



# JINDRAH IMAGES

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## Chill grips Kashmir as rains lash plains, snowfall in upper reaches of Kashmir

AGENCIES  
SRINAGAR, NOV 10

Higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir witnessed fresh snowfall on Friday, with widespread rains drenching the plains and causing the closure of multiple roads, officials said here.

An official told the news agency, that the higher reaches of the Kashmir Valley, including Razdan Pass, Pir Ki Gali, Zojila Pass, Sinthan Top, Sonamarg, Gulmarg, Doodpathri, Kulgam, and Machil, experienced

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## J&K has the potential to lead the country as a wellness and Ayurveda hub: LG Sinha

JINNEWSERVICE  
AKHNOOR, NOV 10

On the occasion of 8th National Ayurveda Day, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha attended the Pran Pratishtha Ceremony at Government Ayurvedic Medical College & Hospital, Akhnoor, today.

In his address, the Lt Governor extended his felicitations to the people on the occasion. He said the theme of this year's Ayurveda Day, 'Ayurveda for One Health', is aligned with the theme of India's G20 Presidency 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'.



"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the ancient wisdom of Yoga and Ayurveda for holistic well

being of all is benefitting the entire humanity," the Lt Governor.

He said the integration of Yoga, Ayurveda and

other Indian Systems of Medicine into the mainstream of public health system to secure

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## Narco-terror module case: J&K SIA searches house of key accused

JINNEWSERVICE  
JAMMU/MENDHAR, NOV 10

The Jammu and Kashmir Police's Special Investigation Agency (SIA) on Friday searched the house of a key accused in a narco-terror module case in a hamlet near the Line of Control in Poonch district, officials said.

A SIA team had taken accused Mohammad Iqbal, who was arrested from Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district in October, along with it to Karmara, they said.

The case pertains to cross-border smuggling of arms, explosives and nar-

cotics into Poonch, the officials said.

Three accomplices of Iqbal were caught with a huge cache of arms, explosives and narcotics near the border fence in Poonch's Karmara area on the intervening night of May 30 and 31, they said. Iqbal was at large since then.

He had fled from the area, and using technical surveillance as well as intelligence inputs, it was found that he was hiding in Mandi district, the officials said and added that he was arrested by SIA in October.

The handler of the

module, Mohammad Javed, who was also absconding, was arrested on August 19 by the SIA in an operation in Delhi. This further led to the arrest of another accused, Liyaqat, on August 25 from Poonch, they said.

During investigation, it was found that people of other countries were involved in the operations of the narco-terror module, the officials said.

So far, six arrests have been made in

Further SIA investigation into aspects of cross-border operations of the module, which

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## BSF DG visits forward areas of LoC in Gulmarg to review operational preparedness

JINNEWSERVICE  
SRINAGAR, NOV 10

Director General of Border Security Force (BSF) Nitin Agarwal on Friday visited the forward areas along the Line of Control in North Kashmir Gulmarg sector to review the operational preparedness, officials said.

The BSF DG also interacted with troops and applauded them for their high morale, commitment and professionalism, they said.

"Sh Nitin Agarwal, DG @BSF India visited the forward areas of sector #Srinagar along the LoC

to review the operational preparedness of the units. DG interacted with troops & applauded them for their high morale, commitment & professionalism", BSF Kashmir said on X.

DG BSF Agarwal is on a four-day visit to Kashmir.

Agarwal visited LoC in north Kashmir's Bandipora on November 8 and reviewed the operational preparedness there. He also visited Army Srinagar based Chinar Crops and interacted with Lt General Rajiv Ghai and reviewed the security situation in Kashmir on Wednesday. He also attended the passing.

## Seven-year-old child dies after vehicle returning from Vaishno Devi Temple falls into ditch near Katra

JINNEWSERVICE  
KATRA, NOV 10

A vehicle carrying around eight devotees fell into a ditch today

The bus was coming back to Delhi from Katra.

A total of eight passengers were travelling in the vehicle out of which seven suffered severe injuries and a 7-year-old child lost his life on the spot. The incident took place at around 5:00 am in Nomai area after the travelling tempo lost its balance.

The injured are undergoing treatment at a government hospital in Katra.



## Friday prayers 'disallowed' once again at Srinagar's Jamia Masjid

JINNEWSERVICE  
SRINAGAR, NOV 10

Friday congregational prayers were not allowed for the fifth consecutive week at Srinagar's historic Jamia Masjid amid fears of protests over the civilian deaths in Palestine. A statement by the Anjuman-e-Auqaf, the managing body of the Jamia Masjid, said authorities directed it early in the morning to close down all the doors of mosque as Friday prayers will not be allowed to take place.

It added that detention of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, who is the mosque's chief cleric, also continued for the fifth consecutive Friday.

"Repeatedly disallowing Friday prayers at Jamia Masjid and detaining the Mirwaiz is a highly regrettable and authoritative decision which causes great anguish and disappointment among the Muslims of the state and offends their religious sentiments," the statement added.

## Amid controversy, BRO says road to Amarnath cave will only facilitate pedestrian traffic

JINNEWSERVICE  
SRINAGAR, NOV 10

Amid the controversy over the road to Amarnath cave shrine, the Border Roads Organization (BRO) on Friday clarified that the road which has been widened will only facilitate pedestrian traffic and address congestion on the track for the yatris.

BRO recently claimed to have created history by driving their vehicles right up to the Amarnath cave after widening the pedestrian track from Baltal in Ganderbal up to the shrine.

The announcement by

the BRO came under criticism by several Kashmiri politicians fearing that it will adversely impact the fragile ecology of the area.

However, BRO said the reports that yatris visiting cave would soon be able to access through vehicular road is not true.

They said the work was assigned to BRO for maintenance and upgradation of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra track by the UT Government in September, 2022 and it is going on at steady pace during the working window available to it.

"The work of widening of tracks leading to the Holy Cave has been under-

taken in line with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. Pertinent to mention that the Hon'ble Court in WP ? 284 of 2012, interalia, issued the directions for sufficient widening of tracks to facilitate pedestrian traffic and address congestion on the track, improvement of critical stretches of the existing track, provide safety railings and retaining walls along the vulnerable stretches etc. keeping in view the environmental concerns," the BRO said.

In line with orders, the BRO said that it has undertaken widening of

the tracks meant for movement of yatris on foot, by palkis/ dandies and on ponies.

"After the handing over of the yatra tracks in September, 2022 to BRO by the Government of UT of J&K, it has undertaken the work on widening of the tracks in many stretches, improving the gradients of the tracks providing stronger safety railings and retaining walls in vulnerable stretches along the track keeping in view the environmental concerns," the statement said.

This contributed to substantial

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## PM urges everyone to be Vocal For Local and further India's progress

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, NOV 10

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has urged everyone to be vocal for local and further India's progress. Shri Modi also acknowledged the hard work of 140 crore Indians and said that it is due to the creativity and relentless spirit of entrepreneurs that we can be Vocal For Local and further India's progress.

Responding to the X post of Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, the Prime Minister posted on X;

"Indeed, let's make



this Diwali about the hard work of 140 crore Indians. It is due to the creativity and relentless spirit of entrepreneurs that we can be #VocalForLocal and further India's progress. May this festival herald an Aatmanirbhar Bharat!"

## Tourists mesmerized after seeing snowfall at Gulmarg

JINNEWSERVICE  
SRINAGAR, NOV 10

Snowfall brought cheer on the faces of tourists at the ski resort of Gulmarg in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday.

The Ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir received season's first major snowfall as several inches of snow accumulated at the main bowl with a good number of tourists seen throwing snowballs on each other to express their joy.

Upper reaches of Affarwat and Kongdori in Gulmarg also received the season's major snowfall today much to the delight of the tourists.

Higher reaches of Kash-



mir valley experienced fresh snowfall while plains were lashed by widespread rains.

Gulmarg, a popular tourist destination in the Kashmir valley sees a

heavy rush of tourists in every part of the year.

A group of tourists including Children from Kolkata were seen throwing snow on each other expressing their joy.

"We have seen it for the first time in our life and it is unbelievable such a mesmerizing atmosphere around here in Gulmarg", the tourists from

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## Katra Rly Station gets 'Restaurant on Wheels'

JINNEWSERVICE  
JAMMU, NOV 10

Around 64 pilgrims and visitors can relish traditional delicacies and other meals at one-time in one of the unique restaurants-'Restaurant on Wheels'-transformed from an old railway coach at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Railway Station in the holy Katra town of Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir.

An official here on Friday said that the coach-turned-restaurant was dedicated to the pilgrims by the railway officials, wherein they could enjoy delicious food.

The 'Restaurant on Wheels' has been built under the Food on Wheels



concept, and the fully air-conditioned restaurant has the latest decor, along with 16 tables and 64 chairs, giving it a modern look, said an official.

The 'Restaurant on Wheels' has been intro-

duced under the concept of transforming an abandoned old railway coach into a restaurant, adding that "at a time, 64 people can relish food inside the restaurant while enjoying its ambience, and the facil-

ity will be available 24x7 for the visitors."

"The facility has been introduced for a period of 5 years, and it is equipped with a variety of features and specialties, including

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## DC Reasi reviews preparedness for B2V5 and Viksit Bharat Yatra Program

JINNEWS SERVICE  
REASI, NOVEMBER 10

Deputy Commissioner Reasi Vishesh Mahajan today presided over a meeting of concerned officers to assess preparations for the 'Fifth Phase of Back to Village Programme (B2V5)' commencing from November 14 in the district. 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.

A virtual and physical training of the Prabhari Officers was held under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan in the Conference Hall of DC office Complex. Prabhari Officers were



trained to review the implementation of previous and current year deliverables in the panchayats, focus on improving e-services penetration, and impart general awareness of the government schemes. They have been impressed upon to identify beneficiaries, especially youth and women, for availing skill development and self-employment schemes. Day wise activities were discussed in detail, and officers have been asked to make extra effort in making the programmes a grand success. The DC said Prabhari

Officers need to focus on self-employment, Swacch Bharat Mission, Bhrashtachar Mukta J&K, Nasha Mukta J&K, Sanginis and Sahayikas, Pashu Sakhi, Digi Sakhi, old age pension schemes and organising sports and culture activities must be ensured along with the saturation of the targets in the schemes associated with the welfare and well-being of the public.

Furthermore, the DC said that the program has played a pivotal role in spreading awareness about the numerous government services and ini-

tiatives. The DC 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 B2V5 and Viksit Bharat Yatra activities to achieve the specific objectives set for the programmes.

The meeting was attended by SSP Reasi, Amit Gupta, ADC Abdul Star, Joint Director Planning, ACR, ACD and other concerned officers.

## Advisor Bhatnagar visits Rajpura Akhnoor, takes onspot review of various JJM works

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 10

Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar today visited Rajpura area of Marh Block, Akhnoor here and took onspot review of various Jal Jeevan Mission works.

The Advisor held the visit with an aim to gain firsthand insights into the ongoing water supply projects and to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the prestigious Jal Jeevan mission.

During the visit, Advisor Bhatnagar engaged with local officials, engineers, and Pani Samiti members involved in the implementation of JJM. The Advisor held detailed discussions with them focusing on current status of water supply projects, challenges faced, and strategies to expedite the mission's objectives.

While speaking on the occasion, Advisor Bhat-



nagar made out that the government is committed to ensure accessibility of safe and clean drinking water to every individual as well as every household and emphasized on the importance of collaborative efforts between government agencies and local communities for smooth implementation of this prestigious mission.

The Advisor conducted on-site inspections of various project sites, examining the quality of work and adherence to project timelines. He encouraged the executive agency to maintain the momentum of achieving the mission's goals.

Meanwhile, Advisor Bhatnagar also chaired a meeting with senior officers of Jal Shakti department and took stock of progress on ongoing works under JJM in Marh Block.

The meeting was attended by BDC Chairperson, BDC members, PRI representatives, Pani Samiti members, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti, SDM and other concerned officers.

Addressing the officers during the meeting, Advisor Bhatnagar said that JJM is a prestigious project of national importance having direct impact on lives of people. He added that the mission

aims to ensure water supply through functional household tap connections to all house holds which will promote health, hygiene, and overall well-being especially in rural communities.

The Advisor delved upon the officers to work with sincerity and coordination for ensuring successful implementation of water supply projects under this mission in the area.

He also asked the officers to conduct regular Pani Samiti meetings so that any hindrance in the implementation of mission is rectified timely.

Latet, Advisor Bhatnagar also visited Government Girls High School, Balyial Rajpura Mandi and held onspot inspection of the institution.

During the inspection, Advisor Bhatnagar engaged with school administrators, faculty, and students to gain firsthand insights into the educational environment.

## B2V-5 programme concludes across all 178 Panchayats in Kulgam

JINNEWS SERVICE  
KULGAM, NOVEMBER 10

The phase fifth of Back to Village (B2V-5) programme concluded today with active participation and interaction between Prabhari Officers and the public at Kulgam.

During the outreach programme, all the 178 panchayats of the district were covered under two phases and the programme witnessed participation of PRIs and public in large. Under the first phase 84 panchayats were covered and in the second phase 94 panchayats were covered.

Today on the fourth day of the programme, Prabhari Officers including Director Education, Tasduq Hussain Mir; Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission, G.N.Itoo; Director Floriculture Kashmir, Farooq Ahmad Rather;



Director RDD, Shabir Husain Bhat and other Prabhari officers remained available in their designated Panchayats and listened to the aspirations of the people and took feedback to ensure effective implementation of developmental schemes.

During the programme, Visiting Officers held scores of Gram Sabhas and informed people about the centrally sponsored

and UT-run schemes for the welfare of the general public.

Prabhari Officers in all the panchayats interacted with the public and undertook review of previous and current year deliverables with special focus on improving e-services penetration and user experience for greater accessibility. They also inspected various government offices and establishments and

took first hand appraisal of availability of facilities and functioning of these institutions.

Several developmental projects were also dedicated to Public which were inaugurated by these Prabhari Officers.

Throughout the programme, Prabhari Officers also reviewed implementation status of schemes like Jal Jeevan Mission, MGNREGA, PMAY-G, APY, Pension schemes, rejuvenation and restoration of water bodies etc and emphasised upon the saturation of KCC, ABHA cards, golden cards, land passbooks etc.

Awareness sessions on various self employment and other welfare schemes were also held.

Exciting cultural and sports events were also organised showcasing talent and promoting a spirit of unity.

## First trial of Cordycep Mushroom (Cordycep militaris) successfully conducted at Spawn Production Laboratory Jammu

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 10

Spawn Production Lab Jammu achieved another milestone by successfully conducting trial of cordycep medicinal mushroom. The journey commenced with meticulous planning and dedication of the entire Spawn Production Lab staff.

The Director Agriculture Production & FW Jammu today launched the picking/harvesting of the first trial of cordycep at the lab.

Speaking on the occasion the Director Agriculture, Jammu said that cordycep mushroom is a highly valued mushroom with market price varying from Rs.20,000/- to 2 lakh per kg depending upon cordycepin content. The mushroom has anti-ageing, antitumor, anti-diabetic and immunomodulating properties.



The mushroom is a super energy food promoting vitality and endurance. The cultivation of this mushroom will be promoted in Jammu province in the coming year and this will play a pivotal role in agriculture diversification and promoting the socio-economic condition of the farmers.

The Director Agriculture, Jammu also visited Shiitake cultivation Lab at Spawn Production Lab and inspected the Shiitake crop. The successful trial of this mushroom was

completed in the previous year and from the previous month steps are being taken to promote the cultivation of this mushroom in the entire Jammu region on a large scale. In this regard, training of progressive mushroom growers/Officers/Officials was conducted and 1000 shiitake mushroom blocks were provided to DCTC/

mushroom growers free of cost in all districts of Jammu province. The promotion of cultivation of both of these mushrooms will prove as a game

changer in transforming the agriculture landscape and also help in raising the socio-economic status of the farmers of the Jammu province.

Present on the occasion were Joint Director of Agriculture (Extension) Jammu, Joint Director of Agriculture (Inputs) Jammu, Joint Director SLUB, Liaison Officer Apiculture & Mushroom Development Scheme Jammu, Spawn Production Officer Jammu, Spawn Production Assis-

## Second round of B2V-5 begins in 114 Panchayats of Kupwara

JINNEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 10

The second round of the mega public outreach programme 'Back to Village edition 5, (B2V5)' started today in 114 Panchayats of Kupwara district.

Despite fresh snowfall at upper reaches like Sadna pass, Z- Gali of Machil, Back to Village programme is being held in Karnah, and Machil areas as Visiting Officers have already reached these areas.

During the programme, Gram Sabhas for formulation of GPDP, public grievances redressal camps, plantation drive and other activities are being held.

Public is enthusiastically participating in the Back to Village programme and expressing their views and feedback over the work done by the various departments.

The Visiting Officers chaired Gram Sabhas, Bal Sabhas and Mahila Sabhas and administered



the pledge against drug menace.

Meanwhile, District Administration Kupwara today organized a training programme at Town Hall Kupwara for Visiting Officers/Prabharis deputed for B2V-5 (round 3rd).

Training programme was presided over by ACD Kupwara, Hilal Ahmad Mir.

As many as 150 Visiting Officers for 150 Panchayats of Kupwara district under (round 3rd) today attended the training pro-

gramme.

Highlighting the objectives of 'Back to Village-5' programme, the ACD Kupwara stressed upon the Visiting Officers to take feedback on digital services and listen and engage with the local community, understand local issues, understand the specific challenges and issues faced by the village, such as infrastructure, healthcare, education, and agriculture, and collaborate and note down all issues faced by the people in particular Panchayat.

ACD impressed upon Visiting Officers to visit schools, AWCs, CSC and check the quality of development works.

## Diwali preparations reviewed in Rajouri

JINNEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, NOVEMBER 10

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, today reviewed the arrangements for the celebration of festival of lights-Diwali here at a meeting of officers and representatives of different organisations.

With unwavering focus, the meeting delved into essential facets such as seamless water and power supply, healthcare provisions, parking logistics, and efficient transport services.

Addressing the meeting, Deputy Commissioner, Vikas Kundal fervently emphasized the imperative duty of officers and officials to furnish the populace with indispensable amenities, encompassing potable water, sanitation, medical care, efficient transportation, uninterrupted power and water provisioning, and all other requisite essentials.



The vigilant law enforcement agencies received firm directives to deploy ample police personnel on this holy occasion, safeguarding the security of the public. Traffic authorities, likewise, were tasked with crafting a meticulous traffic management and parking strategy to ensure the smooth flow of vehicles on the designated day.

Furthermore, Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal enjoined the concerned authorities from the Power Development Department and Jal Shakti Department to guarantee uninterrupted power and water supply for the community during the festive period.

The concerned offi-

cer from the fire and emergency department received explicit instructions to maintain a state of readiness for fire tenders, both day and night. The Executive Officer MC Rajouri was mandated to ensure the cleanliness of the town throughout the festivities. Additionally, the Health Department was tasked with ensuring the availability of comprehensive medical facilities to address any potential emergencies.

Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal impressively underscored the urgency of completing all essential festival-related preparations well in advance to ensure that the public encounters no inconve-

nience during these auspicious occasions.

Officers who attended the meeting were ADC Rajouri, Rajiv Kumar Khajuria; CPO, Mohamad Khurshid; Tehsildar Rajouri, Varinder Sharma; CMO, Dr Rajinder Sharma; ARTO, Pawan Kumar; EXEN Jal Shakti Rajouri, Ashwini Sharma; EXEN PDD Rajouri, Mohd Rashid; EO MC Rajouri, Mushtaq Hussain and other concerned officers.

Among the others, President Beopar Mandal, Rajesh Gupta; Secretary Beopar Mandal, Ripu Daman Gupta; Vice President Sanatan Dharm Sabha, Anshuman Chopra and Ashish Gupta from Sanatan Dharm Sabha.

## Recruitment drive held at GPC Chanderkote Ramban

JINNEWS SERVICE  
RAMBAN, NOVEMBER 10

A substantial recruitment drive was today held at Government Polytechnic College (GPC), Chanderkote, Ramban.

The recruitment drive

was organized by the District Employment and Counselling Centre, under the aegis of Deputy Commissioner, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary. Assistant Director Employment, Dr. Sushant Mahajan, informed that more

than 100 unemployed youth participated in the recruitment process. He informed that as many as 25 individuals successfully passed the initial screening, and 8 of them secured positions with an appealing package of

Rs 2.4 LPA for the Smart Project of Electric Buses in Jammu and Srinagar.

During the recruitment drive, candidates had the valuable opportunity to partake in a career counseling session led by Lovepreet Singh

from the Union Ministry of Labour and Employment. He imparted them guidance and information about the different jobs available at the District Employment and Counselling Centre-cum-Model Career Centre.

It is pertinent to mention here that the recruitment drive was conducted virtually, with the support of Adecco, the hiring partner for the project. This virtual approach facilitated a smooth and efficient selection process.

Among others, Principal, Government Polytechnic, Ramban Er. Vivek Mahajan, Career Counseling Officer Amir Hassan, and Placement Officer of Polytechnic, Mr. Abid were present.

This recruitment

drive signifies a significant stride in providing employment opportunities for the region's youth and underscores the collaborative efforts of various organizations and individuals in supporting career development.



## First Round of B2V5 concludes in 92 Panchayats of Doda

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, NOVEMBER 10

First round of Back to Village Phase -5 (B2V5) concluded today in 92 out of 237 Gram panchayats of 17 blocks in district Doda.

Huge public participation across all areas reflected the success of the programme and high expectations of the people in the UT and District Administration in bringing a positive change for progress, development, and prosperity of the region.

District Development Commissioner Harvinder Singh participated in the B2V5 programme at Butla Panchayat of Bhaderwah block. He appreciated the public participation in a festive manner and reiterated the commitment of the administration to empower the people of the district and engage them actively in policy making for their own development. He listened to the public grievances and participated in the Gram Sabha discussion. A cer-

emonial plantation drive was led by the DDC along with PRIs and visiting officers of the panchayat in Butla. He also led a pledge ceremony. A mesmerising cultural programme was presented by the local artists of the village depicting the rich cultural heritage of the area. The DDC also emphasized the active participation of the people in policy making and implementation for the overall well-being of all residents of Doda.

The visiting officers (VOs) on day second, along with supporting staff and field functionaries of the line departments listened to villagers participating in the Gram Sabhas and prepared the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GDP) as per their wishes. The Prabhari Officers also ensured the awareness and saturation of all the government schemes. They submitted their report of their visit, aspirations, and feedback of the people, in a designated portal and also



submitted a hard copy of the same in the district level cell created for the compilation of the data/reports. The VOs exhorted upon the penetration of online services in the rural population to expedite the public services delivery in a transparent manner. On day two, Visiting Officers inspected various government institutions viz schools, Anganwadi Centres, Ration depots, Health institutions, Patwar khanas, Panchayat Ghars etc. They also visited the sites of ongoing and completed works under MGNREGA, Capex Budget, PMAY, SBM, and

other such schemes. Visiting officers also inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of some of the important public assets. Visiting officers inspected Amrit Sarovars, interacted with the public especially, youth and created awareness on Self-Employment schemes. Feedback on welfare schemes, services delivery, and the punctuality of officials in the villages was reviewed by the visiting officers on day-2 of B2V5.

The resource persons of various departments also educated the public about scores of welfare schemes and programmes being

implemented in the district and motivated them to avail the benefits of the same.

The mega outreach programme in Doda, under the unique initiative of the UT Government, is being supervised and managed by the District Administration Doda, under the leadership of District Development Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh. The Back to Village (B2V) Programme is the flagship public outreach, participation, and feedback programme. During the programme, the Prabhari Officers visit their respective panchayats, stay there for a specific period to interact and obtain feedback from the grass-roots so as to tailor Government efforts in improving the delivery of village-specific services. The B2V Programme is aimed at involving the people and government officials in a joint effort to deliver the mission of equitable development in rural areas.

## Whopping 185 JJM projects costing Rs 748.31 cr taken up in District Doda 82452 households provided Tap Connections



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, NOVEMBER 10

District Development Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh, who is also Chairman District Water and Sanitation Mission (DWSM) under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), reviewed the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the district, in a meeting of Jal Shakti Department (JSD) held here in DC office complex. DDC reviewed scheme wise progress of JJM schemes and issued specific direction and timelines.

The DDC was informed that 185 projects at an estimated cost of Rs 748.31 crore have been tendered, allotted and execution has been started on ground in the district under JJM, to provide safe drinking water through

tap water connections to every household. In the above said 185 JJM schemes, 372 Slow Sand Filtration plants are to be constructed, out of which 207 have been allotted and work on 133 has been started on the ground. Out of 2 Rapid Sand Filtration plants, one has been allotted, while work on 3 Borewells has been started out of 05 sanctioned Borewell projects.

The Chairman DWSM (DDC) was informed that out of the target of 111216 FHTCs to provide all the households in the district safe and adequate tap drinking water, 82452 FHTCs have been completed. In this regard, DDC has asked the engineers to complete 1000 more FHTCs by November 15th and complete the target as per the

already given timeline. Furthermore, the SE JSD has been instructed to monitor personally, daily progress, and ensure all the schemes under prestigious JJM are completed in a given timeline. He asked the SE to submit a PERT Chart of all the schemes, and adhere to the timeline maintaining highest standards of quality. Regarding some re-tendered Slow Sand Filtration plants, Borewells and Rapid Sand Filtration plants, the DDC urged to allot and start execution of work immediately, in two days, on successfully tendered works.

The meeting was attended by CPO Doda Suresh Kumar, SE Hydraulic Circle Doda Anil Gupta, Executive Engineers (All), AEEs (All) and other concerned officials.

## Academician Prof. (DR.) G. M. Untoo delivers Invited Lecture at Islamia College

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 10

As part of academic activity, a special lecture was today delivered by Professor (Dr.) G.M.Untoo, former Principal Department of Higher Education, Government of J&K (UT) at Islamia College Srinagar.

At the outset, Principal of the host College, Professor (Dr.) Khursheed A. Khan welcomed the chief guest Prof. (Dr.) G.M.Untoo to the College. He said that interaction with Prof. G.M. Untoo will help the students in particular and staff in general.

Principal added that leaders and academicians have been sharing great ideas and capturing the human imagination.

Every leader has, in one way or another, influenced us to visualize a better future. But academicians like Prof. Untoo has entirely changed the way we see the world in the arena of higher education. He is the one who has inspired teachers and students the most.

Staff Secretary of the college Professor Ab. Majid said that such interactions by eminent personalities will help our students to understand how to overcome stress and look for a better future.

The Chief Guest Professor (Dr.) G.M.Untoo in his crisp presentation gave the broader vision about higher education, its strategies and policies for sustainable management

of human resources and student intake.

While interacting with the students, he said that he believes that it would be better doing something challenging, something worthwhile, and something exciting to show the world that you are the students of great intuition ICSC.

Dr. Untoo added that every one of us faces failures in life whether it comes to family, friends, and relationships. Many of us have a fear of failure, many of the people become depressed of this failure but failure is a key to success. He added that, when we receive failures we become so sad, but we should realize that failures make us a better person. He also sought

to improve the policy framework through effective consultation with all stakeholders, including the academia and present dispensation of the college to address the grievances raised by students and staff.

Heads of the various departments while expressing their gratitude to the college administration for inviting Professor (Dr.) G.M.Untoo an eminent personality in the H/E Department, UT of J&K. Large number of students from PG Botany, Zoology, Commerce, IPG & Hon's besides students from other Departments actively participated in the event. Formal vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Javed Hussain, HOD, Zoology.

## "Back to Village" Initiative - Day 2 witnesses massive public engagement in Udhampur

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
UDHAMPUR, NOVEMBER 10

The second day of the fifth phase of the 'Back to Village' initiative, a flagship program of the Union Territory, witnessed an overwhelming public response in Udhampur district.

Leena Padha, Mission Director of Skill Development Mission and visiting officer of Panchayat Rehmbal Upper, conducted public interactions with PRI members and officials from Line departments. She inaugurated a newly constructed Community Hall and Capex works in the presence of BDC Chairman Balwan Singh and also inspected the Anganwadi center, PHC, and distributed Sehat cards among beneficiaries.

Throughout the day, the visiting officers engaged with PRIs and the general public across different Panchayats, collecting detailed feedback on the status of implementation of government schemes in the area. They inquired about ongoing developmental works and flagship schemes, emphasizing the importance of understanding the on-ground reality.

Numerous activities were organized in different Panchayats, including inaugurations of CSC, sports and cultural events, plantation drives, Gram Sabhas, inspection of development works and the distribution of Sehat/KCC cards, vegetable seeds, and Mamta kits.

The day also featured the Nasha Mukht Bharat pledge, discussions on plans, and inspections of ongoing projects.

The 'Back to Village' initiative continues to foster community engagement and ensure the effective implementation of government programs at the grassroots level.

## First Leg of B2V5 Public Outreach Program concludes in Samba District

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, NOVEMBER 10

The inaugural phase of the Back to Village Phase 5 (B2V5) public outreach program concluded today with a resounding success in District Samba.

The Back to Village Phase 5 (B2V5) program is a pioneering initiative aimed at bridging the gap between governance and the grassroots level. Through comprehensive public outreach, the program seeks to empower communities, address grievances, and ensure the effective implementation of government schemes for holistic development.

Spanning from November 8 to November 10-2023, Phase 1 of B2V5 actively engaged with 44 panchayats across Blocks including Purmandal, Bari Brahmana, Sumb, Nud, and Rajpura.

At Panchayat Badhori in Block Bari Brahmana, Bipul Pathak, Director General, Institute of Management, Public Administration, and Rural Development (IMPA & RD), took center stage. He distributed certificates to commendable women achievers, reinforcing the program's commitment to recognizing and empowering women in the community. Additionally, Sh.



focus was the assessment of the effective implementation of various government schemes, reflecting a commitment to accountable and transparent administration. The visiting officers undertook a series of impactful initiatives during their engagements, including the solemn pledge for Nasha Mukhti, the distribution of certificates to commendable women achievers, and robust plantation drives. Additionally, thorough inspections were conducted at stalls representing various government departments, contributing to enhanced service delivery. Particular attention was given to the scrutiny of Amrit Sarovar and soak pit checks, reflecting the program's commitment to environmental sustainability. Further, rigorous inspections were carried out at anganwadi centers, health centers, and educational institutions within their respective panchayats, ensuring the well-being and progress of these critical community assets. The successful completion of Phase 1 marks a significant milestone in the B2V5 program, setting a positive tone for future phases.

Bipul Pathak sanctioned Kisan Credit Card term loans, providing essential financial support to beneficiaries.

Similarly, Visiting Officer Babila Rakwal, Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K, made a significant impact during his visit to Panchayat Meen Charkan in Block Bari Brahmana. She actively engaged with the local community, listening to and resolving various issues. Furthermore, she provided crucial instructions for the development of local infrastructure, underlining the program's holistic approach to address both immediate concerns and long-term

community development. In Panchayat Rajpur Kholar Block Bari Brahmana Visiting Officer Rifat Kohli played a pivotal role in actively resolving various issues within the community. Additionally, they diligently checked the implementation of government schemes, ensuring a hands-on approach to address concerns and foster effective governance. Similarly the other Visiting officers did the same in their respective panchayats.

During this phase, dedicated visiting officers diligently listened to public grievances, ensuring a participatory approach in governance. A key

## 8th National Ayurveda Day Celebrated at Doda



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, NOVEMBER 10

District Ayush Office Doda, in collaboration with District Administration, celebrated 8th National Ayurveda Day (Dhanwantri Jayanti) with great enthusiasm and zeal here in Town Hall. The event saw a gathering of Ayurveda practitioners, experts, and enthusiasts who came together to promote the ancient Indian healing system.

Deputy Commissioner, Harvinder Singh, along with Senior Superintendent of Police, Abdul Qayoom, inaugurated the programme and a free Ayurvedic Medical Camp. The event was kicked off with the lighting of the traditional lamp followed by informative sessions on the benefits of Ayurveda.

The celebration also included yoga and meditation sessions, highlighting the importance of a balanced lifestyle for overall well-being. Renowned Ayurveda practitioners and scholars were also present to share their knowledge and insight on the holistic approach to health and wellness.

The theme for this year's National Ayurveda Day was "Ayurveda for one health". The

event aimed to raise awareness about the role of Ayurveda in preventing and managing a better lifestyle and to address the growing health concerns in India.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC emphasised the role of yoga in day to day life and exhorted the need to grow and use the local medicinal plants in day-to-day requirements. He firmly assured that Ayurveda is going to play a crucial role in the healthcare system in coming times. Doda will be the hub for Ayurvedic medicine, as the National level High Altitude Medicinal Plant is coming up in Bhaderwah, the DC added.

Attendees at the event were given free consultation and demonstration

of Ayurvedic treatments. Herbal medicine stalls were installed in the town Hall for the awareness of the people. The 8th National Ayurveda Day celebration at Town Hall Doda was a resounding success, bringing attention to the ancient wisdom of Ayurveda and its relevance in today's modern world. It served as a reminder of the importance of embracing traditional healing practices for a healthier and more balanced lifestyle.

The programme was attended by CEO Doda Parshotam Gorla, District Ayush Officer Dr Ajay Tikoo, Retired officers and officials of the department, PRIs, local people, and Officials of District Ayush Department Doda.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Auction Notice	
The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction from eligible and registered bidders for the following works over Firozpur Division.	
1) Auction Catalogue No	EAZR-MPS23-3
Auction Date & Time	20-11-23 at 12:30 Hrs
Name of Work	Allotment of Multi-Purpose stall (MPS) at Phagwara Railway Station.
2) Auction Catalogue No	EAZR-PNU23-18
Auction Date & Time	20-11-23 at 13:00 Hrs
Name of Work	Allotment of contract for operation & maintenance of Pay & Use Toilets at Batala Railway Station.
3) Auction Catalogue No	EAZR-PRKG23-27
Auction Date & Time	20-11-23 at 13:30 Hrs
Name of Work	Allotment of contract for Mixed Parking at Batala Railway Station
4) Auction Catalogue No	EAZR-OSD-23-1
Auction Date & Time	23-11-23 at 12:30 Hrs
Name of Work	Contract for Commercial Advertisement rights through 51" LEDs at Railway Station Beas & Pathankot Cantt.
For other details and registration, please visit Railway website <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>	
3535/2023	
Serving Customers With A Smile	



## Raksha Mantri & US Secretary of Defence discuss wide range of defence & strategic issues

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, NOV 10

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh held a bilateral meeting with US Secretary of Defence Mr Lloyd Austin in New Delhi on November 10, 2023. The two Ministers comprehensively discussed a wide range of defence and strategic issues. There was particular focus on enhancing defence industrial cooperation and getting the defence industries from both sides together to cooperatively co-develop and co-produce defence systems.

The Ministers explored ways and means to



advance their defence technology cooperation with joint research in critical areas. They reviewed the progress of the India-US Defence Industrial Ecosystem, INDUS-X, which was launched in June this year and aims to expand the strategic technology partnership and defence industrial cooperation between the governments,

businesses and academic institutions of India and US.

Secretary Austin welcomed India's decision to elevate to full membership of the Combined Maritime Forces, a multilateral construct headquartered in Bahrain.

The Raksha Mantri symbolically handed over to Secretary Austin

some items recovered in Assam as part of the US Defence POW MIA Accounting Agency Mission. The items include parts of parachute, uniform and airplane of the US forces from the World War II-era. The Ministers, before concluding, drew up an agenda for future joint work for their teams.

### FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

#### Chill grips Kashmir...

snowfall. Simultaneously, the plains were lashed by extensive rainfall.

"Due to the snowfall, several roads, including Razdan Pass, Zojila Pass, Kishtwar-Anantnag road, Mughal road connecting Shopian district with Rajouri and Poonch, Phirkian Gali, Machil in Kupwara, and Srinagar-Sonamarg road, were closed for traffic," he said.

Jammu-Srinagar National Highway was earlier closed for traffic movement after mudslides and shooting stones occurred along the road stretch near the Mehar area of Ramban district. The road stretch was later restored partially. An official said even though the road was through, there was a very slow movement at Dalwas and Mehad due to mud and sleet. "People are advised to drive slowly," he said.

Traffic update at 1850 hrs Jammu-Srinagar NHW partially restored, very slow movement at Dalwas and Mehad due to mud and slush. People are advised to drive cautiously and follow lane discipline

The official said that the highway got blocked due to mudslides and shooting stones near the Mehar area after heavy rainfall in the area. "Efforts were on to ensure early opening of the highway," he said.

The Meteorological Department in Srinagar forecasted fairly widespread rain in the plains and snowfall in the higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir over the next 24 hours, with a gradual decrease in precipitation anticipated from late Friday evening onwards.

The MeT official said that the weather is expected to turn dry with warm days from November 11 to 17.

Meanwhile, widespread rains disrupted normal life in Srinagar and its surrounding areas, causing a drop in temperature. Low-lying roads were inundated due to rainwaters

Temperature recordings on Friday indicated Srinagar at 6.3 degrees Celsius with 17.5mm of rainfall, Qazigund at 5.0 degrees Celsius with 12.0mm of rainfall, Pahalgam at 4.7 degrees Celsius with 6.4mm of rainfall, Kupwara at 4.2 degrees Celsius with 29.8mm of rainfall, Kokernag at 6.2 degrees Celsius with 5.8mm of rainfall, and Gulmarg recording a low of -1.5 degrees Celsius with 22.2mm of rainfall

The Kupwara administration issued an advisory stating, "Due to the forecast of widespread light to moderate rain or snowfall on November 9th and 10th, 2023, the residents of the district, especially those living in regions like Keran, Karnah, Machil, Budnamal, Jumu-gund, Nowgam, Kumkadi, and those in proximity to various streams and rivers susceptible to landslides and flash floods, are cautioned to avoid visiting these areas until the weather conditions improve." KNO

#### Narco-terror module...

smuggled arms, explosives and narcotics, is underway, the officials said.

In May, Mohd Farooq (26), Mohd Riaz (23) and Mohd Zubair (22) were arrested and an AK assault rifle, two pistols, six grenades, a 10-kg IED and 20 packets of suspected heroin, which they were trying to smuggle into the country, were seized.

The accused persons were intercepted by army personnel and there was an exchange of fire between them, in which a soldier and a terrorist had suffered injuries.

The SIA had also conducted raids at several places in Poonch for three consecutive days from July 26 to 28, following the recovery of seven kg of heroin, more than Rs 2 crore cash and a pistol along with some ammunition from the house of a drug smuggler Rafiq Lala in Danna Doyiyian area of Sathra on March 3.

Further SIA investigation into aspects of cross-border operations of the module, which smuggled arms, explosives and narcotics, is underway, the officials said.

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#### Amid controversy, BRO...

improvement in satisfaction level of the yatris, and making the movement of yatris on tracks safer, it added In order to continue with the work which could not

be completed before the last yatra, BRO, by engaging men and machinery, has widened many remaining portions of the tracks which were narrow and vulnerable.

"This will make the movement of yatris visiting the Holy Shrine on foot/ palkies/ dandies and ponies more comfortable and convenient," BRO said.

The cave of Shri Amarnath Ji in south Kashmir is situated at a height of about 3,888 meters above sea level, and the Yatra holds immense significance as a holy pilgrimage for Hindus. Annually, thousands of devotees participate in the Amarnath Yatra, and this year, more than 4.5 lakh pilgrims offered prayers at the cave shrine.

In April this year, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, announced that the 110 km-long Amarnath Marg leading to the holy Amarnath cave in Pahalgam would be built at a cost of around Rs 5300 crore for the convenience of the pilgrims going to Shri Amarnath Shrine.

#### Tourists mesmerized...

Kolkata said. Feeling extremely jubilant after enjoying the live snowfall at Gulmarg we have virtually reached heaven, said a young group of girls.

They said we will encourage our friends back in Kolkata to visit Kashmir to enjoy the unprecedented nature and snow here in Gulmarg.

Many tourists were seen enjoying sledding on the snow and others were clicking life time memorable pictures in the backdrop of tall snow clad mountains.

Gulmarg is all set to receive a record number of tourists this winter and authorities are busy in providing all possible facilities for the visiting guests.

The ski resort is ready for winter tourism, and all possible facilities and opportunities are being explored for visiting guests this year, an official said.

The J&K Department of Tourism, along with all concerned stakeholders, including the Gulmarg Development Authority, JKTDC, Youth Services and Sports, Cable Car Corporation, PDD, R&B Jal Shakti, etc., is finalising the preparations for the four months of winter tourism.

All the possibilities and opportunities are being explored, and it will be a source of pleasant memories for the tourists, he said, adding that all the arrangements have almost been finalised in view of the winter tourism in Gulmarg.

#### Katra Rly Station...

free WiFi," he added.

"This unique initiative has been launched to generate revenue for the railway department by providing good-quality food," he stated.

#### J&K has the potential...

a healthy life for our citizens requires the undivided attention of doctors and other stakeholders.

It is our collective responsibility to promote the best practices of traditional medicine systems and sensitize students, farmers and the public on Ayurveda to build a more resilient and sustainable healthcare ecosystem, he added.

The Lt Governor reiterated the commitment of the UT Administration to strengthen the preventive and holistic care infrastructure, creating a conducive environment and extending necessary support to Ayurveda Startups.

"Jammu Kashmir has the potential to lead the country as a wellness and Ayurveda hub. Efforts towards this goal can be greatly augmented with the help of Startups by young entrepreneurs and Ayurveda graduates," the Lt Governor said.

He said the UT of J&K is bestowed with a wide range of medicinal and aromatic plants, which are valuable commodities.

We need to run a sustained campaign to make the farmers aware about the huge potential of herbs and medicinal plants so that they can harvest fruits of new green revolution, he added.

He also assured all necessary support from the administration to augment the facilities at the Government Ayurvedic Medical College & Hospital and asked the College Administration to start the PG Courses.

Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, Principal GMC Jammu; Dr Mohan Singh, Director, AYUSH highlighted the efforts for promoting Ayurveda and Indian Systems of Medicine in Jammu Kashmir.

Bharat Bhushan, Chairman District Development Council Jammu; Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Anand Jain, IGP Jammu; Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, senior officers, faculty members and students were present. KNO

## Ministry of Information and Broadcasting approves Comprehensive "Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023"

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, NOV 10

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has approved a path breaking "Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023 to enable and empower the Central Bureau of Communication which is the advertising wing of the Government of India to undertake campaigns in the Digital Media Space. This policy marks a pivotal moment in CBC's mission to disseminate information and create awareness regarding various schemes, programs, and policies of the Government of India in response to the evolving media landscape and the increased digitalization of media consumption.

The huge subscriber base in the Digital Universe, coupled with technology enabled messaging options through Digital advertisements will facilitate effective delivery of citizen centric message in a targeted manner, resulting in cost efficiencies in public oriented campaigns. In recent years, the way audiences consume media has wit-

nessed a significant shift towards the digital space. The Government of India's Digital India program has led to a huge growth in the number of people in the country who are now connected to the internet, social and digital media platforms. As per TRAI's Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators January-March 2023, the internet penetration in India as of March 2023, is over 880 million, and the number of telecom subscribers as of March 2023 is over 1172 million.

The Policy will enable CBC to empanel agencies and organisations in the OTT and Video on Demand Space. CBC will also be able to leverage the growing number of listeners to Podcasts and Digital Audio platforms through empanelment of Digital Audio platforms. Apart from rationalising its process of empaneling Internet Websites, CBC now for the first time will be able to channelize its public service campaign messages through Mobile Applications too. With Social Media Platforms becoming one of

the popular channels of public conversations, the policy further streamlines the process through which CBC can place advertisements for government clients on these platforms. The policy also empowers CBC to empanel Digital Media Agencies to enhance its outreach through the various platforms.

The Policy also recognizes the dynamic nature of the digital landscape and empowers CBC to on board New and Innovative Communication Platforms in the Digital Space with the approval of a duly constituted committee. The CBC's Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023, introduces competitive bidding for rate discovery, ensuring transparency and efficiency. Rates discovered through this process will remain valid for three years and will be applicable to all eligible agencies.

In today's era almost all Ministries/Departments of the Government of India have a dedicated social media handles, which produces a large quantum of infographics and videos whose reach is limited to

the subscribers of the handles. This outreach of government Ministries and departments will be further supplemented by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting's Media Unit, Central Bureau of Communication which is the designated organisation for issue of advertisements through all forms of media. The Digital Advertisement Policy 2023 has been formulated after a wide ranging discussions with multiple stakeholders and outlines the roadmap of enhancing the Digital Outreach of the Government of India and improve information dissemination to the Citizens.

The Central Bureau of Communication (CBC) operates under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and is responsible for creating awareness and disseminating information about various government programs, schemes, and policies in India. CBC is committed to adapting to the changing media landscape and embracing new technologies to reach a wider audience.

## Piyush Goyal to visit San Francisco from 13-16 November 2023 to attend Leaders and Ministerial Engagements of IPEF, APEC

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, NOV 10

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal will visit San Francisco, United States of America, from 13th to 16th November 2023 to attend the various official engagements of Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). He will also interact with eminent business persons, prominent academics, US officials and industry leaders during the visit to further strengthen economic and commercial relations partnership between the two nations.

The Commerce and Industry Minister will participate in the third in-person IPEF Ministerial meeting from November 13-14, 2023, which is likely to see significant updates on the progress of negotiations. The Minister will also hold bilateral meetings with the US Secretary of Commerce, USTR and Ministers from other IPEF partner countries on the sidelines of the IPEF Ministerial.

The Minister would be representing India at the IPEF Leaders' Meeting and the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) - IPEF Investor Forum meeting on November 16, 2023. The Minister would also be representing



India at the APEC Economic Leaders Engagements from November 15-16, 2023. India has been invited to the 30th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting 2023 as a Guest Economy.

During the visit, the Commerce and Industry Minister will have bilateral meetings with US Commerce Secretary, Ms. Gina Raimondo, USTR, Ms. Katherine Tai and representatives from various sectors and industries. These meetings will focus on addressing trade barriers, promoting investments, and fostering greater cooperation in areas such as technology and innovation.

One of the key focus of the visit will be the joint event, co-chaired with US Commerce Secretary, Ms. Gina Raimondo on "India-USA Innovation Handshake Initiative", with the aim to lift up and connect the two sides' dynamic startup ecosystems, address specific regulatory hurdles to cooperation, and promote further innovation and job growth, particularly in emerging technologies.

The Commerce and

Industry Minister will also participate in the investors roundtable along with one-to-one meetings with CEOs. He will also interact with various stakeholders such as students, entrepreneurs, venture capitalists and Indian diaspora etc. Shri Goyal is expected to interact with globally renowned technology, entrepreneurship, and academic communities in the Bay Area, specifically, in the Silicon Valley to undertake focused discussions with American companies looking to invest or expand in India across sectors - Electronics (including Semiconductors), Technology, FinTech etc.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi attended the IPEF launch event along with President of the United States, Mr. Joe Biden; Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Kishida Fumio; and other partner countries of the Indo-Pacific region on May 23, 2022 at Tokyo. In the first-ever in-person Ministerial meeting in September 2022, Pillar-wise Ministerial statements were issued outlining the broad contours of text-based negotiations. In December 2022, negotiations on all the four Pillar Agreements were launched and in May 2023, negotiations on the Pillar-II Agreement were substantially concluded.

The IPEF seeks to strengthen economic engagement among partner countries with the goal of advancing growth, peace and prosperity in the region. The framework is structured around four pillars relating to Trade (Pillar I); Supply Chains (Pillar II); Clean Economy (Pillar III); and Fair Economy (Pillar IV).

Both India and USA are natural partners and have trade complementarities, long standing strategic and economic relationship, people to people contact, and both are vibrant democracies too. The two countries are also collaborating under other frameworks such as QUAD and I2U2 (India-Israel/ UAE-USA). Regular exchanges at the leadership-level have been an integral element of the expanding bilateral engagement. The visit reflects the determination to forge strong and mutually beneficial trade and investment relationships that will not only benefit the economies of both India and the USA but also contribute to the overall prosperity and welfare of their respective citizens.

## India and Bangladesh Navies undertake corpat and Ex-Bongosagar

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, NOV 10

The 4th edition of Bilateral Exercise between Indian Navy and Bangladesh Navy, BONGOSAGAR-23, and the 5th edition of Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) by the two navies was conducted in the Northern Bay of Bengal from 07 - 09 Nov 2023. Ships and aircraft from both navies undertook joint patrolling

along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL), and subsequently conducted maritime exercises to enhance interoperability. Indian Navy Ships Kuthar, Kiltan and Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA) Dornier participated in the exercise along with Bangladesh Navy Ships Abu Bakr, Abu Ubaidah and MPA. The ships undertook communication drills, surface gun-

shoots, tactical manoeuvres and other exercises that culminated with a steam past. CORPAT-23 also included the maiden Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) drills conducted between the two navies wherein a Search and Rescue scenario at sea was exercised. Regular bilateral exercises and coordinated patrols have strengthened mutual understanding and coop-

eration between the two navies.

INS Kuthar is an indigenously built guided-missile Corvette, whereas INS Kiltan is an indigenously built anti-submarine Corvette. Both ships are part of the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam, which functions under the operational command of the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command.



## B2V5 Programme held at Panchayat Dhargloon Upper

JI NEWS SERVICE  
POONCH, NOVEMBER 10

The Back to Village Phase 5 (B2V5) programme was today conducted successfully at Panchayat Dhargloon Upper.

Prabhari Officer Vivek Puri, Joint Director Information (JDI), visited the Panchayat and addressed the general public, shedding light on the aim and objectives of the programme.

The Prabhari Officer discussed the issues raised in previous Back to Village programmes and encouraged the public to share their current concerns.

A Gram Sabha was held under the chairmanship of Prabhari Officer Vivek Puri, (Joint Director Information) and in presence of Tehsildar Balakote Pawan Kumar, Block Development Officers and other frontline workers of line departments.

Government functionaries deliberated on the schemes and services offered by their respective departments to the general public.

Ajay Panjotra, Agricultural Extension Officer (AEO) Balakote, explained the subsidies and government programmes available to farmers, with special emphasis on crop rotation and organic farming.

Tehsildar Balakote, Pawan Kumar enlightened the audience about the online services provided by the revenue department and also discussed the Public Service Guarantee Act.

The participants were informed about the convenience and accessibility of these services. Block Development Officer Balakote, Sahil Angral provided a detailed explanation about the ongoing construction projects in the panchayat and emphasized the significance of the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (Clean India Mission).

In his concluding remarks, the Prabhari Officer discussed the importance of enabling villagers to become self-sufficient and highlighted the role of Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members in fostering faster change and growth within the Panchayat. The meeting concluded with all participants taking a pledge to work towards a Nasha Mukta (Drug-Free) society.

## Police arrests notorious/habitual timber smuggler in Handwara

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOV 10

In a significant breakthrough, Police in Handwara, successfully apprehended a notorious and habitual timber smuggler, who was evading his arrest since March 2023. Based on a human intelligence and technological resources, a police party led by SHO PS Qalamabad successfully apprehended a notorious and habitual timber smuggler namely Mohd Ashraf Chechi son of Lal Din Chechi resident of Shiltra Qalamabad. The culprit has been evading his arrest since March 2023. Pertinently, a Public Safety Act (PSA) warrant was issued by District Magistrate Kupwara on March 03, 2023 against him as he is known for orchestrating a network of illegal timber trade.

## DC Kupwara chairs Special Summary Revision meeting of EROs, AEROs

JI NEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 10

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, (District Election Officer), Ayushi Sudan today chaired a meeting of Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) and other concerned officers to review the progress under Special Summary Revision (SSR) - 2023.

At the outset, ACR Kupwara gave a detailed overview about the exercise and it was given out that Kupwara district has 611 total polling stations, as per draft electoral roll there are 5,19,000 voters.

The DC took a detailed review of the agenda points, smooth and successful conduct of the ongoing Special Summary Revision (SSR) of Electoral Rolls-2023, Assured Minimum facilities (AMFs) at polling stations, SVEEP campaign and enrollment of Persons with Disabilities (PWD) voters.

She said that the prime objective of the Special Summary Revision (SSR)-2023 is to keep the Electoral Roll updated and to provide an opportunity to get fresh enrolment of young eligible voters who are attaining the age of 18 years or more on 01-01-2024 (qualifying date).

She also stressed on conducting analysis of



Electoral Rolls to identify the areas where some voters have remained unregistered in the Electoral Rolls. The DC directed the concerned officers to conduct special drives in all Degree Colleges, Polytechnics, ITIs, Schools, Madrasahs and other educational institutions, markets, industrial estates to enroll the young eligible voters and to address all their claims relating to the electoral roll.

She directed the special camps for ST Population which has returned from Dhocks. She asked to conduct special camps targeting old age and specially-abled persons.

The DC further directed EROs and AEROs to mobilize BLOs for intensive door to door voter registration campaigns. She also emphasized on EROs and AEROs to report the progress on a daily basis.

During the meeting, the DC reviewed AMF

like electricity, water and ramp facilities for polling stations. CEO Kupwara was directed to give the detailed report of Schools and other institutions lacking AMF, within two days. The DC (DEO) also reviewed the progress of the Systematic Voter Education and Electoral Programme (SVEEP) campaign. District Nodal Officer SVEEP, Ifitkhar Naseem apprised the chair that essay competitions and sticker pasting campaigns have been held and banners and hoardings are being erected at prominent places.

Meanwhile, an intensive social media campaign in the district is going on to promote voter awareness in the district. ACR Kupwara, Irfan Bahadur; SDM Sogam, Ijaz Ahmad Bhat; CEO Kupwara, A.H Fani; Tehsildars (AEROs), Officials from District Election Authority Kupwara and other concerned were present in the meeting.

## Rajouri Admin gears up for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra

JI NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, NOVEMBER 10

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Vikas Kundal on Friday convened a comprehensive meeting to review and strategise the arrangements for the impending "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra."

In a detailed discussion, the Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal expounded upon the expansive scope of the Yatra, which primarily aims at ensuring the effective execution of the Central government welfare schemes in rural India. The Yatra will commence from Budhal Old on 15th November 2023 in the district.

The fundamental objectives of the Viksit Bharat Yatra were elucidated, encompassing critical aspects such as reaching out to the vulnerable sections eligible under various schemes but yet to benefit, disseminating information, and fostering awareness about the schemes. The initiative further seeks to establish direct interaction with



beneficiaries, sharing personal stories and experiences, while also enrolling potential beneficiaries based on information ascertained during the Yatra.

The meeting delved into an extensive discussion on various schemes targeting both rural and urban awareness. Heads of Departments provided in-depth updates on the current status of scheme saturation and outlined strategies to achieve optimal coverage during the Yatra. Specific focus was placed on key schemes, including the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojna, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojna, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Saman Nidhi, Kisan Credit Card (KCC), Swachh

Bharat Abhiyan (Urban), Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma, Jal Jeevan Mission, Pradhan Mantri POSHAN Abhiyaan, among others.

The meeting also highlighted the deployment of a Mobile Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Van, designed to traverse all panchayats and urban areas. The primary objective of the van is to achieve saturation of all schemes and enhance awareness among the populace.

Emphasizing the imperative need for collaborative efforts, the Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal directed all stakeholders to work in synergy, aiming for the seamless implementation of the ambitious initiative.

Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal issued a

directive, underscoring the paramount importance of ensuring the seamless and efficient conduct of the Yatra within the district, emphasizing the critical role each stakeholder plays in the successful execution of this transformative initiative.

Among the others who attended the meeting were ADC Rajouri, Rajiv Kumar Khajuria; ADC Sunderbani, Vinod Kumar Behnal; ADC Nowshera, Kartar Singh; ADC Kalakote, Krishan Lal; ADC Koteranka, Surinder Mohan Sharma; CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; PO ICDS, Shoket Mehmood Malik; SDM Thanamandi, Shafeeq Mir; SE Hydraulics, Bharam Jyoti Sharma; CAO, Sohan Singh; LDM, Sanjeev Bhasin and other concerned officers.

## B2V-5: Second round commences at Bandipora; VOs visit 50 Gram Panchayats

JI NEWS SERVICE  
BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 10

The second round of ongoing phase fifth of Back to Village (B2V-5) programme commenced today in 51 Gram Panchayats of Bandipora district with great fervor.

On the occasion, the Visiting Officers (VOs) received first hand information from the PRIs and people regarding developmental works and prepared proposals for Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GDPD) as per the local needs.

In addition to participation in Gram Sabhas, Visiting Officers visited JJM besides Amrit sarovar sites. They also participated in Plantation drives. Cleanliness drives were also held on the occasion in various panchayat halqas.

Moreover, awareness was disseminated to the people regarding individual beneficiary oriented schemes, besides, other



developmental and welfare measures.

Secretary, SDA Kashmir, Ishtiyaq Ahmad Bhat visited panchayat halqa Dawar-B wherein he took stock of the works being executed during current financial year. He also visited schools within the panchayat halqa to take stock of the facilities available and inspected mid day meal being served to the children. SDM Sumbal,

Aamir Choudhary also visited various Gram Panchayats wherein he interacted with PRIs, youth and the public and listened their day to day developmental issues. He also took stock of the ongoing developmental works in the area.

SDM Gurez Mukhtar Ahmad while visiting different panchayats expressed satisfaction over the large scale public participation in the programmes across

the subdivision and said that the B2V5 exercise provides a strong database for sustainable development.

During the B2V-5 programme, Visiting Officers interacted with the members of Gram Sabhas. Discussion on GDPD formulation, distribution of land passbooks, inspection of public offices and inspection of works taken up under various CSS, B2V and other schemes, inspection of Amrit Sarovar projects, awareness on Self Employment scheme, feedback on welfare schemes were some of the activities in vogue in various Panchayats of the district. The Visiting Officers documented all the grievances projected by the people during the first day of the second phase.

The frontline workers of different departments present on the occasion replied to the queries raised by the public pertaining to their sectors.

## DIPR's Cultural Unit Kashmir organises Nukkad Natak on B2V-5 at Kulgam



JI NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 10

In connection with 'phase fifth of Back to Village Programme (B2V5)' J&K Government's flagship public outreach, participation and feedback programme, the Cultural Unit Kashmir of DIPR today organised a Nukkad Natak and Ladishah at Kulgam.

The artists of Yadgaar Cultural and Musical Theatre Kulgam, in their act highlighted the success of previous back to village

campaigns and the prosperity witnessed by the rural population of Jammu and Kashmir under different government schemes and programs. The students of MS Kulgam also participated in the event. They applauded the government initiatives regarding B2V-5. Students of MS Kulgam, Staff and senior citizens of the locality witnessed the program and appreciated Cultural Unit Kashmir DIPR for conducting such awareness programs.

## DLTFC approves 33 JKREGP cases at Kathua



JI NEWS SERVICE  
KATHUA, NOVEMBER 10

A meeting of the District Level Task Force Committee was held today under the Chairmanship of District Development Commissioner Kathua Rakesh Minhas here in the DC Office complex, the other day. The committee securitised the loan applications of the unemployed youth of the district who had applied online under J&K Rural Employment Generation Programme (JKREGP) being imple-

mented by J&K Khadi & Village Industries Board.

After scrutinizing the applications, the Committee approved 33 cases complete in all respects besides finding 13 applications deficient of documents thus deferring the same till the next meeting of DLTFC

District Officer KVIB Kathua Harvinder Singh, LDM SBI Kathua, Superintendent ITI Kathua Representatives of DIC, Cluster Head J&K Bank, J&K Grameen Bank were also present in the meeting.

## Government Degree College Ramgarh promotes "Swachh Diwali Shubh Diwali"

JI NEWS SERVICE  
SAMBA, NOVEMBER 10

Govt. Degree College Ramgarh today organized Diya Decoration Competition to mark the celebrations of eco-friendly Diwali under the aegis of 'Swachh Diwali Shubh Diwali'. To bring out the creative talent of students and to celebrate the Festival of Lights in its true spirit, Eco Club, in collaboration with cultural

committee, organized the whole event under the guidance and supervision of Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, Principal of the College. The main objective of this competition was to invoke the cultural significance of Diwali with the journey of 'Swachh Bharat' by encouraging clean and eco-friendly celebrations and to explore the students' imagination and creativity. The students

enthusiastically took part in the competition and came up with some very interesting ideas. Every piece was decorated in a unique and beautiful way. It was a sheer pleasure and a great experience for all the students who were the reasons for making the event a great success. They displayed their creativity by beautifully decorating earthen Diyas with colours and the works.



## EDITORIAL

## Take decisive action against Pakistan

Pakistan seems to have learnt no lesson from its provocations along the borders. Unprovoked shelling and firing has made the lives of border dwellers, on both sides of the dividing line, miserable and the neighbouring countries must bear in mind that its unwarranted actions will only mount trouble along the borders. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has taken a serious note of the killing of a Border Security Force (BSF) head constable Lal Fam Kima by Pakistan Rangers and called it a violation of bilateral agreements. The BSF also took up the issue in the recent incidents in flag meetings with the Pakistani side. The incidents of ceasefire violations and cross-border infiltration by drone or firing are a violation of the bilateral agreements and Pakistan is bound to pay a heavy price for the same. The sniper attack, in which the BSF jawan was killed, shows Pakistan Rangers are deliberately targeting the BSF and clearly violating the ceasefire agreement. Such attempts have been made earlier too. The 50-year-old BSF Head Constable Lal Fam Kima, who succumbed to injuries while retaliating to the fresh ceasefire violation by Pakistan Rangers had saved the lives of 12 of his colleagues in 1998 during an anti-terror operation. He was also honoured with seven bravery awards in his 27-year career in the border guarding force. Deployed in the BSF on April 21, 1996, Kima succumbed to his injuries received in an unprovoked firing resorted by Pakistan Rangers deployed near the International Border in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramgarh sector. The firing started on the intervening night of November 8-9 by Pakistan Rangers and the BSF befittingly replied to the violation of the ceasefire along the international border in the Ramgarh and Arnia sectors in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district. Kima played a major role in an operation in 1998 when there was a fierce encounter with terrorists in the upper reaches of Gool. Border dwellers are the worst-affected due to the cross border firing and shelling by Pakistan. The administrative apathy coupled with unpredictable border shelling and firing by Pakistan forces from across the IB and LOC compound their miseries. What is rubbing salt on their wounds is the slow pace of construction of bunkers along the LoC and the IB. It is a perfect case of official insensitivity towards border people who are highly vulnerable to Pakistan's misadventures for a long time. It became more serious when the government of India itself admitted recently that Pakistan has repeatedly violated the ceasefire. The increase in ceasefire violations clearly reflects the gravity of volatile situations along the borders. In such circumstances, it becomes the government's responsibility to take all proactive measures to save the border population from becoming the easy target of enemy fire. The sorry state-of-affairs can be well gauged from the prevailing situation that the government, particularly deputy commissioners concerned, have failed to construct bunkers—both community as well as individual—in time bound manner, leaving border dwellers to face umpteen hardships besides losing their lives to Pakistan firing and shelling. It is high time that the government of India should initiate a decisive action against Pakistan to ensure that such incidents are brought down.

MIR MOHSIN

Article 35A, introduced in the Indian Constitution in 1954 as a temporary provision, was aimed at preserving the distinctive identity of Jammu and Kashmir. However, its unintended consequences, when extrapolated, resulted in systemic discrimination against marginalized communities, including the Valmiki caste, Bakarwals, Gorkhas, and West Pakistan refugees in the past.

In 1957, a municipal workers' strike in Jammu prompted the introduction of the Valmiki community from Punjab to address the sanitation crisis. Initially promised Permanent Resident Certificates (PRCs) and the privileges of state citizens, these commitments were never honored. Instead, a clause was added, confining them to sanitation work and restricting their career prospects. This particularly affected the educated younger generation aspiring to become professionals beyond cleaning and odd jobs of menial nature. The abrogation of Article 35 A brought joy to several marginalized communities in Jammu and Kashmir. The controversial article restricted migrant communities from gaining certain

rights in the erstwhile state. Among the most persecuted because of this were the Valmikis - three generations later they still did not have a Permanent Resident Certificate and were forced to work as Safai Karamcharis (sanitation workers).

Before the abrogation, even after residing in the region for generations, these communities still confronted systematic exclusion from basic rights and opportunities. The treatment of the Valmiki community, in particular, was a source of disgrace; they endured the most severe human rights violations. Astonishingly, by state regulations, those from this community who were third or fourth-generation residents were designated as "eligible only for the job of a scavenger" on their resident certificates. This meant that even a young lady with an MBA degree was restricted to working as a safai karamchari (cleaning staff) within the state.

Radhika Gill, who belonged to the Valmiki caste of Jammu, reflected this awful conundrum. Her dream was to join the Border Security Forces. She cleared the BSF written exam and was also said to have topped the second group of physical tests. When it came to the document verification

round, her application was rejected because she had no PRC. Eklavya, the son of a safai karamchari who migrated from Punjab to J&K decades ago, expressed his aspiration to become a lawyer. Unfortunately, article 35A posed a significant obstacle to pursuing a legal career. As a result, he had to resort to taking on sporadic contract jobs. The valley holds many similar untold stories of individuals who faced similar challenges when article 35 A existed.

The challenges faced by these educated youngsters of the minority community served as a glaring reminder of the oppressive impact of discriminatory laws that hindered individuals from pursuing their chosen professions and reaching their full potential. This struggle was not confined to the Valmiki community alone; it extended to various marginalized groups such as West Pakistan refugees, Gorkhas, and others, who had been denied permanent resident status and the associated benefits.

In Jammu and Kashmir, several government programs intended to uplift Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities did not apply, leaving these communities without crucial safeguards, including

the protection provided by the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. Moreover, Bakarwal Muslims, classified under the ST category in the state, had been unjustly denied the benefits provided by numerous tribal acts designed to safeguard the livelihoods and dignity of tribal communities across India. Article 35A perpetuated gender bias by barring women from passing on their state-subject rights to their children and non-permanent resident spouses. Rooted in an economic protectionist measure, this archaic provision denied women equal rights within the state.

The discriminatory impact of Article 35A permeated various crucial aspects of life, including education, employment, and political representation, casting a shadow over the prospects of many individuals. Notably, this provision resulted in the exclusion of competent professionals from outside the region, effectively barring them from seeking government employment. The consequence was a dearth of skilled workers in pivotal sectors such as healthcare and education, where their expertise and contributions could have had a transformative impact. Furthermore,

the absence of political reservations for Scheduled Tribes exacerbated the imbalance of opportunities, which denied them a fair share in the political landscape. This oversight perpetuated an inequitable distribution of power and influence, limiting the ability of marginalized communities to have their voices heard and their concerns addressed in the corridors of decision-making. The repercussions of this systemic bias were far-reaching, reverberating through generations and impeding the region's progress toward a more inclusive and egalitarian society. These issues had to be not only acknowledged but also actively addressed to pave the way for a more just and equitable future for all inhabitants of Jammu and Kashmir, and abrogation of the article led to exactly that.

The spirit of the article, originally intended to preserve Jammu and Kashmir's distinctive identity but then was quasi-permanently applied, showed the immoral agenda of certain elite parties which resulted in extensive discrimination against numerous marginalized communities and their modern educated youth. It encompassed a range of consequences, from property rights being withheld to

restricted employment prospects, profoundly impacting individuals and their communities. Those persistently advocating for the retention of Article 35A prioritized the interests of an elite minority over the broader needs of the common populace.

The abrogation of Article 35A represented a clear and unequivocal departure from the entrenched elite agenda, which sought to perpetuate a system where minority communities were unjustly relegated to the margins of society, their rights and opportunities curtailed. This historic move has now heralded a new era of empowerment and equality, dismantling the barriers that had long hindered the progress and aspirations of these marginalized communities. It was a glowing testament of the collective will of the society that aspired to transcend the divisive narratives of the past, and instead, forge a future where every citizen could stand on an equal footing, unburdened by the weight of discrimination, persecution and oppression. The abrogation of Article 35A underscored the unwavering commitment to uphold the principles of justice, freedom, and dignity for all, paving the way for a more inclusive and harmonious society.

## Religion and Humanity: Which one is the source of the other? Are they separate or one?

FIDA HUSSAIN BHAT

Religion and humanity have been treated as two distinct guiding principles standing independently of each other. It is often said and heard that if one is not religious, he/she should be human, placing humanity separately and above religion. This division has been concocted out of the secular intentions of scholars who had preferences and inclinations towards secular social setups and wanted a division between religion and humanity.

Shaheed Mutahhari refutes this division and propounds that humanity, morality, and ethics arise from religion and cannot exist independently of religion. It is religion that gives birth to and teaches what is humanity, morality, and ethics. The complete code of life is offered to us by it. If reason had been enough to govern human lives, the philosophers of the state of nature would not have proposed that laws of governance are mandatory to be devised for peace

and prosperity to prevail. These laws emanate from the religious scriptures. Although a human being has the potential to be humane, this potential is only realized in a propitious atmosphere that is created and promoted by the tenets of religion. The pedestal of humanity is climbed only through the stairs of religion. There are no shortcuts at all. Religion creates an ambience in which humanity, morality, and ethics grow and develop. The separate exclusive development is impossible. If Mother Teresa was a good human being, she became so after being a religious lady. She had spent a lot of time in the abbey and was trained there to be a good human being. To be human, one primarily needs to be religious. The stream of human values flows from the sea of religion that aims to wash away inhuman tendencies and to inculcate human values among its receivers.

Another concoction that prevails, stunning everyone, is that religion and the liberty of humans

are separate. The inclination to sin makes us think that religion is inverse to freedom. Ayatollah Misbah Yazdi differentiates between Western freedom and Islamic or religious freedom. Western freedom is a freedom to sin, and Islamic freedom is a freedom to protect oneself from sin. It is falsely and amateurishly considered a restraint, but it is actually freedom from sin that religion proposes and promotes. The existence of real freedom doesn't exist without religion. It issues forth from religion to uplift human beings morally, spiritually, and socially.

Shaheed Mutahhari deems spiritual freedom as the mother of all freedoms, but Westerners call corporal freedom the absolute freedom that overrules spiritual freedom. Religion incorporates every aspect of human life and caters to every need and requirement of a human being so that he wants nothing that is necessary for his complete growth and development. As Alexander Pope

puts it, "A little learning is a dangerous thing; drink deep or taste not the Pierian spring: their shallow draughts intoxicate the brain, and drinking largely sobers us again." We have not comprehended the tenets of religion. We mistakenly think it restricts us from doing various desirable things, but we don't know the consequences of the fulfillment of our desires that degenerate us as human beings and devalue us as the ambassadors of God on earth. The abstemiousness to commit sins makes us think that religion demotes freedom and imposes stringent rules on us.

Religion proposes those laws that elevate our stature as human beings and inhibit us from every devaluing and degenerating freedom that abashes our human stature. Abdul Ahad Azad denounces human beings who, instead of being the light of intellect, became the fire of this intellect and blazed it. Misunderstanding of religion and its apostle and its disobedience cripples our lives

and halts our growth and development.

The concept of solidarity also issues forth from religion. It is not cut off from religion. Support for the oppressed and condemnation of the oppressor is taught in every religion to every human being. As Nelson Mandela says, both the oppressed and the oppressor need to be freed. Both are manacled in the chains of oppression. One perpetrates it, and another receives it. Everyone in the world cherishes one or another religion. The religious ideas circulate so rapidly that even if one wants, one can't be immune to ideas from any religion. It is a sin not to support the oppressed, but the bigger sin is not to condemn the oppressor. It is a sin to begin the war, but not to stop it is a bigger sin. One can't say that solidarity exists independent of religion. It is the religion that teaches us to stand in favour of the oppressed and against the oppressor. Every good value that is promoted and every bad value that is demot-

ed is brought forth from religion. Freedom and restriction are both issued from religion. The way of good and bad, the path of truth and falsehood have clearly been shown to the human being, and then he was blessed with the choice to choose and tread on one. Both cannot be chosen and tread. As Robert Frost says in "The Road Not Taken", "You have to choose the road that makes a difference in your life. That makes your life better. That makes you a better human being."

Religion and humanity are not separate from each other. The latter is drawn out from the former. Religion is a comprehensive concept encompassing everything that is necessary for life. If we say that human values exist independently of religion, it is not true; otherwise, there would have been no need for religion. More than four thousand religions prevail in the world, and people espouse either one or another.

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## Chronicles of my campus life

MUNEEB AFZAL

Two years ago, as I left for Srinagar in pursuit of my Master's degree in political science, I found myself in a whirlwind of conflicting emotions. The intense feeling of leaving home for the first time in my life was strong enough to moisten my eyes—a feeling of separation that is literally ineffable. On the other hand, there was a firm commitment and awe for a promising future. Unfamiliarity with the environment aroused emotions that defy any attempt at description. As I entered the university campus, crossing the Sir Syed gate, the scenes were enchanting and charming. I smelled an aroma of promise and possibility.

The morning sun, still casting its gentle embrace, illuminated the tree-lined pathways in a golden hue. Birds sang in melodious harmony, their voices echoing my eager anticipation. The

scent of blooming trees in autumn wafted through the air, filling my senses with sweet perfumes.

Today, I stand with my Master's degree almost completed, having qualified for important exams like NET and JRF (likely JKSET). As I pause and look back, I find so many things that I want to narrate, but not everything felt can be or should be written. Still, there are a few things worth mentioning.

In these two years, one of the prominent lessons I learned is that in the intricate tapestry of life, realizing one's dreams becomes a melody born from relentless struggles. Just as the winding river etches its path through the rugged terrain, so too do our dreams need to navigate the challenging landscape of our existence. Each obstacle encountered becomes a stepping stone in the grand symphony of destiny, propelling souls toward the fulfillment of their desires. It is in these

trials, amid the echoing whispers of adversity, that individuals uncover the profound truth: that the most exquisite gems are often forged under the immense pressure of life, and the pursuit of dreams is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit.

Amid the rich tapestry of our days, mixed experiences are the vibrant strokes of an artist's brush, each adding depth and colour to the canvas of existence. "Life is a series of natural and spontaneous changes," as the ancient philosopher Lao Tzu once mused, and indeed, the moments of success validate our pursuits, while the setbacks bestow the gift of resilience and fortitude. The mixed experiences of various sorts in my university life taught me that just as a garden thrives under both the warm embrace of the sun and the gentle caress of rain, we, too, need a balance of highs and lows to blossom into more complete and resilient beings.

University life has brought me in contact with people from diverse settings who, in pursuit of their own dreams, navigate through their own challenges and struggles. These interactions paint the canvas of our lives in vibrant hues, expanding our horizons with diverse perspectives and stories. In the tapestry of human connections, we find the threads that weave a richer understanding of life. Every new face and every exchange of words is a testament to the infinite variations of the human experience. These encounters serve as a reminder that the world is a tapestry of people, each with a unique story, and through our connections, we uncover the profound beauty in the symphony of humanity.

In the intricate mosaic of life's journey, dreams are the harmonious melodies born of relentless perseverance, mixed experiences are the vibrant strokes that imbue

our story with depth. The diverse people one meets often remind us that we are not the only ones who struggle for our cause. All these experiences culminate in the development of a better human being and serve as stepping stones for self-discovery and realization.

As I prepare to leave the university campus, my heart is heavy with emotion. Two years have passed, and this place, with its majestic Chinar trees, enchanting gardens, and parks, has become unforgettable for me. The Allama Iqbal Library, a place where I've spent a lot of time and gathered unforgettable memories, will have a central place in my memories of these two years. I carry with me the beauty of these memories and the hope of revisiting these familiar grounds once more.

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## 'Gulab Gatha' movie screened at Girdhari Lal Dogra Memorial Degree College Hiranagar



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
HIRANAGAR, NOVEMBER 10

The first phase of the show series of the popular film 'Gulab Gaatha' completed here today at Girdhari Lal Dogra Memorial Degree College Hiranagar.

The shows in Hiranagar screened in the multipurpose hall with the facilitation of Writer and Director of the Film Balwant Thakur and under the guidance of Dr. Pragya Khanna, the college Principal in presence of Dheeraj Singh Katoch (SDPO Hiranagar), Shreya Sharma (Tehsildar Hiranagar) and Sunil Kaul (SHO, Hiranagar).

Addressing the jam-packed audience, Balwant Thakur shared his vision behind the making of Gulab Gaatha. He recalled that it was Dr. Karan Singh, Chairman of Maharaja Gulab Singh Memorial Trust who inspired him, advised and supported to create a feature film on the first Dogra ruler who created the largest princely state of India, Jammu and Kashmir. Adding further he

said that making a historic biopic is not an easy task but Natrang enjoys taking up challenges and found it very exciting to venture this enormous project.

Terming it as a historic moment, Dr. Pragya Khanna thanked Natrang and Maharaja Gulab Singh Memorial Trust for giving their students an opportunity of a lifetime to learn about their glorious past. The film 'Gulab Gatha' is about the journey of a soldier who achieves great success at everything he initiated. His unquestionable obligatory obedience towards Lahore Durbar, his unconditional sacrifice and his conception of a kingdom has been regarded and given value in this. The greatness of leaders is not just in their works but in the way they have been appreciated and personified in the eyes of the people.

Pertinently, the most noteworthy part of the film was the dynamic acting by the local artists who simply created magic on screen with their highly professional performances.

## Vinod Sharma social activist from Nowshera meets DC Rajouri

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
NOWSHERA, NOV 10

Vinod Sharma Social Activist (Sr. Vice President All J&K Handicapped welfare Association District Rajouri) had a meeting with Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Vikas Kundal. Sharma raised voice of specially-abled persons.

He told the latter that since last five - six months monthly pension of specially-abled have not been paid due to which they are facing financial crisis. Vinod Sharma urged to the DC Rajouri that these pension should be given before Diwali so that

the festival season can be celebrated by these differently-abled also. On hearing him DC Rajouri assured him that now onwards pensions shall be directly transferred to the account of all the Pensioners.

## KU conducts Interview-Cum-Evaluations for Start-up Selection Under TIDE 2.0 Scheme

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, NOV 10

The University of Kashmir conducted interview-cum-evaluations as part of the selection process for start-ups competing for incubation at its NewGen IEDC Business Innovation and Incubation Centre. This initiative falls under the TIDE 2.0 scheme, a start-up support program initiated by the Government of India and overseen by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). The TIDE 2.0 scheme provides grant-in-aid support under two distinct categories, namely Entrepreneur-in-Residence (EiR) and Minimum Viable Product (MVP) Grant. These categories aim to assist nascent stage start-ups across various domains of national interest, including green technology, education, agriculture, financial inclusion (including digital payments), infrastructure and transportation, environment, clean tech, and clean energy.

The primary focus of these support programs is to aid selected start-ups in proof-of-concept development, prototype development, and final product development by offering stipulated grants to facilitate their growth and innovation.

## Deputy Commissioner attends B2V5 activities at Fatehpur Gurrian Panchayat of Rajouri Block

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, NOVEMBER 10

In continuation to a series of activities being undertaken across the district as a part of the fifth phase of the ambitious Back to Village programme, Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal undertook a comprehensive tour of Fatehpur Gurrian Panchayat of Rajouri block today- the day of the program.

During the tour, Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal engaged with the public in presence of the visiting officer. Interactions with locals provided valuable insights into the public concerns, including issues related to power supply, water availability, road conditions, and health services. Residents expressed a collective desire for improvements in these essential services, underlining the crucial role they play in enhancing their daily lives.

Addressing the public on

the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal emphasized that the foremost priority of the UT administration is to deliver basic facilities directly to the doorsteps of the common masses. He highlighted the persistent efforts of the administration to eliminate inconveniences from the daily lives of the public, making it clear that initiatives like Back to Village play a pivotal role in efficiently addressing public grievances.

Furthermore, the Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal shed light on different welfare schemes and government programs designed for the general public. He assured the community that the LG administration is committed to ensuring that the benefits of these initiatives reach every individual in the Union Territory. This commitment reflects the dedication of the adminis-



tration to inclusive development, leaving no beneficiary untouched.

Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal urged Sarpanches, Panches, and senior citizens to actively participate in the formulation of plans for the effective development of their respective areas. This call for a participatory role underscores the importance of community engagement in shaping the destiny of their region. He also distributed land pass books among the owners of land.

## Kavinder, Swami Hariday Nand Giri Ji pay tributes to martyrs

Nation shall remain eternally indebted to its martyrs: Kavinder

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOV 10

Kavinder Gupta, senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Jammu and Kashmir has asserted that the nation shall always remain indebted to its martyrs due to whose supreme sacrifices the people continue to enjoy peaceful life devoid of any safety and safety concerns.

He expressed this in his address during a programme in Gandhi Nagar here today. The programme was organised by Shastri Nagar Yog Samiti under the leadership of Swami Hariday Nand Giri Ji under theme "Ek Diya Shaheedon Ke Naam". Baldev Singh Billa, Deputy Mayor and



Councillor Pawan Singh also graced the occasion.

Kavinder Gupta, while speaking on the occasion, lauded the organizers for holding this event and emphasized that such commemorative programmes to pay tribute to the martyrs for their extraordinary valour, bravery and last but not the least for their supreme sacrifice for their motherland and its people are necessary to create awareness among the people about the nation's brave-hearts. It is these martyrs that become

inspiration for the progeny thus instilling a deep sense of patriotism among them, he added.

Kavinder reiterated that the nation is eternally indebted to its martyrs for their sacrifices and unwavering dedication.

Swami Hariday Nand Giri Ji, while speaking on the occasion, highlighted the glorification of martyrs in significant Hindu Shastras and scriptures. He said that Shastri Nagar Yog Samiti will continue to hold such events regularly.

## Rekha celebrates Diwali with children of Dashmesh Bharati Vidhya Mandir



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOV 10

Diwali, the festival of colors of lights, was celebrated today with great pomp and show in Dashmesh Bharati Vidya Mandir High School, Dashmesh Nagar Digiana in Jammu South in the esteem presence of BJP District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan along with Councillor Pawan Singh, School Principal Meenakshi Sambyal, teachers, staff members include students participating in the festival event in the school premises. The event started with Saraswati Vandana and later cultural programmes were presented by children. Besides the participants, the school staff also took

great initiative in glorifying and embroidering the program during the Diwali festival with fervor and enthusiasm. The school was decorated with beautiful Rangolis, Torans, house boards, and diyas. The day began with a cultural extravaganza where a beautiful cultural program was organized by the kids. An inter-house folk dance competition was also organized and another colorful event of the day was the rangoli competition.

Rekha Mahajan encouraged the students to celebrate pollution-free Diwali in connection with Diwali. Dashmesh High School organized various competitions like Rangoli making, mehendi, Diya and pot making, card

making, etc according to different age groups in its premises. Rekha admired and upgraded the morale of the students including the teaching staff. She noted every class displayed their talent and came up with a lot of innovative ideas which were visible in the designs made by them.

Rekha Mahajan addressed the gathering and underscored the essence of the Diwali festival a celebration of life, sharing of the light of goodness and happiness with each other, and praying for prosperity and happiness of all. She also conveyed the message of a clean, safe, and pollution-free Diwali. She also felicitated the teachers and staff on the occasion.

## PTTI Vijaypur conducts Lecture on Chat GPT & Artificial Intelligence: Mapping Advantage & Threat



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYPUR, NOV 10

Police Technical Training Institute (PTTI) Vijaypur, organized a lecture on ChatGPT & Artificial Intelligence: Mapping advantage and threat for staff and trainees of various courses. On the occasion Dr. Ekta Manhas, Asstt. Professor Department of National Security Studies, Central University Jammu

was the Chief Guest, who delivered a comprehensive lecture on the ChatGPT & Artificial Intelligence, its mapping advantage and threat. She said that Artificial Intelligence is a powerful tool that helps us rethink how we use information, analyze data, and make better decisions. Shri Shiv Kumar, IPS, Principal PTTI Vijaypur expressed his gratitude to Dr. Ekta Manhas for

sparing her valuable time to interact with staff and trainees. He said that the aim of the lecture was to aware Police Personnel about emerging security Challenges due to Artificial Intelligence.

Among others, Shri Khushwant Singh Dy.SP (Admn.), Insp. Anil Kumar, Insp. Ram Lal, Insp. Mulkh Raj, Insp. Ashish Dharmat were present on the occasion.

## Indian Army Quiz-2023 Semi Final on 10 Nov, 23



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, 10 NOV

Indian Army Quiz 2023 was organized by Chinar Corps for schools from Union Territory of J&K at Badami Bagh Cantt on 9 & 10 Nov 2023. In the quarter finals held on 09 Nov 2023 six schools from the UT namely APS Akhnoor, APS Kaluchak, APS Jammu Cantt, DPS Udhampur, BRB Shanti Vidya Peeth Udhampur and APS Dhar Road booked their berth for the Semifinals. Students from Srinagar town, NCC Cadets, Army Personnel, Para military Personnel, Ex-Servicemen, Gallantry awardees, academician and prominent sportsperson were present to witness the exciting quiz competition which was conducted by famous Quizmasters staff Ms Seema Chari, Mr Akul

Gurtu, Ms Neena Saxena and Mr Ashutosh Silmana.

APS Dhar Road school from Udhampur came first & qualified for the finals. Chinar Corps Commander was the Chief Guest and Prof Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor, Kashmir University was the special guest for the semifinals. The event was attended by GOC, 31 Sub Area, Col Gaurav Bhatia (Retired), Col Pradeep Kumar (Retired), Hony Captain Bana Singh (Retired), Param Vir Chakra and other prominent gallantry award winners. The semifinalists and their mentors were awarded Certificates, Cash Prizes and Electronic Tablets for their splendid performance during the contest. The winner APS Dhar Road was awarded a Cheque of Rupees One Lakh.

Chinar Corps Com-

mander, while interacting with semifinalists, motivated the students to work towards a developed India. On the sidelines of India Army Quiz 2023, the students had an opportunity to witness a motivational movie on Indian Army and its role in national development and its transformational change. To motivate the students to join Indian Army in future, a state of art weapon and equipment display alongwith photo gallery was also showcased.

APS Dhar Road will contest the National Finale which would comprise of Two Pre-Final Rounds and a Grand Finale in New Delhi. Indian Army has been organising these kind of events to promote the budding talents and has been a major contribution in Nation Building.



## Maharaja Hari Singh Foundation Initiates Eco-Friendly and Sustainable Diwali Celebration at DPS Jammu, Katra, and Nagbani in collaboration with JKRLM and UMEED

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOV 10

In a groundbreaking initiative, Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu, Katra, and Nagbani, under the leadership of Pro Vice Chairperson Kunwarani Ritu Singh, organised a Pollution-Free Diwali celebration focused on sustainability and cultural engagement.

The primary objective was to blend traditional and cultural elements into the festivities while promoting an eco-friendly and sustainable approach. DPS collaborated with JKRLM and UMEED Rural Women Organization for a workshop and outreach program, emphasizing "Vocal for Local" and supporting rural women's economic empowerment.

Students from DPS Jammu, Katra, and Nagbani participated enthusiastically in an eco-friendly

Diya and Toran making workshop. This eco-friendly Diwali celebration was enriched by the invaluable contributions of trainers from JKRLM and UMEED, who played a pivotal role in guiding and empowering the participating students. The intricate art of crafting cow dung diyas was imparted skillfully by Sheela Devi and Reva Rajput from Block Udhampur. Meanwhile, the enchanting skill of creating marigold torans was shared by Madhu Devi hailing from Block Bhalwal.

Elevating the creativity further, the students were adeptly trained in customised toran making by Preeti Devi and Babli Devi from Block Khour. This collaborative effort not only instilled traditional craftsmanship but also promoted sustainable



practices.

The young minds showcased their creativity by crafting beautiful diyas and torans using sustainable, eco-friendly materials, aligning with the school's commitment to environmental responsibility.

DPS, known for its commitment to empowerment, inclusion, and sustainability, aimed to make this Diwali special by spreading the light of love and compassion through a focus on an eco-friendly and sustainable future. Parents of the partici-

pating students were invited to the event, where they not only witnessed their children's creative endeavours but also supported the cause by purchasing eco-friendly products from stalls run by rural women. Colourful and creative hand-made

torans, diyas, home-made mala, and tikkis adorned various stalls, captivating the attention of attendees.

The event commenced with a serene rendition of the Om mantra by students from all three schools, followed by a Ganesh Vandana and cul-

tural presentations by DPS Nagbani students. Kuwrani Ritu Singh, along with students, parents, and teachers, actively participated in encouraging and supporting the rural women's organisation, strengthening them economically.

The momentous occasion was graced by esteem SS Sodhi, Director/PVC DPS Jammu/ Katra Nagbani and Shruti Uppal, Block Program Manager UMEED, Bhalwal enhancing the vibrancy of the celebration.

In a delightful addition, students presented hand-made Diwali greeting cards to guests, showcasing their artistic talents and spreading festive cheer. Further enhancing the cultural exchange, Khadi-certified curated by PVC Kuwrani Ritu Singh were presented to all guests as a symbol of sus-

tainable and indigenous craftsmanship.

The school's motto "Service Before Self" embodies DPS's commitment to empowerment, inclusion, and sustainability, making their Diwali celebration a unique and meaningful contribution to a pollution-free future.

The occasion was enriched by presence of Ruchi Chhabra, Principal, DPS Jammu, Meenu Gupta, Headmistress DPS Jammu, Simmi Sharma, Manager Administration of DPS Katra, and Manikarnika Sharma, In-Charge Principal, DPS Katra, contributed to the festive spirit with their esteemed presence. Raj Kumar Verma, the Principal, DPS Nagbani, along with Bhawna Madaan, Headmistress, graced the occasion, highlighting the collaborative spirit among the DPS community.

## Dr. Jitendra Singh flags off a 32-seater Bus donated to AIIMS Jammu

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 10

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy & Department of Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today said, the government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sought several measures to make medical education affordable and accessible, so that no deserving candidate finds himself at disadvantage. The number of MBBS seats increased by 79% from 51,348 to 91,927 while MD seats by 93% from 31,185 to 60,202 in just over 9 years, he said.

In a quantum jump, Dr Jitendra Singh said, from 145 government govt medical colleges in 2014, India now has 260 such GMCs, while the number of AIIMS in the country went up to 23 in over 9 years, he informed.

The Minister was speaking after flagging off a 32-seater bus donated to AIIMS, Jammu by the SBI. The function was held at Bakshi Nagar Camp Office of AIIMS, Jammu. Direc-



tor AIIMS Dr Shakti Gupta expressed his gratitude to Dr Jitendra Singh and commended his commitment in coming straight from Telangana to grace the occasion despite his hard pressing schedule.

Talking about India's vaccination programme, Dr Jitendra Singh stated that India has emerged as a world leader in protective healthcare. Earlier, the country wasn't taken seriously as a health care provider, he noted.

The Minister commended the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi for freeing the healthcare sector of shackles and doing away with obsolete regulations, adding that a more enabling milieu has been

created.

The Minister suggested incorporating telemedicine provision in SBI-donated buses to hospitals on the pattern of Doctors on Wheels facility. He called for an integrated health management protocol to add value to delivering medical services in far-flung areas.

Later, the Minister interacted with the students and faculty of AIIMS, Jammu. He shared his experiences and offered tips to the students as to how to excel in their field.

Dr Jitendra Singh exchanged views on latest tools of medical practice like Artificial Intelligence, Quantum therapies etc and shared his experienc-

es on the same. He also suggested Theme based CMEs involving multiple streams and disciplines under one roof. He also spoke about integrating clinical medicine with deep technology for drawing maximum outcomes.

On the occasion, Dr Jitendra Singh released a book titled "Handbook of Policies, Guidelines and Procedures". The book highlights the importance of collaboration between institutions and conducting trials across multiple centres.

Dr Jitendra Singh also advised the students to work towards realising the Prime Minister's vision of a developed nation by 2047.

## Ayurveda Day celebrated on a grand scale across the country

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOV 10

On the occasion of the eighth Ayurveda Day, Union Ayush Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal said that Ayurveda is like a boon in this era of nuclear power, pesticides, and a toxic environment. With continuous efforts, the Ministry of Ayush has established more than eight thousand wellness centers across the country. To further strengthen the service delivery of the Ayush Grid Project was launched and arrangements were made to strengthen it. Ayurveda Day is celebrated every year on Dhanvantari Jayanti. By organizing the event every year, the fame of Ayurveda Day has increased across the world. The need for medicinal plant cultivation is increasing rapidly across the world due to global expansion. This time on the occasion of the eighth Ayurveda Day, a micro website of Ayurveda Day was created which got the support of about twenty crore people from all over the world. In his presidential address, Shri Sonowal said that the message of Ayurveda Day's global campaign 'Ayurveda for One Health' and the global theme of G-20 meeting 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'



have left such an indelible impression that the whole world is watching.

Special guest of the program, Haryana Legislative Assembly Speaker Shri Gyan Chand Gupta praised the Ministry of Ayush for celebrating Ayurveda Day on this large scale in the country and the world and also underlined the efforts being made by the Haryana Government for the development of Ayurveda.

Union Minister of State for Ayush, Shri Munjapara Mahendrabhai, present at the celebration of Ayurveda Day, said that institutions like IIT, AIIMS and CSIR have joined hands with Ayush to understand the molecular properties of Ayurvedic medicines. With the help of ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation), mapping of medicinal plants present across the country is being done. Shri Munjapara said that Ayurveda is not limited to human health

only but there are other streams related to it like Vrikshayurveda, Animal Ayurveda and all these together create a healthy Ayurveda environment. Notification of regulation of Ayurveda diet by FSSAI is a big success for Ayush.

On this occasion, Secretary of the Ministry of Ayush, Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha said that the data recorded in the microsite specially created for the celebration of the eighth Ayurveda Day shows that about 20 crore people from all over the world cooperated in the month-long campaign, in a total of 20 thousand activities. Around 17 lakh people participated. The microsite reached 102 countries and "Run for Ayurveda" was organized at 424 locations. News of these events were published in regional and national media of about 80 countries.

Additional Chief Secretary of Haryana Dr. G.

Anupama, President of All India Ayurveda Mahasammelan, Padma Bhushan Vaidya Triguna Ji, Ayurveda Advisor of Ministry of AYUSH, Vaidya Manoj Nesri also addressed the program. Jaideep Mishra, Financial Advisor and Additional Secretary, Union Ministry of Health and Ministry of Ayush, Kavita Garg, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, Vaidya Jayant Devpujari, Chairman, National Council for Indian System of Medicine and Professor Rabi Narayan, Director General, Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences were present in the program. Acharyas and Vice Chancellors of many Ayurvedic universities were also present.

It is noteworthy that in the National Dhanvantari Ayurveda Awards program, National Dhanvantari Ayurveda Awards were announced for distinguished service in the field of Ayurveda. These special honours were given to Vaidya RM Awahad, Vaidya PV Damania, Vaidya L Mahadevan Sarma. The two-day program of Ayurveda Day ended with the message that we have to convert the mass message of Ayurveda into a mass movement through public participation and establish Ayurveda on the global platform.

## Modi schemes benefitting every section: Raina

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOV 10

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir led by its President Ravinder Raina and General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul held various programmes under the "Booth Jan Samvad Abhiyaan" in various districts of Jammu & Kashmir.

Amid rain and snowfall, J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina, today, addressed the 'Booth Jan Samvad' programmes in Chenani town, Sudh Mahadev, Latti and Narsoo areas of Chenani constituency. Addressing the Booth Jan Samvad, Ravinder Raina said that BJP leaders are holding these programmes in every panchayat to interact with the common masses. He said that the motive is to acquaint the people with the brilliant policies and works of PM Modi at the ground level. He said that the BJP leaders are holding these programmes in the forms of 'Choupals' at the booth level. He mentioned that in the ongoing 3-day



visit to this region, he will hold more programmes in Mantalai, Latti-Marothi, Gori, Dudu Basantgarh, Ramnagar, Majalka, Khoon and other areas.

Raina stressed that in these programmes, party leaders are presenting all the public welfare policies and the schemes like Sukanya Samridhi Yojana, Ladli Beti Yojana, 6000 rupees to farmers,

scholarships to needy students, unprecedented developments in infrastructure before the common masses. He said that the numerous welfare schemes launched by Modi government are benefitting every section and uplifting them, both socially and economically, across the country.

J&K BJP General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul

addressed the Booth Jan Samvad programme in booth numbers 33 & 34 in Shakti Maidan Mandal in Mendhar constituency in Poonch. District President Poonch Rajesh Kumar accompanied him and Vikas was the youth speaker on the occasion.

Ashok Koul, while addressing on the occasion, said that BJP carries the distinction of being the only political party that remains connected with the common people at the ground level. The worker of BJP always remain connected with the people and is concerned with the issues faced by the people, said Koul and added that the PM Modi through all these years has worked tirelessly to serve the people with all the people centric policies and successfully delivered the required benefits to the needy and the deserving population.

Similar programmes were also held in booth-101,102, Panchayat-Khagore, Basohli Mandal, Basohli Constituency in District Basohli.

## Back to Village-5: B2V5 witnesses overwhelming response in Ramban District

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
RAMBAN, NOVEMBER 10

Back to Village- 5 witnessed overwhelming response from people from all walks of life during Phase-I, II and III of B2V5 which have successfully completed in 84 Panchayats of district Ramban under overall supervision of Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary in the district.

Apart from the Visiting Officers, various senior officers of the District Administration including ADC, Harbans Lal Sharma, ACR, Giasul Haq, Dy. DEO, Lal Chand, ACD, Ashok Katoch, SDMs and other District and Sectoral officers also participated in B2V5 proceedings at various Panchayats of the district. Chief Engineer,



Irrigation and Flood Control, Manoj Gupta, Chief Executive Officer, Patnitop Development Authority, Sher Singh and District Mineral Officer, Kathua, Rajinder Singh Rana were also among the Visiting Officers.

During the Phase-I, II and III of B2V5, the Visiting Officers interacted with PRIs, Locals, Youth, students during Gram Sabhas to prepare and approve the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GDP) as per the wishes of people of the village besides, participating in

inauguration of recently completed works like PMAY-G houses, inspection of new works taken up under MGNREGA, ADF, distribution of land passbooks amongst land owners, presided over sports and cultural events, inspected rural assets likes Amrit Sarovars was also done by the visiting officers. They also planted saplings in their allotted Panchayats.

The Visiting Officers inspected Anganwadi centre, under construction PMAY houses and recently completed Panchayat assets, besides taking review of drinking water and cleanliness and sanitation scenario in their allotted Panchayats. They inspected the infrastructure of schools, and interacted with the students

and staff of the schools.

The Visiting Officers also administered Nasha Mukti and Swachhta pledges to the PRIs, Government officials, local youth and students, besides presided over multifarious activities during their visits to Panchayats including inspection of Anganwadi Centres where they took stock of Poshan profile of the Panchayat. Besides, they also took a detailed review of the facilities being extended in the Health and Wellness Centre. The Visiting Officers listened to the issues and demands of PRIs and witnessed sports events.

The final phase of the Back to Village-5 will be conducted in the rest of 59 Panchayats of the II blocks of the district on November 15th and 16th, 2023.



## Dogra degree college organized pre diwali celebration

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOV 10

To mark the Diwali celebrations, Dogra Degree College organised various competitions such as cooking without fire, class décor and creative card making. The programme was organized on the eve of Pre-Diwali celebration. The chief guest of the function was Dr. Bela Thakur, Principal, Dogra Degree College. She appreciated the spirit of the staff and the students for celebrating such events which communicate the message of brotherhood, togetherness and festivity among the people and the society. She also appreciated the efforts of cultural committee of Dogra Degree College. Who took it as an initiative to organize such a wonderful event to celebrate such festivals like Diwali which is the symbol of victory of good



over evil.

The programme started with the cooking without fire competition wherein the students from various department of the college participated and presented their talent of cooking, taste and flavors. The judges for this competition were Ms Tina Sharma and Mr Ravinder Kumar. The first prize in cooking without fire was bagged by Manjot Kour and Siya of BBA 3rd Semester and

the second prize won by Daksha and Harmeet of B.Com 3rd Semster and the third prize bagged by Chiranjeev Singh of BA 5th Sem. The next event was creative handmade card making competition. The judge for the competition was Ms Aditi Khajuria. The winners for this competition were Muskan Devi (1st Prize) of BBA 3rd Sem, Gracy (2nd Prize) of BBA 3rd Sem and Javida (3rd Prize) of BBA 3rd Sem. The

next event was of class décor and the judges for this event were Mr Balwant Singh, Ms Palak Gupta and Ms Kirti Sharma. The winners were BA 5th Sem (1st Prize), B.Com 5th Sem (2nd Prize) and the third prize was won by BBA 3rd Sem.

All the students of the Dogra Degree College participant in the event with the great enthusiasm and the festive fervor. All the students came in their traditional dresses and ethnic wears. The whole programme was organised and coordinated under the supervision of Ms Amanpreet Kaur, Convener Cultural Committee, Ms Shivani Mengi Member Cultural Committee Dogra Degree College.

## DDC Jammu reviews preparations for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 10

District Development Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, in a meeting held today here in his office, mobilised the district administration for the upcoming Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.

The yatra aims to raise awareness about the Government's achievements and promote the scope and benefits of Centrally Sponsored Schemes among beneficiaries.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Dr Vinod Kumar was also present in the meeting.

During the meeting, the DDC stressed the importance of flagship schemes and stressed on the need for effective projection of the same to maximise their impact.

He further urged officers to stay informed about the latest data on beneficiaries



and scheme coverage, stating, "In this era of swift governance, it is pertinent that all officers remain up-to-date and ready for the next stages of services delivery."

As part of the yatra, a Digital Van will traverse panchayats and municipal wards, delivering the Prime Minister's message and hosting promotional events. The district administration will prepare a comprehensive schedule to cover all blocks and urban areas, with Nodal Officers assigned specific duties for a smooth yatra passage, the DC said.

Prominent schemes slated for promotion include PM SVANidhi, PM Vishwakarma, PM Ujjwala Yojana, PM Mudra Loan, Startup India, Standup India, Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY, PM Awas Yojana (Urban), Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Urban), PM Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana, Khelo India for urban areas and for rural areas, Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY, PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana, PM Awas Yojana (Rural), PM Kisan Saman, Kisan Credit Card and Har Ghar Jal - Jal Jeevan Mission.

## GCW Udhampur conducts students council election, 2023-24

JINNEWS SERVICE  
UDHAMPUR NOVEMBER 10

Govt College For Women(GCW) Udhampur conducted student council election for the session 2023-2024 at college campus.

The election was conducted by the college with an objective to promote civic responsibilities and leadership with the student body. Voting was held with great enthusiasm and result was declared on the same day.

On the occasion, Prof. Anjali Mahajan Principal of the college said that representing the academic interests of the students should be at the heart of the council. She further added that the elected students have the ability to drive change. By organizing events, you can steer the direction of the college, sports club and the society. The elected body of the students are Samiksha Thakur semester

5th as President; Kashish, semester 3rd as Vice President; Kritika, semester 3rd as Secretary; Divyanshi of semester 1st as Joint Secretary; Sunila of semester 3rd as Treasurer; Subhani of semester 1st as Joint

Treasurer; Surbhi Sharma of semester 5th as Convener; Rupali of Semester 5th as General secretary; Kritika of sem 5 as Cultural Secretary; Mitali Rajput of sem 3 as Ist sports Joint Secretary ;Shabanam of sem5th as Joint Secretary (sports); Bhawana Sharma of semester5th as College Sports 2nd Secretary. The Program was organised by Convener, Prof.Sanjay Kumar ,DSW and Dean DSW, Dr. Meena Gupta. Other faculty members present during the occasion were Dr.Ajay Kumar Sharma,prof Ruksana Kousar, Prof.Rajinder Kumar.prof Shama.

## Empowering Tribal Women: University of Kashmir Launches Skill Development Program in Bandipora

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, NOV 10

The Centre for Capacity Building & Skill Development, in collaboration with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), initiated a skill development program targeting tribal women in Bandipora. The program aims to empower and upskill young women belonging to the Scheduled Tribe (ST) category in Bazipora, Bandipora. The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of Prof. Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor of University of Kashmir.

Prof. Nilofer Khan, in her inaugural address, emphasized the importance of such programs in uplifting marginalized communities and providing them with avenues for self-reliance. She said that, the event held at the Skill Development Centre KU, was designed to not only kickstart the upskilling initiative but also shed light on the collaborative efforts of the Centre at the grassroots level.

Dr. Nissar Ahmad Mir, the Registrar of the University of Kashmir, assured continued support for such initiatives, emphasizing the university's commitment in contributing to the community's holistic development. He congratulated the Centre for its efforts in driving positive change through skill-building programs in marginalized regions. As the program unfolds, it is anticipated to not only transform individual lives but also contribute to the overall upliftment of the community. Dr. Aadil Bashir, Coordinator of the Centre for Capacity Building & Skill Development, provided insights into the center's new mandate, formerly known as SRC (Skill Resource Centre). He expressed gratitude to the Vice Chancellor for her support in driving initiatives that bridge the gap in skill development.

Aadil Ahsan from SIDBI shared the organization's role in livelihood generation and its ongoing interventions across different regions of the country. The collaborative effort between the University of Kashmir and SIDBI signifies a joint commitment to fostering skill development and economic sustainability in tribal communities.

## Narinder inaugurates Shaheen Boutique at Bus Stand RS Pura



JINNEWS SERVICE  
RS PURA, NOV 10

Social Activist and PDP District Jammu Media coordinator Narinder Sharma today inaugurated Shaheen Boutique at Bus Stand RS Pura owned by Ashwani Sharma and Ashu Mehra. Speaking on the occasion, Sharma laid stress on idea of making women self sufficient and actually creating jobs for others. Challenges to decent work are different in rural and urban areas, but women in rural areas face additional hurdles to access decent work. Higher labour force participation in rural areas in the developing world and widespread decent work deficits of rural jobs reveal the need to promote healthy rural labour mar-

kets for everyone, added Sharma. Sharma further said that monetary independence grants women the freedom of choice - the choice to live life on their own terms, the choice to exit abusive households and families, the choice to access healthcare facilities and the ability to provide for their dependents such as aging parents and young children. Sharma said women play a major role in the rural economy as farmers, wage earners and entrepreneurs. They also take responsibility for the well-being of the members of their families, including food provision and care for children and the elderly. Yet, women in rural areas face constraints in engaging in economic activities because

of gender-based discrimination and social norms, involvement in unpaid work, and unequal access to education, healthcare, property, and financial and other services. Promoting and ensuring gender equality, and empowering rural women, not only contributes to inclusive and sustainable economic growth, but also enhances the effectiveness of poverty reduction and food security initiatives, added Sharma. While interacting with the media persons, owners of the Boutique revealed that the concept of involving local artisans in creating the best Indo-Western outfits and to make them available at decent rate is their dream, which is going to get true through this expansion.

## M A Dar expresses his deep concern over increasing number of stray dogs in Srinagar

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, NOV 10

Prominent Socio, Political activist and Sr Trade Union Leader Mohammad Altaf Dar in a statement issued to press here today express concern & draw attention to a pressing social issue that affects our beloved srinagar city & it's extended areas, due to the presence of street dogs.

The increasing population of street dogs poses severe threats to our communities. Firstly, it raises concerns about public health and safety. These dogs may carry diseases that can be transmitted to humans, posing a risk to our well-being. Additionally, incidents of dog bites and attacks have been reported, causing harm and fear among citizens.

Furthermore, the welfare of these street dogs is an ethical concern. Many of them suffer from malnutrition and injuries



and lack access to proper veterinary care. It is our responsibility as a society to ensure their well-being and treat them with compassion.

To address this issue, a multi-faceted approach is necessary. First and foremost, we need to promote responsible pet ownership. Encouraging individuals to spay or neuter their pets can help control the population of stray dogs. Additionally, implementing vaccination programmes can prevent the spread of diseases.

Moreover, collaboration

between local authorities, animal welfare organisations, communities & Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) is crucial. Establishing shelters and adoption programmes can provide a safe haven for street dogs, while educational campaigns can raise awareness about their needs and encourage empathy towards them.

In conclusion, it is imperative that we take immediate action to address the issue of street dogs in Srinagar City & it's extended areas. By implementing responsible pet ownership practices, promoting welfare initiatives, and fostering a culture of compassion, we can create a safer and more harmonious environment for both humans and animals.

Prominent Socio, Political Activist And Sr Trade Union Leader Mohammad Altaf Dar (Rajbagh) hope that we can ignite a meaningful dialogue and inspire positive change.

## AJBRCEAK extends Diwali greetings, urged LG to fulfill his commitment

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOV 10

All Jammu Based Reserved Category Employees Association Kashmir has greeted the people of J&K UT on the auspicious occasion of Deepawali.

In a message, the Chairman of the Association Sh Vipen Kumar said that the festival of lights, Deepawali, is a harbinger of joy, happiness and prosperity, celebrates the victory of good over evil, of knowledge over ignorance and inspires us to fight darkness in all spheres of life.

"May this festival of lights bring joy, happiness, peace and prosperity to all and illuminate the path of progress and well-being," Sh Vipen Kumar added. He wished that this festival may remove the darkness from peoples' life and illuminate every household with joy, hope and prosperity. He appealed to the people to have a safe

and eco-friendly Dipawali.

On the Eve of Diwali Chairman AJBRCEAK Sh Vipen Kumar expressed strong hope that this time around we are hopeful that LG Sahb will definitely grant the wish of employees and shall come out with notification of comprehensive Transfer policy.

Definitely the employees friendly approach of LG Administration has taken several measures to boost up the confidence of Jammu Based Reserved Category Employees working in Kashmir, and we believe, Now this is the right time to fulfill the commitment of Govt. to provide them opportunity to work in home district/Division. Meanwhile President AJBRCEAK Mr Anil Radhey has also extended his warm greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Diwali - 'Festival of Lights'.

In his greetings, he said that this festival symbolises triumph of good over evil

and inspires us to fight darkness in all spheres of life.

He also requested administration to ensure safety and security of employees, who are working in remote areas of Kashmir valley, especially in District Kupwara and Baramulla.

The other Working Committee members including Mr Kuldeep Kumar Vice Chairman,

Mr Navneet kundal and Sukhdev Radha Vice President, Mr Yashpal Bhagat Gen Secretary Mr Naveen Bhagat and Mr Deepak kaith Treasurers Mr Suresh Kumar, Mr Naresh Kumar Bhagat Media Secretary, Mr Bharat Bhushan and Mr Jarnail Singh Joint Secretaries Mr Vijay Dutt Secretary, Mr Lalit Bhagat Legal Advisor, Advisory Committee Mr Mohan Lal, Mr Shashi Gautam and Mr Deepak Kumar with other Executive members also prayed for peace, progress and prosperity of entire Jammu and Kashmir.

## Div Com reviews preparedness for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 10

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar today chaired a meeting of Deputy Commissioners to review the preparedness for upcoming Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in the Districts.

The meeting was attended by Director Rural Development Department, Deputy Director Planning and other concerned officers, while Deputy Commissioners of Jammu division, Director Urban Local Bodies participated through Video Conference.

The Div Com directed DCs to go through the complete program shared with them and plan activities accordingly. He also directed DCs to appoint district nodal officers for coordination of activities.

The Div Com instructed DCs to establish a control room to synchronize the

activities for optimum impact on the ground.

He also asked DCs to review district level arrangements and plan for saturation of schemes in their respective districts.

It was informed that the Yatra will focus on publicity of Government schemes in rural and urban areas.

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

(Tele- Fax No. 01991-232043 E-mail address eepwdkatra@gmail.com)

### TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

S. No.	Name of work	Tender cost (Lacs)	Remarks
1.	Railway Station Katra to SMVD University road Km 1st to 7th (Under Road Safety Measures/ Removal of Black Spots 2023-24).	15.86	After opening of financial bids, it is found that out of 3 No. bids, two No. bids of M/S Narayan Dutt and Sons & M/S Ranjeet Kumar Govt. Contractor have tied (Equal rates).

Keeping in view the above remarks, the tender invited vide this office e-NIT No. 106 of 2023-24 dated 12-10-2023 for the above cited work is hereby cancelled and fresh tender is being invited

No:- 5941-46

Dated:- 08-11-2023

sd/

[Er. Ashwani Kumar]  
Executive Engineer  
PWD (R&B) Division,  
Katra

DIP/J-10940/23

Date: 11-11-23



## P.S.P.S. GCW Gandhinagar celebrates National Education Day



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOV 10

The Department of Education, P.S.P.S Govt. College for Women Gandhinagar Jammu celebrated National Education Day on 10th of November, 2023 under the patronage of worthy Principal Prof. Minu Mahajan commemorating the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. On this special day, Dr. Sunita Devi was the resource person. She delivered on the topic Transforming and prioritizing education. She inspired the students to carry forward the educational legacy of iconic leader Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. She also asserted that transformation and prioritizing coincide which would enable the youth to meet the diverse challenges of present and future. The event started

with a formal welcome address by Dr. Rupinder Kour (H.O.D, Education). The principal of the college Prof Minu Mahajan in her address to the students impressed upon the holistic development of students through curricular and co-curricular activities. She emphasized that education develops scientific, cultural, social, and personal skills that help increase students' self-confidence, enhance their capabilities, and improve their social and political participation. She also interacted with the students and applauded their efforts. Students presented cultural items on this occasion. The event ended with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Neetu Raina. The members of the organizing committee included Prof. Anupama Sharma and Prof. Ajaz Ahmad.

## Maa Bawe Wali Records Team felicitates Bollywood Singer Sultana Nooran



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU NOV 10

Maa Bawe Wali Records Team Felicitated Bollywood Singer Sultana Nooran For his Sincere efforts in the field of Singer. Today in a Simple but impressive Function Sahil Mahajan Anchor (Managing Director) Maa Bawe Wali Records Presented "Mata ki Chunni and a Kali Mata photo to Sultana Nooran this time Besides Ashok Gupta (Sewa Sansthan Jagran Committee President), Gourav Bali (Business

man), Rocky Rajat & Kunal Abrol were Also present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion Sahil Mahajan lauded the role of Bollywood Singer Sultana Nooran in the field Singing said our organization will always strive for the welfare of Singer While underlying the efforts of Bollywood Singer in the objectives Singer he specially mentioned the efforts of Sultana Nooran in creating awareness among the people and doing good work for the cause of singer.

## GDCW Kathua organizes awareness program on 'Swachh Diwali Shubh Diwali'

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
KATHUA, NOV 10

Government Degree College for Women Kathua, took a proactive stance in promoting a cleaner and greener Diwali through a special program on 'Swachh Diwali Shubh Diwali', under the esteemed guidance of Dr. Savi Behl, the Principal of the college. The initiative aimed to create sense of responsibility among students for celebrating a pollution-free Diwali. The highlight of the event was the 'Swachh Diwali Signature Campaign', encouraging students to pledge their commitment to a clean and green Diwali by signing a dedicated pledge board. This unique initiative sought to raise awareness about the importance of celebrating festivals in an environmentally friendly manner. As part of the program, a documentary was also screened for students, shedding light on the impact of Diwali celebrations on the environment and providing



insights into sustainable and eco-friendly practices. The screening aimed to educate students about the adverse effects of pollution during the festive season and inspire them to adopt responsible ways of celebrating. The event also provided a platform for students to express their views on Diwali celebrations and share innovative ideas on making the festival more eco-conscious. Their enthusiastic participation showcased a deep commitment to embracing a cleaner and pollution-free Diwali. The program was coordinated by faculty members: Dr. Anupam Manuhaar, Department of Economics, Ms. Ambika Rajput, Department

of English and Ms. Pallavi, Department of Political Science, and the program was graced by several esteemed faculty members: Dr. Rachna Devi, Dr. Arun Dev Singh, Dr. Renu, Mr. Vijay Kumar, Dr. Vaishno Devi, and Dr. Shivali. Their collaborative efforts ensured the success of the 'Swachh Diwali Shubh Diwali campaign' at Government Degree College for Women, Kathua. Principal Dr. Savi Behl expressed her appreciation for the active participation and commitment shown by both students and faculty members. She emphasized the college's ongoing dedication to promoting environmental awareness and sustainable practices.

## CII J&K Delegation Meets MD, SIDCO To Address Industrial Development Concerns



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOV 10

A delegation of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Jammu and Kashmir, led by Mr. Archit Puri, Chairman CII J&K UT Council met with Mr. Inderjeet, MD, JKSIDCO. The meeting focused on addressing various critical issues related to industrial development and ease of doing business in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

During the discussions, the delegation raised concerns regarding the extension of provisional registration to industrial units

under the New Policy. CII J&K UT Council also Suggested a working mechanism to be put in place between JK SIDCO, Power Department & Pollution Control Board.

In response, Mr. Inderjeet acknowledged the importance of resolving these pressing issues faced by the industrial sector. He assured that department would take proactive steps to address these challenges faced by industries. He asked the delegation to bring to his notice any issues or concerns being faced on ground and assured action will be taken on merit.

## Many developmental works still incomplete initiated in last four B2V Programmes: Yasar Choudhary

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
BANJ, NOV 10

Apni Party President Kandi (Bani - Basohli) Kathua Rural Yasar Choudhary has criticized authorities for inability to complete the already taken up developmental project in Kandi belt of Jammu region.

As per a statement to the press, Yasar said that the last four Back 2 Village Programs have allegedly remained unsuccessful because the works projected by the people were still incomplete.

While the previous developmental works in most of the areas remain incomplete, he questioned the fifth B2V programme that is being initiated.

"The authorities review the implementation of the previously taken up developmental work based on the four B2V Programmes to see if the works projected, have been completed or not," he said.

He demanded fixing of accountability on the officials responsible for the implementation of the developmental work in a time bound manner.

## GCW Udhampur organizes Lecture on 'Anti Ragging Laws'



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
UDHAMPUR, NOV 10

Anti-Ragging Cell of Govt. College for Women, Udhampur under the Convener ship of Prof Tania Akhtar organised an awareness lecture on "Anti-ragging Laws" in order to celebrate Constitution day under the theme "My Constitution Mypride" in the college premises.

The event, aimed at spreading the awareness

regarding Anti-Ragging Laws.

The chief Guest on the occasion was Prof. Anjali Mahajan, Principal, GCW Udhampur.

In her address, she applauded the efforts of organizing committee for spreading the awareness in the college campus on Anti-Ragging.

The resource person on the occasion was Dr. Usha Sharma HOD Sociology, GCW Udhampur. She highlighted the concept

and laws regarding Anti-Ragging as there are various laws have been initiated by the Government of India. She stressed upon the Vishwajagruti-Mission(I) under which Public interest Litigation was filed for curbing ragging. Also, she talked about the relevant judgment passed in the year 2007 by the Honorable Supreme Court, about University of Kerala's council Principals, College kerala and Ors.

## With 16 shows, first phase of Gulab Gaatha series concludes

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
HIRANAGAR, NOV 10

The first phase of the show series of the popular film 'Gulab Gaatha' completed here today at GLDM Degree College, Hiranagar. The shows in Hiranagar were commenced in the multipurpose hall with the facilitation of Writer and Director of the Film Sh. Balwant Thakur by Dr. Pragya Khanna, Principal of GLDM Degree College, Hiranagar in presence of Dheeraj Singh Katoch (SDPO Hiranagar), Shreya Sharma (Tehsildar Hiranagar) and Sunil Kaul (SHO, Hiranagar).

Addressing the jam-packed audiences Balwant Thakur shared his vision behind the making of Gulab Gaatha. He recalled that it was Dr. Karan Singh, Chairman of Maharaja Gulab Singh Memorial Trust who inspired him, advised and supported to create a feature film on the first Dogra ruler who created the largest princely state of India, Jammu and Kashmir. Adding further he said that making a historic biopic is not an easy task but Natrang enjoys taking up challenges and found it very exciting to venture this enormous project. Terming it as a historic moment, Dr. Pragya

Khanna thanked Natrang and Maharaja Gulab Singh Memorial Trust for giving their students an opportunity of a lifetime to learn about their glorious past.

The film 'Gulab Gaatha' is about the journey of a soldier who achieves great success at everything he initiated. His unquestionable obligatory obedience towards Lahore Durbar, his unconditional sacrifice and his conception of a kingdom has been regarded and given value in this. The greatness of leaders is not just in their works but in the way they have been appreciated and personified in the eyes of the people. Napoleon was a military and political hero of France and Alexander has been applauded for his greatness for his conquest. Gulab Singh as an emperor held the same qualities of being a courageous warrior. He was a normal person with no lineage of royalty but he established himself as a King with the help of his bravery and continued to keep a hold on his empire because of his well-planned strategic and diplomatic intelligence.

The most noteworthy part of the film was the dynamic acting by the local artists who simply created magic on screen

with their highly professional performances. Sunil Kumar Palwal a meritorious pass out of FTII and popular TV/Film actor has done a great job in portraying different shades of the life of Maharaja Gulab Singh. The lead lady of the film is played by Gauri Thakur. The prominent amongst others who gave remarkable performances included Arvind Anand, Madan Rangeela, Sudhir Jamwal, Suresh Kumar, Janak Khajuria, Anil Tickoo, Sanjeev Gupta, Neeraj Kant, Vijay Bhat, Subash Jamwal, Sumeet Sharma, Gaurav Jamwal, Rahul Singh, Aftab Singh Chauhan, Meera Tapasvi, Aarushi Thakur Rana, Brijesh Avtaar Sharma, Lalit Kumar, Aman Sharma, Akshay Razdan, Kanav Sharma, Jatin Sharma, Brighu Sharma, Sumeet Raina, Naresh Kumar, Udit Sagar, Sushant Singh Charak, Vanshika Gupta, Sanket Bhagat, Arvin Tickoo and Shivam Sharma.

Technical crew included Maloo Singh (Technical Director) Sanjay Kumar (Cameraman), Kamal Sharma (Makeup), and Neeraj Badyal (Film Editor), Sartaj Singh (Production) Mohd Yaseen and Gaurav Jamwal (Coordination).

## Tony seeks compensation to rain affected farmers on war footing, appeals to LG for respite

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
RS PURA, NOV 10

General Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) and DDC Member Suchetgarh, Taranjit Singh Tony, while expressing deep concern over the loss to the farmers on account of the recent weather vagary in the form of hailstorm and rains, has demanded immediate compensation to the affected farmers. He made a fervent appeal to the Lt Governor Manoj Sinha to come to the rescue of the aforesaid farmers.



that rain has completely destroyed paddy crop in the region and in view of the heavy loss it would not be possible for the affected farmers to sow the wheat crop in time due to paucity of funds that would ultimately multiply their losses. Therefore these farmers need to be provided immediate respite by providing them adequate compensation for the losses that would at least ensure the sowing of wheat crop in time and thwarting the unnecessary delay in raising the next crop.

Tony said that already the farmers were hit by earlier rains and some of the farmers could not even cut their ready crop due to firing from across the border thus multiplying their woes. In view of such a dismal situation, he appealed to the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory Administration especially the Lt Governor Manoj Sinha to come to rescue of these farmers and without any delay initiate the process of providing compensation to these farmers on a war footing basis.

## Round 2nd of B2V-5 programme begins in 39 Panchayats at Gbl

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 10

Amid inclement weather, the round second of phase fifth of Back to Village (B2V-5) programme commenced today witnessing immense participation of PRIs and locals in district Ganderbal.

Under this round, the program was organized in 39 Panchayats of district Ganderbal during which designated Visiting Officers (VOs) along with supporting staff and Government functionaries reached their respective panchayats for two days and one night stay to listen to villagers and prepare and approve the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) as per the wishes of people of the village.

The Visiting Officers/ Prabhari Officers

deployed in these Panchayats for B2V-5 interacted with people and noted their day-to-day developmental issues. They also took stock of the ongoing developmental works taken up in their Panchayats under different schemes and inspected functioning of the Schools, Wellness Centre, Anganwadi centres and other institutions.

Meanwhile, Additional Commissioner in the office of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Abid Hussain visited Kujar Panchayat as visiting officer and took stock of the demands fulfilled and the demands of priority. He undertook review of previous and current year deliverables with special focus on improving e-services penetration, user experience for greater accessibility etc.

## PDP's Ahad Yatoo joins DPAP

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR OCT 10

The former PDP leader, who was also formerly with Congress as General Secretary, Abdul Ahad Yatoo from Pattan on Friday joined the DPAP in presence of party chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad and said that he returned to the place where he belonged to. Yatoo got emotional and broke down during the joining ceremony and said that Jammu and Kashmir can only be led by Ghulam Nabi Azad who holds a strong grip on administration, and have a vision for his people. "My heart was always with you though I was physically somewhere else," he told Azad while joining the party fold. "The life seemed meaning less and very tough in your absence.". Speaking on the occasion, Azad said that it was his commitment to bring merit to fore. "We have a policy to encourage those who stand in the line on the basis of merit not for having any good connections with the party higher ups. In this party any worker can be one of the senior leaders if he proves his worth," he said. He said hard work, competence are actually the benchmarks in our party for anyone to grow.



Azad said that he can welcome anyone in its fold but tainted and corrupt are not tolerated. "While I have throughout my career cared for my image and served people without any personal interests, I want all of you to take the same route and serve people selflessly. You will see people will respect you and won't need to go door to door for campaigning. Because people will have respect for you," he told his party workers and leaders on the occasion. Among others who were present on the occasion were, Mohd Amin Bhatt Provincial President, Gen Secretary Ch Haroon Khatana, Salman Nizami Chief Spokesperson, Adv Saleem Parry official Spokesperson, Sujada Bashir Spokesperson, Shafiq Shabnam Provincial Gen Secretary, Gh Nabi Palpuri and others.



## DC Poonch reviews Diwali arrangements



JNEWS SERVICE  
POONCH, NOVEMBER 10

Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary today chaired a meeting in his office chamber to review the arrangements for Diwali festival in the district.

The DC discussed various arrangements including the installation of firecracker sale stalls, security measures, traffic regulation, drinking water supply, power supply, sanitation, quality and price monitoring of food items, and the deployment of fire tenders. Ensuring the well-being and convenience of the public, the Public Health Engineering

(PHE) and Power Development Department (PDD) were instructed to ensure an adequate supply of drinking water and uninterrupted power during the festivities.

The Executive Officer of the Municipality was entrusted with conducting a comprehensive sanitation drive in the town to maintain cleanliness and hygiene. Likewise, the Chief Medical Officer was directed to make necessary first aid arrangements for any emergency situations that may arise.

The Fire & Emergency department was directed to station standby fire-fighting tenders at the cracker sale venue. Fur-

thermore, the District and Traffic Police were urged to ensure proper traffic management within the limits of Poonch town throughout the festive period.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of all departments ensuring foolproof arrangements related to their respective responsibilities well in advance.

In order to monitor the rates and quality of products, particularly sweets, eatables, and fruit items during the festive days, the Assistant Director of Food Supply and the Tehsildar Haveli were directed to conduct joint inspections of the market

## 'Back to Village' Phase V Sarmad Hafeez visits Nesbal Sumbal, listens to public grievances, demands



JNEWS SERVICE  
BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 10

Secretary, Youth Services and Sports, Sarmad Hafeez, on Friday, visited Panchayat Nesbal, Bandipora, as Visiting officer under government's fifth phase of ambitious public outreach "Back to Village" programme.

Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed, ADDC Bandipora Mohammad Ashraf Hakak, and other senior officers of district administration were also present on the occasion.

On the occasion, Secretary stated that the outreach program, B2V5, involves the people of Union Territory and the

government officials in a joint effort to deliver the mission of equitable development across all rural areas. Sarmad Hafeez, along with Dr Owais Ahmed, ADDC Bandipora Mohammad Ashraf Hakak, and other senior officers of district administration were also present on the occasion.

During the program, he interacted with PRIs and the public and listened to their issues concerning public welfare and development.

Also, seniors citizens and representatives of Panchayats projected their grievances and demands before the visiting officer and sought redressal of the same.

While stressing on implementation of the

program in letter and spirit, Sarmad Hafeez said the initiative is primarily aimed at energizing the Panchayats and directing development efforts of rural areas through community participation.

Deputy Commissioner, Dr Owais Ahmed, speaking on the occasion said that B2V-5 programme is an ambitious mission of government and district administration has taken notable initiatives across the district in facilitating a wide variety of on spot services during the week long programme.

Later, Secretary distributed sports kits and certificates among the beneficiaries and interacted with the youth of Nesbal.

## Srinagar Admin conducts surprise inspection of IVF Centres/Clinical establishments in City

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 10

District Administration Srinagar Friday undertook a surprise inspection of various Clinical establishments operating in the City in order to ensure proper regulation and operationalization of Clinical Establishments in Srinagar District and contain the mushrooming of Clinics.

The inspection was carried out on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad to stop mushrooming growth of ill equipped pathological and microbiological laboratories and other clinical establishments lacking in infrastructure and technical expertise to ensure up to mark healthcare facilities to the patients in the District. The inspection teams headed by Sub Divisional Magistrate East, Murtaza Ahmad and Sub Divisional Magistrate West, Primroze Bashir accompanied by District Health Officer, Dr Rubeena, Nodal Officer for Clinical Establishments, Dr Asifa, Zonal Medical Officers, Doctors from JLNM & Gousia Hospital, Officers from Legal Metrology, Health Department and other concerned.

During the scrutiny, the inspection team under-



took a thorough inspection of various IVF Centres located at Bemina, Hyderpora, Lal Chowk, Rajbagh, Magarmal Bagh

and Methen Bye pass during which the inspection teams found infirmities and deficiencies in some IVF centres. The

centres were directed to complete their deficiencies and fulfill the criteria as per the medical codes and norms within weeks

time failing which sealing orders will be issued against the violators.

In order prevent any overcharging for diagnostic/ tests at these centres, the rates of different pathologic tests were also checked.

Speaking regarding the drive, the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad stressed on intensifying such inspections of the clinical establishments in Srinagar to ensure that such establishments are running according to laid down guidelines and regulations to the best satisfaction of the patients.

The DC urged the medical practitioners in the private sector, chemists, and druggists to strictly follow the guidelines, norms and medical ethics while discharging their professional duties and responsibilities.

He also asked the Health Department to conduct frequent inspections to ensure that the rules in vogue are followed in letter and spirit by these medical establishments.

"The patient care has to be given the top most priority", the DC Srinagar added.

## Religious fervor marks observance of annual Urs of Shah Asrar-ud-Din (RA) at Kishtwar

KISHTWAR, NOVEMBER 10

The annual Urs of Hazarat Shah Asrar-ud-Din (RA) was observed today with religious fervor as devotees from across the District Kishtwar and other parts of Jammu and Kashmir visited the Sufi Shrine and participated in special prayers.

One of the most revered saints of the Kishtwar District, Shah Asrar (RA) is equally venerated by all communities depicting the innate composite culture of Jammu and Kashmir. Every year thousands of devotees from all walks of life and different regions through the shrine of the



Shah Asrar-ud-Din (RA) to pay their reverence to the Seventeenth Century Sufi Saint and seek his blessings.

District administration, in collaboration with the Waqf Board J&K, has made elaborate arrangements for the convenience of

devotees who had come all the way from different parts of J&K to be part of the spiritual congregation.

Deputy Commissioner Dr Devansh Yadav along with the senior functionaries of the Civil and police administration including Administrator Waqf Board

Zakir Hussain visited the shrine and the complex area to inspect the arrangements, besides seeking blessings after paying obeisance at the shrine.

All the line departments were directed by the DC to provide all facilities to the devotees like uninterrupted power supply, safe drinking water, essential items, security, transport, sanitation.

A control room was established by the district Administration in collaboration with the Police Department and District Information Centre, to facilitate the pilgrims.

## Police arrests drug peddler in Ganderbal, contraband substance recovered

JNEWS SERVICE  
GANDERBAL, NOV 10

Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, police have arrested a drug peddler in Ganderbal and recovered contraband substance from his possession.

A police party led by incharge Police Post Shadipora under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Ganderbal during routine naka checking near Sumbal Bridge intercepted a suspicious person. During checking, 2Kgs 720grams of poppy bulbs concealed in a white nylon bag was recovered from his possession. The accused has been identified as Joginder Paul son of Diwan Chand resident of Blore Pathankot Punjab. He has been arrested and shifted to Police Station where he remains in custody.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 310/2023 under relevant sections of law has been registered at PS Ganderbal & investigation has been taken up.

We urge the common masses that if you witness drug peddling or any other crime anywhere near you, feel free to contact nearest police establishment or dial 112. People are requested to cooperate with police in curbing the menace of drugs from the society. We reassure the community members that police will act tough against the criminals as per law.

## Diwali festivities begin at State Taxes department

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 10

State Taxes Department, Jammu and Kashmir on Friday commenced Diwali festivities with high enthusiasm and gaiety here at Excise and Taxation Complex Jammu.

Commissioner State Taxes Department, Dr Rashmi Singh, who presided over the occasion, interacted with the department officers. She appreciated them for making beautiful Rangolis and its decoration with earthen lamps (Deepak).

Commissioner also appreciated the rare and unique creativities skills of specially abled Inspector of the department, Chetna Devi, who created a beautiful water fountain for the department.

Dr Rashmi Singh accompanied by Additional Commissioner State Taxes Jammu, Namirta Dogra and other senior officers also joined Swachh Diwali Shubh Diwali digital cam-



paign. They took pledges for eco-friendly Diwali, a nationwide Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 initiative under Union Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs. Through the campaign, the Commissioner pledged to use eco-friendly local products, abstain from single use plastic and celebrate a clean and green Diwali.

She exhorted upon the officers to come forward and be part of this campaign in making the office premises cleaner and greener.

Commissioner and other officers also clicked photographs at special

selfie booth at the department made on theme of #Swachh Diwali Shubh Diwali campaign.

Commissioner extended Diwali wishes to all State Taxes family including stakeholders. Highlighting the important of eco-friendly approach towards saving the environment, she urged upon the officers and officials to discourage use of single use plastic.

She also stressed on segregation of different types of waste for its proper disposal and highlighted the importance of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.

Earlier, Dr Rashmi

Singh inaugurated department's library 'Sadhana' at ground floor of the office complex.

The noble initiative of the department aims to engage and inspire officers and stakeholders for developing reading habits to enhance their knowledge. With depository of many rare books on Tax laws, specific to Jammu and Kashmir and all updated volumes of GST laws and its council meetings, the library will become an interesting interactive space for learning and information discovery for the officials.