaign was held under the supervision of Secretary District Legal Services Authority Kathua Rekha Kapoor Nischal. Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel

Neeraj Kumar, Panel Advocates Mukesh Kumar Talotra, Rameshwar Chouhan, Rajesh Kumarand, Jyoti Dwivedi acted as the resource persons in the programs held at these places. They highlighted the role of Legal Service Institution at Centre, State, District and Tehsil levels and also the category of persons who are entitled to Legal Aid.

Besides this, Para Legal Volunteers of DLSA Kathua distributed pamphlets of DLSA Kathua with respect to the persons eligible for getting legal services.

GDCW Kathua organizes awareness programme on "Drug De Addiction and Common Female Health issues"

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Drug De-Addiction and Psychological Counseling cell of GDCW Kathua, in collaboration with the Government Homeopathic Hospital, Kathua, organized an awareness session and medical camp on Homeopathy and its treatment. Dr. Savi Behl, the Principal of the college and the patron of the event, formally welcomed Dr. Nitin Magotra, Dr. Ifrah Dilnawaz, and Dr. Ruhi Raza from the Government Homeopathic Hospital, Kathua. During the event, Dr. Ifrah delivered a lecture in which she informed the students about the widespread use of drugs, which is becoming increasingly common among young people. She emphasized that drug consumption often leads to psychological problems and that Homeopathic



medicines can be a valuable approach to overcoming such issues. Dr. Ifrah also highlighted the common health issues faced by women, mentioning that women have a 50 percent higher chance of experiencing depression and other health issues compared to men. This is in part due to the numerous biological changes that women undergo, such as menstruation, acne, PCOS, anxiety, and menopause. The expert team of doctors advised all the stu-

dents and participants to adopt a healthy lifestyle, which includes a balanced diet, regular exercise, and avoiding harmful practices like the misuse of medications (antibiotics) without consulting a doctor. They also conducted an interactive session with students, followed by a medical camp on the college premises, where they demonstrated the efficacy of homeopathic medicines in treating common health issues, particularly those associated with drug

addiction and psychological challenges. The event was coordinated by Dr. Renu, the Convenor of the Drug De-Addiction and Psychological Counselling cell. Several faculty members graced the program, including Dr. Arun Dev Singh, Prof. Pallavi, Dr. Surekha Rani, Dr. Mukesh Kumari, Dr. Anupam Manuhaar, and Dr. Shivali. The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Deepti Salotra from the Department of Home Science.

Withdraw order banning Govt employees from holding peaceful protests in J&K: Ajaz Kazmi

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Apni Trade Union President Ajaz Kazmi today urged the Govt to withdraw an order that bans Govt employees from participating in the peaceful protest demonstration in Jammu and Kashmir. In a statement issued to the press, Ajaz Kazmi appealed to the Govt to withdraw the order that has imposed a blanket ban on the participation of the Govt employees in the peaceful protests while warning them of strict action.

"Such orders shall not be imposed in Jammu and Kashmir and the Govt employees who are the backbone of the Govt functioning shall be provided stage to highlight their issues before the authorities and their issues like implementation of minimum wage act in J&K, regularization of daily wagers, release of pending wagers of the daily wagers and restoration of Old Age Pension in favour of the permanent Govt employees/officers," he said in response to the ban imposed by the authorities on the Govt employees.

Prof. Gharu, Anuradha listens to public grievances at BJP headquarter



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Former MLA Prof. Gharu Ram and J&K BJP Vice-President Anuradha Charak listened to the public grievances at BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, J&K BJP Media Incharge remained present on the occasion.

A large number of people, individually as well in the form of deputations, visited the BJP office to discuss their respective issues with the senior party leaders. Various issues raised contained matters of individual concerns as well as develop-

ment oriented related to their respective areas.

People from various areas presented issues related to the repair of lanes & drains, repair of streetlights, revenue record issue, issues related to the CAPD, installation of electric poles and others issues of public interest.

BJP leaders listened to all the individuals and the deputations patiently and immediately took up the matters with the concerned departmental officials telephonically as well as issued letters for the others. Talking to the concerned authorities, they pressed for the prompt redressal of the

issues. Prof. Gharu Ram speaking on the occasion said that BJP has consistently worked for common masses at every moment and it's every activist feels duty-bound to listen to, to understand and then to provide best possible solution to the affected person. He insisted on the commitment of the party and its leaders to solve the issues faced by the masses.

Anuradha Charak said that the public Darbar at the party office on daily basis provides a platform to the public for direct interaction with the BJP leaders and it is receiving massive response.

Blanket ban on employees' protest infringes employees rights to freedom of speech, assembly: NC

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Castigating government over its dictatorial mindset that led to banning thousands of employees in J&K UT from holding peaceful protests and demonstrations to get justice for their demands, Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President JKNC, Jammu on Sunday claimed that by imposing blanket restriction the helmsmen have infringed the employees' right to freedom of speech and freedom to assemble for getting justice for their genuine demands as both these have been guaranteed by the Constitution of the country in a democratic set-up.

In a statement issued to media persons, the NC stalwart leader said that the aforesaid order



is an attempt to muzzle the reasonable voice of the employees for their genuine cause and is an attempt to decay democratic rights of employees.

He said that the tactics on which the proxy government of the centre is relying in J&K are bound to boomerang as these won't help the party in power to win the faith of the elec-

torate in J&K, which has been tormented by the government several times. He said such an order has been issued to create fear and harassment among the employees so that they cannot raise their voice against the wrongdoings of the government.

The Provincial President said that the government in its overzealous attempt to kill democracy has even ignored the guidelines given by apostle of peace Mahatma Gandhi, who had battled for the right to hold peaceful protest for their right cause and did the same so many times during his lifetime. He said that the government should reconsider its decision, and rescind the same because this is unacceptable, unjustified and against the law of natural justice.

Sri Sri 1008 Mahamandaleshwar Santosh Das Moni Ji Maharaj's birthday was celebrated with great pomp

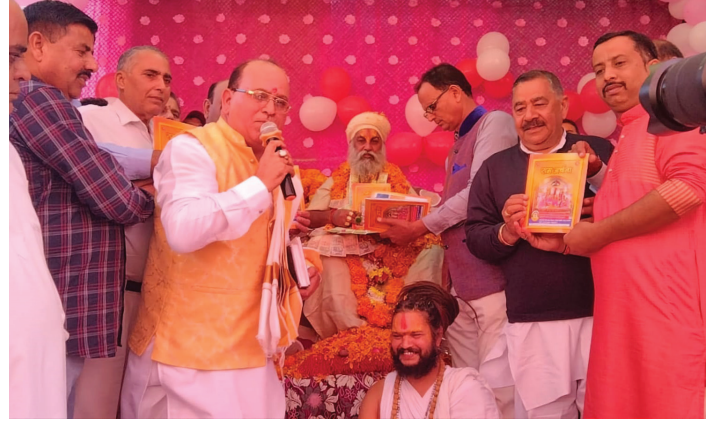
Thousands participate; biography of Moni ji Maharaj released

JINNEWS SERVICE
NOWSHERA, NOV 6

Birthday of Sri Sri 1008 Mahamandaleshwar Santosh Das Moni Maharaj was celebrated yesterday with great pomp and show at Thakurdwara, Nowshera city.

Thousands of devotees gathered in the morning, Ashta Chiranjeevi Puja was performed with chanting of mantras by Acharya Shubham Shastri and Acharya Pandit Narendra Sharma. For the longevity of Moni Maharaj, weighing scale of fruits, grains, and jaggery was donated. Moni

Maharaj's disciple Ramesh Tyagi ji offered Abhishek Bhog with sandalwood brought from Badri Vishal, after which devotees anointed Maharaj with flowers. On the biography of Moni



Maharaj, the book written by Ram Archana was released and books were distributed.

After this in the Bhajan Sandhya artist Guriwal, who came from Dhariwal, Punjab sang hymns of God and Guru, the emotional devotees danced fervently, the devotees kept dancing throughout the day and shouted slogans of Moni Maharaj and Lord

Ram Ji. Nowshera echoes with the sound of drums.

A huge bhandara was organized along with bhajan and kirtan. Moni Maharaj's followers from Nowshera, Rajouri Poonch, Jammu, Udhampur, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and other parts of the country participated in the birth celebration of Moni Maharaj. On this occasion, former

MLC Suren-
der Chaud-
hary, SOS
International
Chairman
Rajiv Chuni,
DDC member
Seri Sangeeta
Sharma,
BDC Chair-
man Now-
shera Master
Bodhranj,
Councilor
Rohit Kohli,
Vijay Bakshi,

Mohan Sharma, District President DPAP, Sushil Sharma, PCC Secretary Ashok Sharma, Sanatan Dharam Sabha head Nowshera, thousands of people including Jagdish Chandra Sahni, Brahmin Sabha Pradhan Sukhdev Sharma, Police Station Incharge Insp Manpreet Singh, bowed their heads and sought blessings from Moni Maharaj.

Congress seeks immediate revocation of ban order on employees

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU/SRINAGAR, NOV 6

Congress has sought immediate revocation of the draconian ban order on employees, restraining them from peacefully agitating for their genuine demands.

Speaking to a section of reporters here today, JKPC Senior Vice President & Incharge Media Ravinder Sharma hit out the government for the ban order and termed it draconian and anti democratic. He said this order deprives the employees of their fundamental rights to peacefully protest for genuine demands. Such order in peace time is unprecedented and worst than emergency.

Shiv Sena terms ED action against Ch. Lal Singh as politically motivated

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Leaders of Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit have termed the Enforcement Office (ED) action against former minister and MP Chaudhary Lal Singh as politically motivated.

A team of Shiv Sena leaders led by party state chief Manish Sahni today reached the ED office in Narwal, where Chaudhary Lal Singh is being interrogated.

Shiv Sainiks also joined the ongoing protest by Chaudhary Lal Singh's supporters outside the ED office.

Sahni said in his address that conspiracies are continuously being hatched to destroy Dogra identity. The BJP state leaders themselves have not done anything for the Dogras, but the opposition leaders are



raising their voice for the protection of their cultural identity. Opposition leaders are being targeted due to political malice, and now efforts are being made to suppress the loud voice of the leaders who are becoming the voice of Dogra by making the government investigative agencies their political shield.

Sahni said that Shiv Sena stands with every person who raises the voice of Dogra and this voice will not be allowed to be suppressed at all.

He said that Chaudhary Lal Singh is a Duggar lion who is not going to panic and back down from the investigation of politically motivated agencies. An ED team is interrogating Lal Singh, a former minister in the Jammu and Kashmir government, in the money laundering case. This inquiry is being conducted in connection with alleged irregularities in the purchase of land for the establishment of RB Educational Trust, run in the name of Lal Singh's wife Kanta Andotra.

BJP committed to end all sorts of discrimination against women: Purnima

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Advocate Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu and Kashmir and former Deputy Mayor Jammu, has welcomed the decision of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approving the proposal to grant maternity, child care and child adoption leave to women soldiers, sailors and air warriors at par with their officer counterparts. She said that the Defence Minister deserves full appreciation for this approval as this decision reflects the sincere intent of the PM Modi led BJP Govt to do away with all sorts of gender discrimination especially against women.

In a statement issued to media here today, Purnima Sharma asserted that the decision taken by the Defence Minister is in line with BJP's vision of "inclusive participation" of all women in the armed forces, irrespective of



their ranks. She said that this is a big leap forward towards women's over all welfare in the society adding that it will go a long way in improving the work conditions for women in the military. The best part of this decision is that it will help women in defence force to balance their professional and family lives in a smooth and better way.

Further elaborating the impact of the Defence Minister's decision, Purnima said that grant of maternity, child care and child adoption leave to all women in the military, whether an officer or any other rank, will now

be equally applicable to all. She added that the said decision is in line with the Prime Minister's commitment to utilizing "Nari Shakti" (women power) and the three services have already taken the lead in bringing a paradigm shift with the inclusion of women as soldiers, sailors and air warriors.

The senior BJP leader said that it is a matter of great pleasure that women are today being operationally deployed in Siachen, the highest battlefield in the world, posted on warships and dominating the skies. Last but not the least as of today the Supreme Commander of the Defence Forces is also a woman i.e. Droupadi Murmu the President of India. She said that BJP Govt led by Narendra Modi is of the firm conviction that women should be at par with their male counterparts in every field and now it is for the women to come forward and avail the opportunity in the sector of their choice.

Army Recruiting Office Jammu Instruction for Agniveer Candidates (Male)

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

All candidates who have applied for Agniveer Recruitment Rally scheduled with effect from 21 November 2023 to 02 December 2023 at Akhnoor Military Station are advised to carry all documents as per rally notification. No candidate will be entertained without admit card and original document. Recruitment into the army is a free service. Candidates are advised not to pay bribe to anyone for recruitment as it is based purely on merit. Selection process during recruitment at all stages is computerised and transparent. Therefore, candidates are advised to beware of touts as they cannot help them at any stage.

admit card. Candidates are advised not to fold admit card near barcode line. Keep admit card in plastic cover for prevention from rain & water. Entry will start at midnight, 02:30 AM and gates will be closed at 7 A.M. Candidates are advised to carry all documents as per rally notification. No candidate will be entertained without admit card and original document. Recruitment into the army is a free service.

Candidates are advised not to pay bribe to anyone for recruitment as it is based purely on merit. Selection process during recruitment at all stages is computerised and transparent. Therefore, candidates are advised to beware of touts as they cannot help them at any stage.

Yuva Rajput Sabha visits Mubarak Mandi Complex



JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

As to save Dogra Heritage and Dogra Identity, Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS) started agitation drive "Save Heritage Save Identity" Team YRS visits Dogra Heritage Mubarak Mandi Palace and saw the condition and YRS announced that Team YRS started the agitation to save Dogra Heritage. Team YRS reached Mubarak Mandi in the leadership of YRS former president Surinder Singh Gilli along with members Komal Singh, Mukesh Singh, Vishal Singh, Vikramjeet Singh, Ajay Singh, Rajeev Jamwal, Raghuvir Singh, Sanjay Singh, Deepak

Singh, Akash Singh, Makhn Singh and many other. Gilli brief that this Heritage is a Identity of Dogra History and it is necessary to restore and save it as Mubarak Mandi palace was the royal residence of the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir from the Dogra dynasty.

The palace is built in a manner that resembles both Rajasthani and Mughal architecture.

Vikramjeet vice president also brief that we the people of J&K doesn't recommended the project of Heritage Hotel as this project is totally against the Act of ancient monuments and Heritage 1920.

While briefing the media Vishal Singh

Spokesperson YRS also said that Heritage is nothing but combination of cultural and social beliefs, practically a bridge connecting past, present and future. Jammu is fortunate to have one such rich heritage spreading across almost 350 years and if we doesn't save our heritage and culture then how our future generation knows about our Dogra Heritage.

All members who are present appeal the administration to save our heritage and the people of J&K also gave their support to save Dogra Heritage and we always said proudly We are proud to be Dogra and residence of Jammu and Kashmir.

GDC Darhal Organises Awareness programme on "Anti Ragging Laws"

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

In observance of constitution day, the NSS Unit (IMDAD) in collaboration with Department of English, GDC Darhal organized an awareness programme on "Anti Ragging Laws" based in the theme "My Constitution My Pride" under the patronship of Prof. Mussaraf Hussain Shah, Principal of the college. Prof Tahir Mahmood, Head, Department of English, in his welcome address, emphasized that ragging not only inflicts emotional and psychological scars but disrupts the pursuit of knowledge and personal that should define our academic institutions. He gave a detail presentation on anti ragging and its laws. He provided insides on what is ragging, and its effects and repercussion of ragging. He emphasized that ragging is any disorderly conduct whether by words spoken or written, or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness any student, indulging in rowdy or undisciplined activities which cause or are likely to cause or are likely to cause annoyance, hardships or psychologi-

cal harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or a junior student and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the psyche of fresher or a junior student. He urged the youth to stay away from the criminal act of ragging and also to enlighten others towards the resultant penalties.

Prof M. H. Shah, college principal highlighted that institution has zero tolerance for ragging and the Anti-ragging committees and squads have already been constituted in the college to monitor and generate awareness regarding anti ragging. The resource persons had a healthy interaction with the students and staff and they responded to queries from students with respect to anti ragging. The event was coordinated by Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch (NSS PO). Besides the permanent faculty including Dr. Ahsan ul Rehman Rizvi, Dr. Mohd. Akhlaq, Dr. Imtiaz Hussain Shah, the programme was attended by students, academic and non-teaching staff of the college. Vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Mohd Riaz.

"Participants of 15th Tribal Youth Exchange Programme explore manufacturing sector, local heritage"

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

The fourth day of the 15th Tribal Youth Exchange Programme included an informative tour of the Industrial Area and Bahu Fort Complex, plantation drive, and a cleanliness drive. The plantation drive was conducted at Saraswati Dham, Jammu. This was followed by a cleanliness drive under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. The youth participated in both drives with incredible gusto and enthusiasm. The participants were taken to different industrial units in Jammu to witness the manufacturing sector, and it's subsequent subtypes up close. Lalit Mahajan, President, Bari Brahmana Industrial Association, Jammu, welcomed the participants to Jammu. He briefed the participants and gave a short history of the industrial sector in J&K. He commented how the manufacturing industry has rapidly progressed in the recent years. Tarun Singla, Senior Vice President, held an interaction session with the participants and answered their questions. The youth then visited various industrial complexes to learn more



about manufacturing. A team visited the Pepsico plant in Bari Brahmana where they learned in detail about the beverage manufacturing process. They were briefed on the history of the plant, and how automation and AI is changing manufacturing. A second team visited Kamalfire Equipment Co. Ltd, Digiana to learn more about steel manufacturing. Manager Neeraj Gupta, and Manager (Digiana Industrial Area) Indu Sethi explained the process in detail and answer the participants' queries. The last team visited VKC Nuts Pvt. Ltd. where they witnessed the how walnuts and other nuts are acquired, processed, cleaned, and packed for wholesale and retail consumption. The participants were eager to learn about the different

packaging industries, and excitedly conversed with the industry professionals. In the evening, the participants were taken to the Bahu Fort Complex. It consisted of a visit to the park and a laser show. The participants were introduced to the rich cultural heritage of Jammu and offered a glimpse of the diversity the province has to offer. The participants expressed excitement on being offered several learning opportunities during the day. The 15th Tribal Youth Exchange Program organized by NYKS was created to offer tribal youth from remote areas and districts with unrest a chance to closely observe different cultures of the nation, and learn about the various opportunities that the nation and the Government of India has to offer.

DPS Jammu students bag gold medals in district karate championship



JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Ananya Gupta (V-I), a student of Delhi Public School Jammu brought laurels to the school and her parents by winning gold medal in U-10 age category in Open Jammu District Karate Championship organized by Karate Association of J&K held at Sports Complex, Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu on 11th October, 2023.

While Aryan Mathur

(V-I) and Rishit Basson (IV-J) also bagged gold and bronze medals, respectively in Jammu District Karate Championship held at Talab Tillo, Jammu on 9th October, 2023.

The esteemed Management DPS Jammu-Hon'ble President-RCT, Sh. M.K Ajatshatru Singh Ji, distinguished PVC, Dr. Kuwarani Ritu Singh Ji, Hon'ble Director-Sh. S.S Sodhi Ji along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ms. Ruchi Chabra and faculty too congratulated all the winners, their parents and coach, Mr. Suresh Kumar for their achievement. They also extended their best wishes to them for all their future endeavours.

Road to Amarnathji cave is a matter of happiness, those criticizing should meet a psychiatrist: Kavinder

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta on Monday castigated PDP and other parties for criticizing the Herculean task accomplished by BRO to ensure vehicular movement upto Shri Amarnathji cave from Baltal route side.

In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP stalwart said that only mentally insane would criticize this benevolent move of the Modi Government to provide succor lakhs of people intended to pay obeisance at the holy cave shrine of Baba Barfani. He said those having problem with this people-friendly move must visit a psychiatrist as this is historic step by the BRO and deserves praise



of one and all. He said that there are certain political groups in valley, which do not want development to take place as today Kashmir is booming with tourists both domestic and foreigner with all available accommodations remaining jam packed and with such remarkable development of vehicles reaching Amarnathji Shrine, things will further improve thus making it necessary for the common people to reject the negativity being spread by PDP leadership over the issue.

CSIR-IIIM Field Station Pulwama organizes workshop under CSIR Integrated Skill Initiative

JJ NEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, NOV 6

CSIR IIIM at its Field Station Pulwama today organized a One Day Workshop on Entrepreneurship Opportunities in Cultivation, Processing and Postharvest Technology of Aromatic, Medicinal and Floricultural crops under CSIR Integrated Skill Initiative. The workshop was conducted under the patronage of Dr Zabeer Ahmad Director, CSIR IIIM Jammu and Er Ab Rahim, Head, RMBD&IST & Head, CSIR IIIM, Srinagar. 75 students and faculty members from Department of Botany, Amar Singh College, Srinagar participated in the workshop.

At the outset of the programme, Dr Iqra Farooq, Project Associate-I gave an overview of the role of CSIR-IIIM in development and dissemination of the technologies on cultivation and processing of industrially important medicinal, aromatic and floricultural crops viz., Lavender, Rosemary, Rose Scented Geranium, Damask Rose, Saffron, Lilium, Marigold and Gladiolus and the expansion of such highly remunerative industrial crops to farmer fields for increased income and livelihood generation through various projects and Mission programmes like CSIR Aroma Mission,

CSIR Floriculture Mission and CSIR Integrated Skill Initiative. The participants were apprised about the Entrepreneurship and Livelihood opportunities offered in the value chain of such crops and were imparted practical training and skill on propagation techniques, cultivation, processing techniques and post harvest technology of these crops in the daylong programme. Dr Aadi Khurshid, Project Associate-I demonstrated the distillation techniques for extraction of essential oils from aromatic crops and informed the participants about the important bioactive constituents and their properties attributed to these crops. Dr Nahida Chishtii, Associate Professor, Amar Singh College while speaking at event appreciated the efforts of the team of the Field Station in organizing the workshop that aimed in knowledge based skill and capacity building and inculcation of the spirit of entrepreneurship among the participating students. She also expressed her gratitude to Dr Zabeer Ahmad, Director CSIR IIIM and Er Abdul Rahim, Head IIIM (Br) Srinagar, Dr Shahid Rasool, Senior Scientist and Incharge Field Station Pulwama, Principal and the administration of Amar Singh College for conducting the event.

Only Congress can fulfill wishes, aspirations of J&K people: Hari Singh, Udhay Chib

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Hari Singh Chib, Vice President of Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee, today asserted that the Congress party is the only party that can fulfill the wishes and aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

While addressing a workers meeting at Nardani Ward of Panchayat Raipur 2nd falling in Jammu North Assembly Segment, Chib said that the Congress Party has a long history of serving the people of Jammu and Kashmir and has always stood by them through thick and thin. He added that the party has a clear-cut vision for the equitable development of Jammu and Kashmir and is committed to working for the welfare of all sections of society.

During the meeting, Uday Bhanu Chib, former President Youth Congress Jammu and Kashmir, Fayaz Diwan Vice President Youth Congress, Som Nath Sharma Block President Pata Paloura, Parshotam Singh President BCC Bhalwal, Kamal Singh, Jung Bahadur Singh, Tarun Vaid, Om Parkash, Ramesh Chander, Kaka Ram, Panches Harbans Lal, Kamal Singh, Asha Ram, Sansar Chand,



Pappu, Jaswant Singh, Capt Khushi Ram Bhagat, Harbans Lal, Dev Raj, Virender Mehta, Kulbinder Singh, Jyoti Kumar, Kailash Singh, Tarsem Kumar, Hans Raj, Parveen Akhtar and others were present.

At the beginning of the meeting, the party workers apprised the senior functionaries of the Congress Party about the hardships being faced by the people of the area which included scarcity of drinking water, shortage of ration supply, and dilapidated condition of roads in the area.

The senior Congress leader Hari Singh Chib immediately brought the matter to the notice of the Chief Engineer of the Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department requesting for early restoration of the water supply. He also demanded early repair of the damaged overhead tank at Nardani, as maximum water currently leaks from it, result-

ing in a scarcity of drinking water.

Chib also urged the authorities concerned to restore the road from Nardani Morh to Bajion by blacktopping the aforesaid road. With regard to the issues of ration shortage and renewal of ration cards, Chib urged the Food, Consumer Affairs, and Civil Supplies Department to provide regular supply of ration and hold regular camps at Nardani to renew ration cards. Presently, ration distribution and renewal of ration cards are done at Kot, which is far away and very difficult for the people of Nardani to reach there.

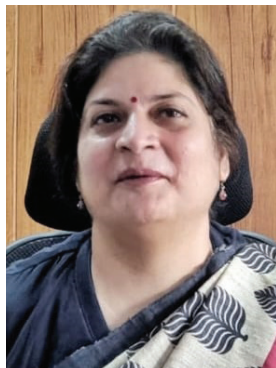
Uday Bhanu Chib criticized the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for its failure to deliver on its promises to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He said that the BJP has only brought division and hatred to the region and has done nothing to improve the lives of the people.

NHM Employees Doda hail positing of Babila Rakwal as new MD NHM for J&K

JJ NEWS SERVICE
DODA, NOV 06:

The National Health Mission (NHM) Employees including Doctors, Paramedics and District Programme Management Unit (DPMU) and Block Programme Management Units (BPMU) of Doda District under the banner of NHM Employees Association District Unit Doda accorded welcome and hailed govt decision for positing of Ms Babila Rakwal (JKAS) as new Mission Director NHM J&K.

In a press statement, the District President of the Association Dr Nasir Masood Indrabi on behalf



of NHM Employees of the District extended warm welcome and extend heartiest congratulations to Ms Babila Rakwal for assuming the charge of MD NHM J&K and hailed the State Govt decision for assigning her with this

new task and assured that the NHM Employees of the state will work with more and more dedication and sincerity under her able guidance as they were doing it in the past.

The NHM Union Doda described Babila Rakwal as an honest, competent and good performing officer and expressed hope that her posting as MD NHM will prove beneficial for the NHM Employees of Jammu and Kashmir, adding that MD NHM would play her role not only in streamlining the health department but would also advocate for the resolution of NHM Employees demands.

Anirudh Sawhney strongly condemns J&K Govt's New Sports Policy

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

In a stern response to the recent decision made by the Jammu and Kashmir government concerning the newly formulated sports policy by way of amendments made in amended S.O 412/2023 of SO 12/2022, Anirudh Sawhney, General Secretary of the J&K Youth Congress, has expressed his vehement condemnation. The new rule effectively restricts the employment opportunities for accomplished sportspersons. Under this rule, these outstanding athletes will now only be eligible for job positions within the Sports Department, with exclusion from any other department in the government. Thus, despite the qualifications of a sportsperson, they will be eligible for same posts i.e Level 4 in Non Gazetted Cadre. This disappoints all the sports persons as earlier they would have the opportunity to get respectable jobs in other



departments as well depending upon their professional qualifications.

Anirudh Sawhney criticized the government's decision for its detrimental impact on the career prospects of these talented individuals. By limiting their job options to a single department, the government effectively curtails their opportunities to contribute to various sectors of public service. What is more concerning is the decision to disregard merit and educational qualifications in the selection process, making it evident that the government's approach

is undermining the skills and achievements of sportspersons.

Anirudh Sawhney contended that the government's decision to limit their career options not only fails to recognize their talents but also reflects a regressive step that diminishes the dreams and aspirations of these exceptional sportspersons. The J&K Administration and BJP Government should be dismantling the foundation of J&K and the country by irrational moves such as these which target the deserving section of the society, Sawhney said. The J&K Youth Congress, he added, stands united in condemning this ill-conceived decision and urges the government to reconsider its stance in the best interest of the state's sporting talents.

Anirudh Sawhney asserted that by appointing various sports award winners including state award winners at Level 4 in Non Gazetted Cadre is just disgracing their own awards.

Amit Gupta, Rajesh Bittu inaugurate upgradation work of Dr BR Ambedkar community hall at Chand Nagar

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

JMC Corporator Amit Gupta And Mahant Rajesh Bittu ji inaugurate upgradation work of Dr BR Ambedkar community hall Works in Ward-19 Chand Nagar Jammu

Jammu 6 Nov 2023 : Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), Corporator Amit Gupta And Mahant Rajesh Bittu ji inaugurate upgradation work of Dr BR Ambedkar community hall work At Chand Nagar in Ward-19 at the cost of Rs 20 lakhs The upgradation work of Dr BR Ambedkar community hall Works work are in dilapidated condition since long and the residents especially old persons were facing lot of problems while passing through

Corporator Amit Gupta while addressing the general public to come forward and cooperate with Jammu Municipal Corporation in various development works undertaken by the department with in the JMC



Mahant Rajesh Bittu ji urged upon the residents to avoid using single used plastics, polythenes in their routine work, don't throw debris, garbage filth

etc in the public community hall nallahs. He added that kindly to adopt the habit of segregation of dry and wet garbage at their own level so that Jammu can be made neat, clean, green and beautiful city.

Local residents including and other were present on the occasion. Other member.

Congress represents each and every section of society: Bhalla

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 6

JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla today made a fervent appeal to the people to support Congress for "steering Jammu and Kashmir out of the present crisis." Interacting with aggrieved people of Bahu constituency, Bhalla said Congress has a roadmap for solving the economic and social problems and wipe the tears of suffering people. Support Congress party to get the roadmap implemented and making your dream come true," Bhalla said. He also talked about delay in assembly polls, economic and social issues, unemployment and growing drug addiction among the youth.

Referring to the delaying in assembly polls, Bhalla said that there is no end to the wait for polls. "Nobody knows when exactly these elections will be held," he said. He stated that Jammu and Kashmir is presently facing serious economic problems. "Inflation is badly hitting the people. He alleged that the unemployed people are not getting employment. "How many times the inter-



views were conducted but the jobs are not provided. We have social problems. Lakhs of our educated youth are unemployed. Their parents had invested whatever they had for the education of these youth. We have to come out of these economic and social crisis. We cannot come out with mere sloganeering or through lectures and speeches but with proper planning and the execution of the plans." Bhalla said.

Bhalla also expressed serious concern over the increasing drug addiction problem among the youth and urged for a joint fight on all levels against this

menace. He said the main reason for drug addiction is unemployment among the youth. The former Minister advocated stringent punishment for those who earned wealth by smuggling drugs. Bhalla said BJP has brought miseries through unprecedented price rise for the poor, common man, educated unemployed and daily wagers and each section of society due to unprecedented price rise by huge taxations, besides snatching the lands of the poor farmers during last more than nine years of its rule. The congress shall undo the wrongs of BJP govt and present dispensation

and introduce the people friendly and various pro poor policies in Jammu & Kashmir thus giving major relief to the sufferings of poor, downtrodden and others. Bhalla referred to the contributions of Congress party towards upliftment of downtrodden in every sphere including political empowerment from top to bottom right upto panchyats. He said it was Congress which framed the reservation Act for Reserved categories in 2004 which was earlier regulated by an SRO in J&K. He accused BJP of creating division & polarisation for vote bank politics and cautioned them not

to fall prey to the exploitation of BJP in the name of religion, caste, creed & colour. He said Congress always believes in uniting the people and that is why in the prevailing situation in the country, Rahul Gandhi led the 4000 km padyatra " Bharat Jodo yatra " from Kanyakumari to Kashmir.

Bhalla said that all the people have their issues, which are related to their day-to-day problems, some societal and other developmental issues." The people have little choice when it come to approach to a right person or the genuine office for the prompt disposal and

hence it becomes the duty of the concerned person, especially the designated department official, to immediately provide relief to those who have approached the office with high hopes," he said. He said that the Congress, as a public party, has built up robust grievances redressal mechanism at the party headquarters, where people approach with their issue.

Bhalla said "the ruling BJP was on a mission to disenfranchise J&K people with its selective policies and a coterie of federally-appointed officers, bereft of democratic bearings, calling the shots. The so-called Naya J&K of BJP, besides being low on the democratic mooring is also opposite to the idea of Naya Kashmir propounded by the Congress government," Bhalla said, adding, "The downpour of fresh investments, job extravaganzas, and infrastructure amplification is nowhere visible on the ground. Far from delivering on much-touted development promises, the people of J&K are continuously being denied their rights, and having a popular government in place is one of them."

Tony flays Govt's undemocratic order banning employee protests

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SUCHETGARH, NOV 6

Criticizing the government over its autocratic mindset that led to banning thousands of employees in the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory (UT) from holding protests and demonstrations, Taranjit Singh Tony, General Secretary of the Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) and DDC Member Suchetgarh, strongly condemned the undemocratic order issued by the J&K government, terming it as against the principles of natural justice and fundamental rights. Notably, the J&K Government had issued an order on November 4, 2023, banning all government employees from participating in any form of protest or demonstration, including strikes and rallies. The order also warned that any employee violating the order would be subject to disciplinary action, including termination of employment.

While inaugurating blacktopping work at Suchetgarh, the senior



Congress leader said that the government's order was a clear violation of the fundamental right to protest, which is enshrined in the Constitution of India. He said that the government's attempt to silence its employees was a reflection of its authoritarian mindset and its intolerance of dissent.

Tony also said that the government's order was a direct attack on the democratic fabric of India. He said that the right to protest was essential for a healthy democracy and that the government's attempt to suppress it was a dangerous development.

Tony appealed to all the people to root out the Bharatiya Janata Party

(BJP) through their vote power in the 2024 general election. He said that all independent institutions of the country, including the judiciary, were under grave threat by the BJP/RSS-led government.

"This is not the India for which our freedom fighters fought," Tony said. "The Modi-led government is hell-bent on crushing employees by issuing these dictatorial orders."

"In the coming months, when the citizens of India are provided the chance to exercise their vote power in 2024, the BJP/RSS-led Modi government must be shown the door to save our autonomous and independent institutions of India," Tony said.

NIT Srinagar, NRF IIT Delhi jointly organise workshop on popularizing the INUP-i2i program

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 6

The Department of Physics, National Institute of Technology (NIT) in collaboration with NRF (Nanoscale Research Facility) IIT Delhi Monday organized a day-long workshop on popularizing the INUP-i2i program.

The inaugural session of the workshop was graced by the presence of Dean Faculty Welfare, Prof. G.A Harmain, who served as the Chief Guest, and Dean Research & Consultancy, Prof. (Dr.) M.F Wani, who assumed the role of Guest of Honor. The event was attended by Chairman of the workshop, Prof. M. Ikram (HoD Physics), Convener Prof. Seemin Rubab, Coordinator Dr. Mohd Zubair Ansari, Prof. Babar Ahmad, Prof. Abid Bazaz, Dr. Amandeep Singh, Dr. Brajendra Sengar and other dignitaries.



During his keynote address, Prof. G.A. Harmain highlighted the focus of the workshop, emphasizing its emphasis on materials characterization and fabrication.

He said significant benefits can be derived from the active involvement of both students and faculty members in this initiative.

Prof. Harmain shared the sentiment that "If you tell me, I may forget; if you teach me, I may remember, and if you involve me, then I will learn," express-

ing his belief in the workshop's potential as a valuable learning experience for students.

Prof. Harmain also mentioned the existence of a faculty exchange program between IIT Delhi and NIT Srinagar, acknowledging the Physics department for spearheading this collaborative effort.

He extended gratitude to Director NIT, Prof. Sudhakar Yedla, for his unwavering support and encouragement for such programs on the campus.

Additionally, he commended Workshop Coordinator Zubair and the experts for their significant contributions to the workshop.

He said this program is multidisciplinary in nature, fostering innovation and promising mutual benefits for the faculty members of NIT Srinagar and IIT Delhi.

Prof. M.F Wani, Dean of Research & Consultancy said that the timeliness of workshops of this nature, stating that they are crucial in the pre-orientation academic landscape. He encouraged IIT Delhi and NIT Srinagar to delve into additional avenues for research and experimentation.

Prof. Wani underscored the importance of both faculty and students utilizing the research facilities available at both institutions, namely IIT Delhi and NIT Srinagar.

RGIP Welcomes New Batch of D Pharmacy Students

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Pharmacy hosted a highly successful Orientation Programme for its incoming students. This event, held on 6th Nov 2023, was meticulously organized to provide our new students with the essential information and support needed to begin their educational journey in pharmacy. The Orientation Programme at RGIP is an annual tradition designed to ensure that students make a seamless transition into their new academic environment. It is a pivotal point in their journey towards becoming skilled pharmacists and professionals in the field of healthcare.

J&K Youth Congress launches "Mera Pehla Vote for India" Poster Campaign to Empower New Voters

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

Jammu & Kashmir Youth Congress Launches "Mera Pehla Vote for India" Poster Campaign to Empower New Voters Jammu & Kashmir Youth Congress is delighted to announce the launch of its "Mera Pehla Vote for India" poster campaign, aimed at inspiring and guiding young voters who have recently turned 18 and are eligible to cast their votes. At a press conference held today, Mr. Aakash Bharat, the President of Jammu & Kashmir Pradesh Youth Congress, highlighted the pivotal role that the youth plays in shaping the future of our nation. He emphasized the significance of their votes in electing a government committed to the welfare of the people. Mr. Bharat expressed concerns about past governments that he believes have not prioritized the needs of the youth, citing instances of job losses, pension cuts, and economic challenges. With the Lok Sabha elec-



tions scheduled for March 2024, Mr. Bharat stressed the urgency of motivating and guiding new voters to select a political party that will work towards a brighter future. The poster campaign "Mera Pehla Vote for India" is the brainchild of Jammu & Kashmir Youth Congress and seeks to engage with first-time voters, aligning them with the values and principles of the Indian National Congress. The campaign is set to be rolled out across all districts and assemblies, aiming to empower the youth and encourage their active participation in the electoral process. The press conference

was attended by notable members of the Jammu & Kashmir Youth Congress leadership, including Vice President Divyansh Singh, Jammu HQ incharge Ricky Dalotra, State spokesperson Rahul Tandon, General secretary Anirudh Sawhney, and Social media convener Tanveer Singh. This campaign represents a vital step in promoting youth engagement and ensuring that the voices of the young electorate are heard in the upcoming elections. Jammu & Kashmir Youth Congress is dedicated to building a brighter and more promising future for India through the active involvement of its youth.

IIT Jammu's I3C Incubated Startup Shines at IMC-2023

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

The ingenious minds nurtured by the Institute Incubation and Innovation Council (I3C) at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu have left a lasting impression at the Indian Mobile Congress (IMC) 2023 in the nation's capital. The event, graced by the esteemed presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav Ji, offered a stage for the promising startup, Rach Smart Solutions Pvt Ltd, to showcase their innovative achievements.

Rach Smart Solutions Pvt Ltd, a startup crafted by Mr Atul Banotra, a PhD student in the Electrical Engineering Department at IIT Jammu, Mr Shahid Gulzar, also a PhD student in the Electrical Engineering Department, and Mr Harshit, a fourth-year undergraduate student in Mechanical Engineering, has thrived with the steadfast support of IIT Jammu and the Andhra Pradesh government. In their reflections on this extraordinary journey, the team expressed their excitement, remarking, "Attending and representing our startup, Rach Smart Solutions Pvt Ltd, an I3C incubated company at IIT Jammu in the Indian Mobile Congress event, has been an enduring experience. We had the privilege of engaging with representatives from telecommunications



giants like Ericsson, Jio, Airtel, and BSNL, among others. The presence of esteemed guests, including the Prime Minister of India and the Railway Minister, was truly inspiring."

The startup's exhibition stall captivated the interest of numerous delegates from diverse sectors, including agriculture, the Department of Telecommunication, Ministry of Communication, DSIR, the Indian Air Force, MHRD, and various multinational corporations. Eminent figures such as Dr Rajesh Kumar from DSIR; Mr Satish Kumar from the Ministry of Communication; Lt. Col VS Velan from Elena GEO Systems; CA Aditya Amar Matamsetti from Telemma Solutions Pvt Ltd; and Dr Rajesh Kumar Pal from IIT Delhi were among the distinguished visitors.

To add the crowning touch to their accomplishments at IMC-2023, Rach Smart Solutions Pvt Ltd was bestowed with recognition as one of the event's top startups, marking a moment of pride for the IIT Jammu incubated enterprise. Looking ahead to the future, the team shared their aspirations, saying, "In the coming years, we aim to secure an even more significant representation for our institution." They extended heartfelt gratitude to key individuals who paved the way for their remarkable journey, including Prof Manoj Singh Gaur, Director of IIT Jammu; Prof Manoj Aggarwal, the Professor-in-Charge of I3C at IIT Jammu, and Dr Sudhakar Modem, Assistant Professor at IIT Jammu, for providing this incredible opportunity.

Yudhvir organizes Ram Katha to celebrate consecration of Shri Ram Temple in Ayodhya



JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

J&K BJP Vice President Yudhvir Sethi today organized a Ram Katha at Shri Haumam ji Mandir, Gummat, Jammu, in connection with the consecration of the Shri Ram Temple in Ayodhya on January 22, 2024. The Katha was performed by Pt Sunil Sharma, who threw light on the seventh incarnation of Lord Vishnu as Shri Ram and the significance of the Shri Ram Temple in Ayodhya. The Katha will continue upto November 6.

In his address, Yudhvir Sethi appealed to the people of Jammu city to mark their participation in the consecration of the Shri Ram Temple in Ayodhya on January 22, 2024.

"It is our good fortune that we are going to witness this historic occasion with the installation of the Ram Lalla idol at the Ayodhya temple in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Sehti said. "This is the culmination of decades of efforts, including the largest mass mobilization post-Independence and a hard-fought legal battle, to reclaim the site."

Sethi said that the consecration of the Shri Ram Temple is a moment of great pride and joy for all

Hindus. He termed the consecration of the Shri Ram Temple is a symbol of national unity and harmony, and hoped that it would usher in a new era of peace and prosperity for India.

"I appeal to all the people of Jammu city to mark their participation in this historic event," he added. He also said that those who are able to travel to Ayodhya should do so, so that they can be present for this historic event.

Prominent among those who were present include Ashok Sharma, Secretary J&K Dharmarth Trust, Vijay President Upper Gummat Association, Virinder Gupta dharm jagran mancher S Harvinder Singh, Lower Gummat Steps Association, Sanjay Mahey ex Corporator, Gulshan Mahajan ex corporator, Parveen Kerni President East Mandal, Arun Sethi General Secretary East Mandal, Sunita Dadwal Secretary Jammu District, Anuradha Sharma President, Chakshu Kapoor General Secretary Mahila Morcha East Mandal, Ranju Sharma Secretary, Pooja Khajuria Media Secretary East Mandal, Gaurav Kapahi General Secretary Yuva Morcha, Rohit Mehra, Yuva Morcha East Mandal President and Raju Raina.

Yoga activity organized at MIER College



JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

The Sports Unit of MIER College of Education arranged a yoga session to promote students' holistic development, physical and mental well-being, and stress management. The resource person was Ms. Madhu Bala, a yoga instructor at Model Academy School. Dr. Monika Bajaj, Head of School of Social Sciences and Humanities and the staff members encouraged the participants for the activity.

More than 60 students from the SSSH participated in the activity where they practiced 12 significant asanas and understood their relevance in attaining holistic well-being. The program emphasized the benefits of mindfulness and methods for reducing stress through yoga and meditation. Students were guided to develop a deeper connection with their inner selves, enabling them to better cope with the challenges of life.

Prof. Adit Gupta,

Director and Principals said that yoga is a way to attain optimal health, reduce stress and increase relaxation during these times of uncertainty and chaos. By practicing yoga and pranayama students could improve their flexibility, strength, and general physical health. For students to maintain a healthy lifestyle, yoga should be a part of their daily routine. The activity was organized under the supervision of Mr. C.R. Jangra, Incharge Games and Sports Unit.

SMVDU Students visit India Mobile Congress in New Delhi

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 6

A group of 14 students from the School of Electronics and Communications Engineering, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University attended the India Mobile Congress (IMC), Asia's largest digital technology event, which was held from October 27 to 29, 2023 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India. The students had the opportunity to experience the latest technologies in mobile, 5G, the Internet of Things (IoT), Satellite Internet, Smart Agriculture, XR, and other emerging fields and also attended keynote addresses by global leaders including, Prime



Minister Narendra Modi who quoted "The Future is Here and Now", Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnav, panel discussions and workshops on a wide range of topics, and exhibits and demonstrations from over 400 companies and insti-

tutions like Airtel, Reliance Jio, Dell, Intel, and organizations like ISRO, DTU, IITs, including personalities such as Akash Ambani, Chairman, Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd, Chairman of Bharti Enterprises and founder of Bharti Airtel Sunil Bharati Mittal, etc.

Students were amazed by the latest technologies on display and the potential of these technologies to change the world. Like, Jio's initiative in satellite internet, ISRO's human Space flight Program Gaganyaan, One Web's Satellite Constellation, and many more.

SMVDU Students are now eager to apply their skills and knowledge to make a positive impact on the world. Furthermore, students had the opportunity to network with potential employers and investors at the event. They were particularly interested in learning about the latest trends in the digital technology industry and how they can apply their skills to solve real-world problems. The students' participation in IMC 2023 was made possible by the inputs of Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Registrar, Sh. Ajay Kumar, Dean of Students Welfare, Dr. R. K. Mishra, Dean of Faculty of Engineering, Dr. K. R. Jha.

CS reviews preparation for the upcoming fifth phase of B2V

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 6

Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today chaired a high level meeting of senior functionaries of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to review preparations for 'Fifth Phase of Back to Village Programme (B2V5)' which is J&K Government's flagship public outreach programme and serves as a robust tool for participation of people in Governance. The meeting was attended by DGP, Administrative Secretaries of Home, Jal Shakti, PWD (R&B), Finance, Education, General Administration Department, Rural Development Department, Information Technology Department, Revenue Department and other senior functionaries, besides Divisional Commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir provinces, ADGP Kashmir, IG Jammu, DCs and SSPs and District Officers thorough video confer-



ence. At the outset, Chief Secretary said that the previous editions of B2V have helped in improving service delivery, bridging infrastructure gaps and ensuring last mile delivery. They have also helped in identification of beneficiaries (especially youth and women) for availing skill development and self-employment schemes.

Dr. Mehta said that Prabhari Officers should take their job seriously and visit their respective panchayats to interact with the public and undertake

review of previous and current year deliverables, preparation of next year Gram Panchayat Development Programme with special focus with respect to improving e-services penetration, and saturating flagship programmes.

Chief Secretary stressed that this edition of B2V shall among others focus on saturation of self-employment schemes, progress on implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, saturation of welfare schemes including old-aged pension scheme,

sports, culture, progress on achievement of deliverables, availability of electricity in villages along with host of other parameters for which a booklet is being circulated to Prabhari Officers.

Dr Mehta asked the Deputy Commissioners to do the phasing of B2V in their districts as per their felt requirements.

B2V5 will be conducted from November 7 to 16 with main objective to saturate the services and bridging the gap between Government and people.

DC Reasi reviews progress of R&B, allied sector projects



J1 NEWS SERVICE
REASI, NOVEMBER 6

To review the progress of developmental works taken up under R&B Sector in the District during financial year 2023-24, a meeting of concerned officers was held today here under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a comprehensive physical/financial review of targets with regard to infrastructure development, up-gradation works and the macadamization process undertaken by R&B.

The R&B functionaries apprised the DC about the

present status of major developmental works and macadamization process through a detailed Power-Point presentation.

After reviewing the ongoing works taken up in the current year by R&B and other allied sectors, the Deputy Commissioner directed the stakeholder departments to expedite the pace of work on each project to ensure their timely completion so that people are benefitted at large.

Deputy Commissioner directed XEN Mahore to speed up the pace of execution by working in double shifts to complete the projects before the onset of severe winters/snowfall. He exhorted

the concerned Officers to monitor the progress of works on a daily basis.

To accelerate the completion of the vital road project connecting Kanda to Ransoo, the DC directed the Executive Engineer Public Works Department (PWD) to execute the work in double shift. This decision aims to ensure the timely completion of the road, particularly for the enhancement of pilgrimage, as number of pilgrims from different states visit Shiv Khor Shrine.

ADDC Jyoti Slathia, Joint Director Planning Sunita Kanchan, SE R&B Reasi, Xens PWD Katra, Reasi and Mahore and other concerned officers were present in the meeting.

DC Pulwama takes comprehensive review of Self Employment Schemes in district

J1 NEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, NOVEMBER 6

A meeting was today convened under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom to undertake a comprehensive review of various self-employment related schemes within the district.

The meeting, held to address employment initiatives, encompassed an extensive evaluation of multiple departments, including Employment, Agriculture, Horticulture, Fisheries, NRLM, Handicraft, Handloom, Sheep Husbandry, and Animal Husbandry.

In the pursuit of optimizing self-employment opportunities and enhancing the efficiency of schemes, the DC highlighted



ed the imperative necessity to expedite case processing and eliminate procedural delays.

Emphasizing the goal of achieving full employment saturation in the panchayats, the meeting addressed the critical need to ensure timely and seamless disbursement and sponsorship alignment.

Furthermore, the banking institutions were directed to play a pivotal role in facilitating the expeditious clearance of pending cases, ensuring no backlog and swift processing of all applications. The impera-

tive of conducting awareness camps to facilitate the effective implementation of beneficiary-oriented schemes at the grassroots level was also underscored.

In the review meeting, it was noted that in the fiscal year 2023-24, self-employment schemes have made significant strides in job creation within the district. With 2,429 cases sanctioned, they've successfully generated employment for 10,356 individuals. A total of 63 crore rupees has been disbursed, indicating substantial financial backing for these initiatives.

The meeting explicitly addressed resolving any issues related to disbursement to prevent the accumulation of pending cases, guaranteeing the smooth and rapid implementation of employment-related initiatives.

DDC Kupwara reviews Power scenario in district

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 6

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan on Monday convened a meeting of concerned engineers and Officers to review the power scenario of the district.

On the occasion, the DDC stressed upon the officers to ensure close coordination for better results on ground. She directed engineers and Officers to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the consumers as per the curtailment schedule so that the people do not face inconvenience.

The DDC also directed them to ensure completion of all ongoing augmentation projects within the stipulated time frame so that more improvement is visible on the ground.

Meanwhile, it was informed in the meeting that the electric maintenance and operation of power system upto 33 KV level in the circle is being created by Sub Transmission Division Sopore and KPDCL Division Kupwara and Handwara are under the jurisdiction of Superintendent Engineer O&M KPDCL circle Sopore.

It was informed that total agreed load of District Kupwara is 97.34 MW, Peak demand in the district is 250 MW and total Power available in the district is 125 MW and shortfall of available power during the winters in Kupwara district is 125 MW.

Chair was further apprised that adequate proactive measures have been taken for winter preparedness 2023-24.

Men and machinery has been kept ready, branch cuttings along the corridors of lines have been done and maintenance of receiving stations and substations has been done to keep the transformers and allied equipment.

Diwali arrangements discussed in Udhampur

J1 NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, NOVEMBER 6

In preparation for the upcoming celebration of Diwali, the festival of lights, Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur, Saloni Rai today chaired a meeting of line departments here in the Conference Hall of DC Office.

Threadbare discussions were held on various arrangements including the installation of fire-cracker sale stalls, security arrangements, traffic regulation, drinking water supply, power supply, sanitation, quality and price and quality checking of eatables and the deployment of fire tenders.

It was decided that a joint inspection of the market would be conducted by officers from the Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Municipality, Legal Metrology, and Revenue departments



to monitor the rates and quality of products, particularly sweets, eatables and fruit items during the festive days. Subash Stadium was selected as the venue for selling firecrackers.

PHE and PDD were directed to ensure adequate supply of drinking water and uninterrupted power supply, especially at the Subash Stadium venue, where a large number of people would

visit to purchase fireworks. The CEO Municipality was tasked to conduct a sanitation drive in the town, including the venue of the cracker stalls and its surroundings.

The CMO was instructed to make necessary first aid arrangements at the Subash Stadium to meet any emergency situation.

Additionally, the Fire & Emergency department was directed to keep standby fire-fighting ten-

ders at the cracker sale venue to deal with any emergency during the sale days. The District and Traffic police were urged to ensure proper traffic arrangements within the limits of Udhampur town during the festive days. Shopkeepers were reminded not to sell crackers at their establishments, except at the designated venue. The Deputy Commissioner directed all departments to ensure foolproof arrangements related to their respective responsibilities well in advance and encouraged the public to celebrate an eco-friendly Diwali this year. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Joginder Singh Jasrotia, Additional SP Anwar-Ul-Haq, and representatives from Beopar Mandal, Chamber of Commerce, as well as prominent citizens of the town attended the meeting.

GCW Udhampur concludes 'Vigilance Awareness Week' activities on high note

J1 NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, NOVEMBER 6

Literary club, in collaboration with Heritage Club, Government College for Women Udhampur today organized a valedictory ceremony to mark the end of the weeklong series of programs organized to observe vigilance awareness week.

The events during this period were convened under the theme 'SAY NO TO CORRUPTION: COMMIT TO THE NATION' under the patronage of the literary club of the college.

The proceedings of the programme began with the lighting of a ceremonial lamp by Principal of the college Prof. Anjali Mahajan, who was also the chief guest on 30th Oct. afternoon.

In her address, Prof. Anjali Mahajan while addressing the audiences appealed that this week long initiative was aimed to raise public awareness about corruption and to promote a corruption free environment. She further appealed all the students and staff to refrain from involving themselves in such activities and report the incidents happening in their neighbourhood in the society if any.

Dr. Mool Raj convener of the literary club of the college and coordinator of the program presented the detailed report of various events and activities carried out during Obser-



ance of Vigilance Awareness week. These activities included pledge taking, screening of movie/video regarding the campaign against corruption, Nukkad Natak on Say no to corruption, awareness lecture on Ethics in governance, Seminar on corruption as a social evils, Poster making and Slogan writing and Elocution on the theme Say no to corruption:-Commit to the nation.

Worthy Principal lauded the efforts of all the departments, Clubs,

committees, NCC and NSS volunteers for organizing such events for the larger benefits of the student community and nation. She further urged the respective clubs to organize such programmes in the near future for rightful disposal of public services.

A colourful cultural program was also presented by the students of the college on this occasion to realize harmonious development of child education in collaboration with the Department of Music.

Around 150 volunteers' students of the college, Faculty Members, Members of Literary Club, Heritage Club and Cultural Committee, NSS and NCC including various Heads of the department and other faculty members of the college participated in the programme. The Proceedings of the valedictory ceremony were convened by Heritage Club and Literary club.

A formal vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Kamal Deep Kour on this occasion.

DC Gbl convenes meeting for finalizing modalities of Milk chilling plant at Chountwaliwar

J1 NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 6

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today convened a meeting to finalize the Modalities for running of milk chilling plant at Chountwaliwar.

In order to make the project potentially a viable unit, it was decided that a tri-party agreement shall be made between Animal Husbandry Department Ganderbal, Department of Cooperatives Ganderbal and The Chountwaliwar Milk Producers Dairy Cooperative Society Ltd Chountwaliwar Lar.

The DC directed the concerned that the unit shall be outsourced on cooperative



pattern strictly on the terms and conditions under the relevant Cooperative Societies Act 1989 and MoU shall be signed between the Animal Husbandry Depart-

ment District Ganderbal, Department of Cooperatives District Ganderbal and Chountwaliwar Milk Producers dairy Cooperative Society Ltd Chountwaliwar Lar.

Lar before handover of the unit (Milk Chilling Plant) to the Chountwaliwar Milk producers Dairy Cooperative Society Ltd Chountwaliwar Lar.