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Weather to remain dry after Snowfall, Rains lash Jammu & Kashmir

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 11

Weather improved on Saturday after snowfall on higher reaches and widespread rains on plains brought the temperature down and closed several roads in Jammu and Kashmir.

Meteorological department Srinagar forecast of weather is likely to remain dry during the next 24 hours in Jammu and Kashmir.

The sky was cloudy prevailing around Srinagar and other parts of the Kashmir valley.



Higher reaches of the Kashmir Valley experienced snowfall, while plains were lashed by widespread rains on Friday bringing down the temperature.

Due to snowfall, several roads including Razdan Pass, Zojila Pass, Kishtwar-Anantnag Road,

Mughal, Phirkiyan Gali, Machil, Sadna Top, and Srinagar-Sonamarg Road were closed for traffic movement.

“Traffic on Srinagar-Jammu national highway and Srinagar-Sonamarg ?Gumri road connecting Ladakh was restored and traffic plying normally,”

J&K Traffic Police said on X.

However, they said the historical Mughal road connecting south Kashmir’s Shopian district with the twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu division remained closed due to the

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PM Modi has stopped infiltrators, abrogated Article 370 in J&K: Shah

JI NEWS SERVICE
DHAR (MP), NOV 11

Union home minister Amit Shah on Saturday said that it is Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s government that has the courage to stop infiltrators in the country and it is not possible for the Congress and leaders of the opposition bloc INDIA to do so.

Modi ji has done the job of stopping infiltrators in the country and it is not possible for Congress and INDIA bloc leaders to do so. Whether infiltrators should be stopped or not, he asked while addressing a public meeting at Manawar in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh ahead of the November 17 assembly elections.

It was the Modi government that abrogated



Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir despite Congress leader Rahul Gandhi claiming that it would lead to a bloodbath but nothing happened, Shah said.

The home minister hit out at the Congress for what he called destroying the culture of the country and said it was the Modi

government which nurtured and prevented it.

Shah also blamed the Congress in the state for stopping several welfare schemes, including Teerth Darshan Yojna, when it was in power for 15 months after the 2018 elections.

Urging people to vote

for the BJP, he said that this time people will celebrate three Diwalis first, on Sunday; second on December 3, when results of the assembly polls will be announced; and the third, on January 22, when the consecration of Lord Ram will take place in Ayodhya.

DGP Swain to meet people twice every month to address grievances

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) R R Swain will hold two-hour public grievance meetings twice every month, police said on Saturday.

Swain, who took over as the police chief of Jammu and Kashmir on October 31, has urged those coming with complaints or grievances to submit a written statement or application, the police headquarters said in a statement issued here.

The DGP has “decided that on every second and fourth Saturday of the month, two hours would be reserved (2 pm to 4 pm) for meet-



ing persons who have grievances pertaining to police administration”, it said.

The decision was taken after the DGP came to know that people had

been approaching or coming to the police headquarters in Jammu without prior appointment as grievance redressal seekers, with some of them raising concern over lack of clarity about the procedure to meet the DGP, the statement said.

The DGP noted that they should have approached junior officers who have the mandate to redress grievances, it said.

“In other words, directly approaching the DGP without giving an opportunity to the officers concerned in the field is not a healthy practice for obvious reasons. Hence, it was decided that priority would be given to

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Encounter erupts between security forces and terrorists in Pulwama

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 11

An encounter broke out on Saturday between security forces and terrorists in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said.

“#Encounter has started at Parigam area of #Pulwama. Police and security forces are on the job. Further details shall follow,” Kashmir Zone Police posted on X.

According to officials, the police and army launched a cordon and search operation in the Parigam area following information about movement of terrorists there.

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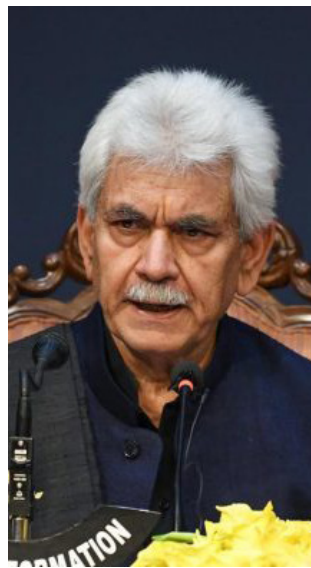
LG Sinha greets people on eve of Deepawali

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has greeted the people on the auspicious occasion of Deepawali. In a message, the Lt Governor said: “On the joyous occasion of Deepawali, I convey my warm greetings and good wishes to all the citizens”.

“Deepawali, the festival of lights, is an occasion to share joy and festivity across all faiths and cultures. The Diyas of Deepawali signify the end of ignorance, triumph of good over evil, hope over despair, and inspire us to fight the darkness in all spheres of life.

May this Deepawali usher in prosperity and happiness to all and illuminate the path of progress and well being,” the Lt Governor said.



Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra to begin from 15th November in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOV 11

The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, today reviewed the preparations being made for the first phase of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, which will commence in Jammu and

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Kashmir from November 15th from the snow-prone tribal areas of Rajouri and Bandipora districts. The Yatra will begin in the remaining districts on November 20th.

As per schedule, the Yatra will begin from the tribal regions of Budhal and Gurez in Rajouri

and Bandipora districts, respectively. In view of the weather forecast of light to moderate snowfall in the region, the Chief Secretary asked the Administrative Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department and concerned Deputy Commissioners of the two districts to finalize the route

of the Yatra and arrange for all necessary facilities to ensure its smooth conduct.

The Chief Secretary directed cooperation among various executing agencies towards organizing a successful Yatra. The Deputy

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Three foreign tourists killed in Dal Lake blaze in Kashmir

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 11

Three foreign tourists, believed to be from Bangladesh, were charred to death in a major blaze in a houseboat on the famous Dal Lake on Saturday, officials here said.

Burnt beyond recognition, the tourists’ bodies were retrieved from the debris of the gutted houseboats near ghat nine on the lake, a popular attraction for tourists visiting Jammu and Kashmir’s summer capital, the officials said.

The cause of the fire, which engulfed five houseboats and as many huts attached to those, was not immediately known. The officials said preliminary investigations suggested that the fire broke out in one of the

houseboats in the early hours due to malfunctioning of a heating appliance.

The victims’ DNA samples were extracted to establish their identities, the officials said, adding they are believed to be from Bangladesh and included a woman, according to the records being maintained by the houseboat operators.

The bodies will be identified through DNA samples with the family members of the victims before being handed over, the officials said.

Property worth crores of rupees were destroyed in the fire that broke out around 5.15 am. The blaze was brought under control after hectic efforts by locals and fire and emergency services personnel, the officials said.

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LG Sinha condoles loss of lives in fire incident at Dal Lake

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

The Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha, has condoled the loss of lives in an unfortunate fire incident at Dal Lake, Srinagar.

“I am deeply pained by the loss of lives due to the unfortunate fire incident at Dal Lake, Srinagar. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. I have directed the District Administration to provide all necessary assistance to the affected persons,” the Lt Governor said.

Kishtwar to soon emerge as North India’s power hub: Union Minister Jitendra Singh

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

Jammu and Kashmir’s Kishtwar is all set to emerge as north India’s “major power hub” with the generation of around 6,000 MW of electricity after the completion of the ongoing power projects, Union minister Jitendra Singh said on Saturday.

Singh, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister’s office, was on an extensive tour of the remote areas of the hill district of Kishtwar, part of his Udhampur parliamentary constituency.

He visited Gulabgarh in the Paddar area and the far-off Massu village, where he also inaugurated the new school set up by ‘Shiksha Bharti’ for village children.

The Union Minister, who is also a renowned physician and diabetologist, also participated in the multi-speciality medical camp organised by the Army at Gulab-



garh.

“Six to seven major hydropower projects have come up in the region in a short span of 9 to 10 years ever since Narendra Modi took over as the Prime Minister,” Singh said addressing a public meeting in Gulabgarh.

“The largest capacity project is Pakal Dul with a capacity of 1,000

MW. Its estimated cost, as of now, is Rs 8,112.12 crore and the expected timeline of completion is 2025. Another major project is the Kiru hydroelectric project with a capacity of 624 MW. The estimated cost of the project is Rs 4,285.59 crore and the timeline for this as well is 2025,” he added.

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NIA Files supplementary charge-sheet in KTF recruitment, arms smuggling case

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, NOV 11

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a supplementary charge-sheet against four people in the Khalistan Tiger Force recruitment and arms smuggling case, an official said on Saturday.

The charge-sheet was filed before the Special NIA Court, New Delhi, against Amritpal Singh alias Ammy and Amrik Singh, both deported from the Philippines, and Jassa Singh and Gagandeep Singh alias Mithi, a spokesperson of the federal

agency said.

Earlier, the agency had filed a charge-sheet against nine accused persons in the case on July 22.

Twelve other members of the Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF) terrorist outfit and their associates, linked with the Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) and the KTF, are under investigation for their role and involvement in this terror conspiracy.

The spokesperson said that a “listed individual terrorist”, Canada-based Arshdeep Singh alias Arsh Dala, in association with accused Manpreet Singh alias Peeta, had

indoctrinated and recruited Amritpal, Amrik, Jassa and Gagandeep into his terrorist group, the spokesperson said.

Operating from the Philippines, Amritpal and Amrik were actively engaged in recruiting youngsters. Their activities extended to smuggling of arms and explosives from Pakistan as well as carrying out extortion and subsequently channelising the extortion proceeds for terrorist activities, the official said.

During the course of investigation, the NIA successfully got

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DLSA Samba concludes Legal Services week activities



JNEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, NOVEMBER 11

District Legal Services Authority Samba, under the aegis of JKLSA and under the guidance of Yesh Pal Kotwal, Chairman DLSA Samba, today culminated the Legal Services week activities which commenced on 7th of this Month.

The program was inaugurated by Chairman DLSA Samba and thereafter Chairman DLSA Samba distributed Wheel Chairs, Walking Sticks, blankets and motor tricycles among the beneficiaries at ADR centre Samba. The aid was provided by the Department of Social Welfare Samba. Thereafter the Judicial Officers of District Court Complex

Samba and Members of Bar Association Samba distributed Ration among the needy people of different villages of District Samba which was organized with the contribution of All the Judicial Officers of District Samba. Another activity organized by DLSA Samba was Affixing of stickers on the local Auto Rickshaws displaying the Helpline no of DLSA Samba for the information of entitled Legal Aid Seekers. The legal aid is extended to eligible individuals as is mandated under Sec 12 of The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

The entitled persons can approach DLSA Samba for getting Legal Aid Lawyers for their respective cases. The

activity was organized by DLSA Samba in collaboration with ARTO Samba and Astro Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd.

The series of activities reflected the commitment of the DLSA Samba to provide free and competent services to the people of district Samba.

The program witnessed the presence of all the Judicial Officers of District Court Complex, Senior and other Members of Bar Association Samba, ARTO, District Social Welfare Officer and his team along with beneficiaries, representatives from Astro Mahindra and Mahindra, Officers of LADC, Panel Advocates Staff and PLVs of DLSA Samba, Auto rickshaws owners etc.

Advisor Bhatnagar chairs joint BoDs meet of JKHC, JKHDC

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 11

Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar today chaired the joint Board of Directors (BoDs) meeting of J&K Handicrafts (S&E) Corporation (JKHC) and J&K Handloom Development Corporation (JKHDC) at Civil Secretariat here.

During the meeting, the BoDs held extensive assessment aimed to evaluate the progress made by these corporations in promoting and preserving the rich heritage of handicrafts and handloom in the region besides various physical and financial aspects of the corporations, were also evaluated during the meeting. The Board also reviewed the progress and performance of the showrooms of the Corporation.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department, Vikramjit Singh; Director Handicrafts & Handloom Kashmir, Mahmood Ahmad Shah; Director Handicrafts & Handloom Jammu, Vikas Gupta; Special Secretary, Planning, Development & Monitoring Department, K.S. Chib; Managing Director JKHC and other senior officers of both these Corporations in person and through video conferencing.

While chairing the meeting, Advisor Bhat-



nagar called upon the officers of both Corporations to optimally use the available resources of their entities for effective revenue generation.

He stressed upon the management of both these corporations to chalk out a comprehensive marketing strategy for handicraft, handloom and other handmade traditional craft items of J&K so that these items could be marketed in a very effective manner. He also asked the officers to examine the sales and marketing strategies of the corporations and suggested them not to promote or sell any product that is not manufactured in J&K.

The Advisor impressed upon the management of the corporation to coordinate with different stakeholders and departments for opening of new showrooms at famous tourist places like Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, Gulmarg and other famous places so that the visitors footfall is encashed for enhancing the benefits to

local artisans and craftsmen by providing them higher sales through the Corporation.

He also directed them to rationalize shop presence at other locations and explore various other non-conventional marketing methods.

He also advised the management to engage and utilize the services of IT professionals to enhance turnover and better Inventory management.

The Advisor also advised them to create software for feedback link for customers so that necessary steps are taken accordingly.

The Advisor expressed his appreciation for the corporations in contributing to the socio-economic development of Jammu and Kashmir through revival and promotion of traditional crafts.

During the meeting, the Managing Director JKHC gave a detailed presentation on the performance and functioning of both these Corporations.

DLSA Budgam to organise 4th National Lok Adalat on December-9

JNEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, NOVEMBER 11

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Budgam under the aegis of J&K Legal Services Authority is going to organize 4th National Lok Adalat on 09-12-2023 within the premises of District Court Complex Budgam and Taluka Courts at Magam, Beerwah, Chadoora and Charisharif.

Parties or their Advocates whose cases are pending before any Court at District Court Complex Budgam and before Taluka Courts and are desirous to settle their cases/ claims/matters through the Lok Adalat scheduled herein above shall approach the concerned Courts by or before 05-12-2023.

Besides parties whose cases are not pending (i.e.

Pre Litigation matters) in any court but desires to settle their disputes can also approach Secretary District Legal Services Authority Budgam on cell no's 7006884946, 6005861030 and 9906921210 email id: dlsabudgam2020@gmail.com by or before 05-10-2023, So that their cases, claims or matters can be settled amicably in the National Lok Adalat.

DC inspects key tourism potential localities, roads in Bhaderwah Valley

JNEWS SERVICE
DODA, NOVEMBER 11

To assess the availability of local infrastructure, Harvinder Singh, District Development Commissioner Doda, today undertook a comprehensive tour of Bhaderwah and inspected assets created by Bhaderwah Development Authority (BDA) at key tourist spots in the area.

The focal points of the inspection tour were the Tourist Convention Centre Tilligarh Resort, Yatri Niwas building, Gupt Ganga Temple, Vasuki Nag Temple, and the surrounding roads.

During the inspection, the DDC was accompanied by ADC Bhaderwah Chowdhary Dil Mir, CEO of BDA Bal Krishan, ACD Phulail Singh, Tehsildar, BDO and other prominent



figures. The DDC exhorted for ensuring the vital tourist facilities are well-maintained and equipped to cater to the needs of residents and visitors alike.

The team examined the Tourist Convention Center, emphasizing its role as a potential hub for tourism activities. Yatri Niwas, Gupt Ganga Temple, and Vasuki Nag Temple were also visited, and directions were passed to maintain their sanctity, safety, cleanliness for religious and tourism purposes.

Furthermore, the inspection extended to the external and internal

roads to assess their condition and identify any areas requiring immediate attention. The proactive approach by the District Administration underscores its commitment to foster a conducive environment for both residents and tourists in Bhaderwah.

Harvinder Singh emphasized the importance of regular inspection of the assets by the concerned officers to ensure that the vital facilities are well-maintained and able to meet the growing demands of the community.

B2V-5 Programme in full swing at Anantnag; 177 panchayats covered in phase-Ist

JNEWS SERVICE
ANANTNAG, NOVEMBER 11

The first round of phase five of Back to Village (B2V-5) programme concluded today in 177 panchayats at Anantnag.

The outreach programme witnessed huge public participation across all areas reflecting the success of the programme and high expectations of the people on the UT Govt. and District Administration in bringing a positive change for progress, development, and prosperity of the region.

The Visiting/ Prabhari Officers (VOs) on day 2nd 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 (GPDP) as per their wishes.



The Prabhari Officers also ensured the awareness and saturation of all the government schemes. They submitted the report of their visit, aspirations, and feedback of the people, in a designated portal and also shared 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.

They also inspected various government institutions viz schools, Anganwadi Centres, Ration depots, Health institutions, Patwar khannas, Panchayat Ghars etc.

The VOs on the occasion visited the sites of ongoing and completed works under MGNREGA, Capex Budget, PMAY, SBM, and other such schemes.

Interaction meetings with the general public, especially youth, awareness on Self-Employment schemes, feedback on welfare schemes, services

GDC Marh observes National Education Day

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 11

To celebrate the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education Minister of Independent India, Government Degree College Marh today observed National Education Day in virtual mode under the supervision of Principal of the college Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul.

The principal emphasized the need to connect with elders, reduce the screen time and celebrate forthcoming Diwali by not creating air, water, sound pollution as the air pollution deteriorates the health of senior citizens. The theme of the programme selected was Embracing Innovation which highlights the significance of innovative approaches to promote creative forward thinking teaching methods.

Under the mentioned theme HOD department of Education Dr. Ashu Jolly initiated a new project "EACH ONE TEACH ONE ADULT ILLITERATE" where in all the students of different semesters/ department gave basic literacy to the adults at their homes and locality and boosted them to have self confidence among themselves as citizen of democratic country Bharat. They were also motivated to become active learners in the basic skills of a healthy life. The data regarding the problems faced by adults in the society as illiterate was also collected and it was decided that the college shall continue the project, initiated, seeking help from local administration also. The adults, especially females, actively participated and cooperated and had basic learning.

487 PMAY (U) houses completed, work on 1046 underway across 3 Municipal Townships

JNEWS SERVICE
DODA, NOVEMBER 11

To evaluate the implementation and progress under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)-Urban, a meeting of the Officers of line Departments was held today here under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Harvinder Singh.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Bhaderwah Chowdhary Dil Mir; Chief Planning Officer, Suresh Kumar; ACD Doda Phulail Singh; besides officers of Housing Board and other concerned departments attended the meeting.

At the outset, the CPO presented a detailed appraisal about the implementation of the PMAY-Urban scheme in different parts of the District. The DC was apprised that as on date, as many as have been completed so far in Municipal Council Doda and twin Municipal Committees of Bhaderwah and Thathri. It was further given out that more than 1046 houses are at different phases of construction.

The meeting was also apprised about the release of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd installments in favour of beneficiaries who have started construction of their houses under PMAY (U) in the district. The DC was also apprised that an amount of Rs 16.50 crores have been disbursed till date in the accounts of genuine beneficiaries after following due procedure and multilevel verification.

Pertinent to mention that Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) has been launched by the Government with the aim to provide ease of living to weaker sections in urban areas.

The DC directed the concerned officers to ensure the completion of ongoing works by 31st of December 2023. DFOs have been asked to provide timber to the beneficiaries under PMAY on priority basis so that their houses can be completed timely and houseless are provided their own permanent houses. He asked the concerned to ensure that the scheme guidelines are followed in letter and spirit so that all genuine eligible beneficiaries are benefited under the PMAY-U scheme in the District. He impressed upon the field functionaries to follow the robust mechanism already put in place to ensure immediate verification and processing of cases at each stage of construction and consequent disbursement of payments to the verified beneficiaries under the scheme.

DLSA Srinagar, GGHSS Chanpora organize Awareness program to observe 'National Education Day'

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 11

As part of calendar of activities issued by J&K Legal Services Authority Srinagar, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar today celebrated National Education Day in collaboration with the Government Girls Higher Secondary School, (GGHSS) Chanpora Srinagar by organizing an awareness program at the school.

This event marks a significant milestone in the promotion of education, and also aligns with the ethos of the National Educational Policy, recognizing the fundamental right of every child to receive quality education.

In a bid to fortify the commitment to education, DLSA Srinagar has joined hands with Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Chanpora, Srinagar to amplify the impact of educational initiatives and foster an environment where learning is not just a right but a celebrated privilege.



ment to making education accessible to all. National Education Day, observed annually on November 11th, commemorates the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education Minister of independent India. This day serves as a poignant reminder of the crucial role education plays in the holistic development of individuals and the nation as a whole. The awareness programme commenced with the address

by resource persons of DLSA Srinagar, Adv. Syed Shabana and Adv. Suhaila Ali (Panel Lawyers) highlighting Provisions of Right to Education Amendment Act 2002 inserted Article 21-A in the Constitution of India to provide free and compulsory education of all Children in the age group of six to fourteen years as a Fundamental Right. The speakers also highlighted the recently implemented National Education Policy (NEP),

which envisions a transformative and holistic approach to education. The NEP underscores the importance of an inclusive, flexible, and multidisciplinary education system that empowers students to become well-rounded, creative, and critical thinkers. The Program was attended by the Staff members and Para Legal Volunteers of DLSA, Srinagar, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff of the School and students.

Doda admin undertakes household survey to identify substance abuse cases

J1 NEWS SERVICE
DODA, NOVEMBER 11

Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh today asked the stakeholder Departments(s) to ensure effective working of Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF), Rehabilitation Centres, besides other measures to reduce the substance abuse in the district, for making Doda drugs free.

The nodal officer for ATF, Dr Zia Showkat informed the chair that there are 376 registered patients in ATF at GMC Doda. He added that additional trained staff is required to start fully functional IPD for the addiction patients. The DC instructed the stakeholders to take up the matter with the concerned higher authority, arrange training for available staff and manage the staff from GMC Doda to create an IPD facility for the patients.

While reviewing the status of functioning of the Drug De-addiction Centre at Old Hospital Bhaderwah, it was informed that the staff and other required facilities are being arranged for its full functioning. The DC exhorted to make



the Centre fully functional so that the de-addiction and rehabilitation of the addicts was ensured in the district. The meeting decided to constitute village level committees comprising Lumbardars, Chowkidars, Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers and one local teacher to conduct random surveys to identify substance abuse cases. The committee members shall be given hands-on training in the next week, and actual survey of at least 100 households per village shall start by 20th of November 2023. Similar committees have been ordered in municipal areas for the survey on substance abuse. DC also reviewed the working of

Drug De-addiction Centre in District Police line and other measures taken by the District Administration to curb the menace.

DC stressed for insightful counselling, treatment, and rehabilitation of the addicts while taking stringent legal action against the drug peddlers.

The DC called upon ADCs and SDMs to ensure the survey of substance abuse is completed within the set timeline in their respective jurisdictions besides identifying drug peddlers for timely action.

The meeting was attended by SSP, Abdul Qayoom; ADC Doda, Dr R K Bharti; ADC Bhaderwah, Chowdhary Dil Mir; SDMs; DPO ICDS Doda, CMO and other concerned.

Second round of B2V-5 concludes in 39 Panchayats of Ganderbal District, 85 Panchayats covered in total



J1 NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 11

The second round of Back to Village Phase -5 (B2V-5) concluded successfully today in 39 Panchayats of Ganderbal district.

The programme witnessed huge public participation across all 39 Panchayats reflecting the high expectations of the people in the District Administration in bringing a positive change for progress, development, and prosperity of the region.

Meanwhile, Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Ganderbal, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani along with Chief Planning Officer, Irfan Giri participated in the B2V5 programme at Nagbal Panchayat.

On the occasion, locals appreciated the district administration for its endeavors and apprised the ADDC of several issues

of public importance. Interacting with the locals, the ADDC appreciated the public participation 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.

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 (GPD) as per their wishes.

Pertinently, B2V-5 programme has been completed in 85 Panchayats out of 126 Panchayats during two rounds of the programme of the district and other Panchayats will be covered in 3rd round which is commencing from 14 November.

Back to Village provides doorstep governance in remote areas of Udhampur District



J1 NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, NOVEMBER 11

The third day of the 'Back to Village-5 initiative showcased impactful activities across several panchayats in Udhampur district.

Visiting Officers engaged in public meets, inspections and discussions to assess grassroots-level amenities. Throughout the day, diverse activities unfolded, including plantation drives, interactive sessions with the public, distribution of medical kits, Nasha Mukti pledge, inspection of ongoing projects, PMAY house inaugurations, Jal Jeevan Mission kick-offs, cultural and sports events, and gram sabhas. Public services underwent rigorous inspections, with desig-

nated administrators collaborating with officers from relevant departments to ensure comprehensive grievance recording. Compiled reports will be submitted to the Deputy Commissioner for redressal.

Visiting officers also liaised with the officers of line departments gathering feedback on ongoing developmental schemes.

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai, emphasized the flagship nature of the program, urging rural residents to actively participate in the activities. The third day witnessed enthusiastic involvement of PRI representatives and the general public, reflecting their keen interest in this government initiative.

DM reviews arrangements for annual Jhiri Festival



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 11

District Magistrate, Sachin Kumar Vaishya today visited the shrine of Baba Jitto and reviewed the arrangements for the smooth conduct of the annual Jhiri Festival. The annual Festival will commence from November 26 and culminate on December 5.

He was accompanied by SSP Jammu, Dr Vinod Kumar; SSP Security; SDM Marh, Manu Hansa; ACD Jammu, Preeti Sharma and other concerned officers. The DM inspected the shrine and its surroundings and took stock of the preparations for the festival. He directed the officers to ensure road connectivity, improvement of roads by fixing potholes, provision of basic amenities such as drinking water and toilet facility, security and parking facility for the devotees.

He also stressed on maintaining cleanliness and hygiene in and around the shrine and asked the officers to deploy adequate sanitation staff and dustbins.

He said that the festival is a great opportunity to showcase the rich cultural heritage of the region and attract tourists. He asked the officers to ensure that the visitors get a memorable experience during their visit.

The DM also interacted with the members of the local organizing committee and assured them of full support from the administration.

The Jhiri Festival is celebrated every year in the memory of Baba Jitto, a farmer Saint who sacrificed his life for the cause of justice and righteousness. Thousands of devotees from different parts of the country throng the shrine to pay their obeisance and seek blessings.

Later during the day, the DM also visited Purani Mandi, Raghunath Bazar and other bazaars in the heart of the old Jammu city in view of the coming Diwali festival. He spoke with the shopkeepers and the locals and greeted them on the occasion. He also reviewed the security arrangements during the visit.

DC Rajouri inspects progress on NH144A Widening Project

J1 NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, NOVEMBER 11

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Vikas Kundal on Saturday conducted a comprehensive inspection to meticulously review the progress on the ongoing widening project of NH144A at different construction sites.

This ambitious initiative comprises eight distinct packages, all united in the common objective of enhancing transportation efficiency and connectivity for the residents of Rajouri. Envisioned to bring about a transformative impact, the expanded road is poised not only to facilitate smoother travel but also to invigorate economic opportunities and trade within the region.

The thorough evaluation took place at the Chingus site, where the pivotal wet mix macadamization work is currently in progress. Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal, during his visit, underscored the paramount importance of expeditiously completing the project while maintaining unwavering commitment to the highest quality standards.



He emphasized that this infrastructural metamorphosis is destined to yield far-reaching benefits, impacting both residents and businesses, and thereby contributing significantly to the overall progress of the region.

"The widening of the Jammu-Rajouri-Poonch National Highway stands as a monumental stride towards fostering growth and development in Rajouri. It is our collective responsibility to ensure the seamless execution of this project, upholding the pinnacle of quality standards," remarked Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal, emphasizing the gravity of this transformative initiative.

This endeavor signifies a momentous step towards realizing the visionary goal of an interconnected and prosper-

ous Rajouri. The administration, in collaborative efforts with various stakeholders, remains resolute in its commitment to fulfilling this promise.

The ultimate aim is to provide residents with a brighter future, characterized by a well-connected transportation network that transcends existing limitations. As the relentless work on NH144A progresses, the people of Rajouri are fervently anticipating the culmination of this transformative project, eagerly awaiting the manifold benefits it promises to usher into their lives.

Among the others, OC BRO, Ankit Sharma and Assistant Commissioner Defence, Saleem Quershi besides other BRO officials accompanied the Deputy Commissioner during his visit.



J1 NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, NOVEMBER 11

The third day of the 'Back to Village-5 initiative showcased impactful activities across several panchayats in Udhampur district.

Visiting Officers engaged in public meets, inspections and discussions to assess grassroots-level amenities. Throughout the day, diverse activities unfolded, including plantation drives, interactive sessions with the public, distribution of medical kits, Nasha Mukti pledge, inspection of ongoing projects, PMAY house inaugurations, Jal Jeevan Mission kick-offs, cultural and sports events, and gram sabhas. Public services underwent rigorous inspections, with desig-

nated administrators collaborating with officers from relevant departments to ensure comprehensive grievance recording. Compiled reports will be submitted to the Deputy Commissioner for redressal.

Visiting officers also liaised with the officers of line departments gathering feedback on ongoing developmental schemes.

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai, emphasized the flagship nature of the program, urging rural residents to actively participate in the activities. The third day witnessed enthusiastic involvement of PRI representatives and the general public, reflecting their keen interest in this government initiative.

DC Ramban reviews preparations for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra

J1 NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, NOVEMBER 11

Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary today asked the stakeholder departments to gear up for making foolproof arrangements for the upcoming Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Ramban, Mohita Sharma was also present in the meeting.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the officers to ensure maximum public participation, particularly youth in Yatra which aim to raise awareness about the Government's achievements and extend benefits of Centrally Sponsored Schemes among beneficiaries.



It was informed that a Digital Van will traverse all Panchayats 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 meeting was informed.

During the meeting, the DC stressed the importance of flagship schemes

and underlined the need for effective projection of the same to maximize their impact.

Directing to set up a control room at district headquarters, the DC also constituted a team headed by the ADDC composed of ADC and other senior officers at district level. The Sub Division Magistrates and Tehsildars will head the committees at respective Sub Division and Tehsil levels. He further directed officers to pre-

pare action plans for their departments and stay informed about the schemes, latest data of beneficiaries and scheme coverage.

The DC directed ADDC to depute senior officers in blocks to coordinate the arrangements for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, besides organizing training sessions for the officers and resource persons of line departments.

Meanwhile, SSP suggested that the family members of the Martyrs would be honoured during the Sankalp Yatra, ensuring that they are getting benefits of the schemes

meant for them and for which they are eligible.

Prominent schemes slated for promotion include PM Vishwakarma, PM Ujjwala Yojana, PM Mudra Loan, PMEGP, Mumkin, Poshan Abhiyan, Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY, PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana, PM Awas Yojana (Rural), PM Kisan Saman, Kisan Credit Card, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Har Ghar Jal - Jal Jeevan Mission, etc.

Among others, ADDC, Rajinder Sharma, PO ICDS, Jehangir Hashmi, ACD Harbans Sharma, ACR Giasul Haq, Sub Divisional Magistrates, Dy.DEO, ACD, Chief Planning Officer, and other district and sectoral officers attended the meeting.

DC takes comprehensive review of achievements under Power Sector in Rajouri District

J1 NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, OCTOBER 11

In a significant step towards enhancing the standard of living and ensuring uninterrupted power supply to the consumers, Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of power sector projects in the district. The meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Khurshid, XEN PDD Rajouri, Mohd Rashid, along with other concerned officers.

The primary focus of this meeting was to evaluate the status of the power sector projects undertaken as part of the DDC, PRI grants, TSP and SSY.

During the review, it was informed that a total of 140 projects were approved, with an impressive 15 projects already having been completed. These projects have been carefully proposed to fortify the essential infrastructure of the area, thereby ensuring uninterrupted power supply to the people of Rajouri.

Deputy Commissioner, cognizant of the importance of these projects in improving the lives of the residents of the district, stressed the urgency of expediting the allotment process. He underscored the need to adhere to strict timelines to ensure the timely completion of all projects. This commitment to adhering to schedules aligns with the goal of administration of guaranteeing continuous and adequate power supply to the public.

The DC emphasized, "Our priority is to enhance the quality of life for our citizens by providing them with reliable power infrastructure. This review is a testament to our dedication to this cause. We are committed to creating an environment where residents can thrive, and this begins with reliable access to electricity."

By facilitating the timely completion of these projects, the District Administration aims to not only enhance the infrastructure of the region but also significantly elevate standard of living for the people of Rajouri.

The meeting ended with a call to action for all officers involved in these projects, with a renewed commitment to ensuring that the people of Rajouri can soon enjoy a better quality of life, powered by reliable and uninterrupted electricity.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/FS, Northern Railways, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India Invites Tenders (Two Packet System) for Development of GCT at Vijaypur Jammu, Railway Station, details as under:

SN	Station	Code	EMD required (in Rs.)	Tender form Cost (in Rs.)	Period of contract	Pre-Bid Meeting/Conference
1	Vijaypur Jammu	VJPJ	2,53,23,000/-	11800/-	35 years	11.12.2023

Bids will be received only on IREPS on 26.12.2023 upto 15:00 Hrs. For further details please visit on Railway's website www.ireps.gov.in
No. 2-AC/Goods-GCT-VJPJ-FZR/23 Date: 09.11.2023

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3525/23

Meet Masrat Bashir, who etched her name in KU's Cricket Team

JJ NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, NOV 11

Breaking gender stereotypes, Masrat Bashir, a 20-year-old B.A student from Malangam village in North Kashmir's Bandipora district, has etched her name in the Women's cricket team of Kashmir University after qualifying trials conducted by the Varsity.

Masrat stands out as the lone player from Hassan Khoyhania Degree College Bandipora among the ten women cricket team players who underwent trials. Belonging from the Malangam village of Bandipora district some eight km's away

from district headquarters the village where mostly the Gujjar tribe resides.

Acknowledging the challenges faced by girls in rural areas, she expressed gratitude to her college authorities and her father for their unwavering support.

Speaking with the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Masrat said that the college authorities have supported her a lot in achieving a spot in women cricket of Kashmir university. Her aspirations extend beyond university accolades, aiming to don the jersey of team India in the future.

"People said what they want, whom you control if

someone has to achieve big hard work, commitment and dedication is the key," she said.

She emphasized the role of hard work and commitment in achieving success in any field. Her fellow teammate, Iqra, while congratulating Master's performance, attributed it to relentless dedication.

She also highlighted the transformative power of sports, particularly for girls, as a deterrent against the looming menace of drug addiction.

The women's cricket team of GDC Bandipora, under Masrat's leadership, has already made a mark in the

inter-college women's tournament conducted by Kashmir University, securing a spot in the semi-finals.

Her journey exemplifies the triumph of determination and the breaking down of barriers, paving the way for more aspiring talents in the realm of women's cricket.

In a message to girls, Masrat stressed the importance of staying connected to sports for both physical and mental well-being.

Meanwhile Dr Towseef, the Head of the Physical Education Department, commended Master's achievement, emphasizing the college's commitment to fostering sports talent. KNO

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

Weather to remain dry...

accumulation of snowfall. Snow clearance operations on other far-flung routes are in progress, they said,

The minimum temperature recorded at Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, on Saturday at 4.2 degrees Celsius and it also experienced 9.2mm of rainfall till 0830 hours today, Qazigund 3.6 degrees Celsius and experienced 31.4mm rainfall, Pahalgam 2.2 degree Celsius and it also experienced 7.2mm rainfall, Kupwara 4.2 and it experienced 29.8mm rainfall, Kokernag 6.2 degree Celsius and it also experienced 5.8mm rainfall and Gulmarg recorded a low of -1.5 and it also received 22.2mm of rainfall, the MeT office said.

DGP Swain to meet...

those who had approached field police units and yet their grievances remain unresolved," the statement said.

Encounter erupts...

Initially, there was a brief exchange of firing between the terrorists and security forces after which the cordon was tightened and search intensified, the police said. No casualties have been reported so far, they added.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp...

Commissioners were asked to share the finalized route plans with the concerned District Superintendents for making fool-proof security arrangements. They were also instructed to set up district control rooms to monitor all events and provide assistance as needed.

As part of the Yatra initiative, the progress will be continuously monitored through a real-time IT portal and a mobile-responsive platform. The portal will capture information such as the details of the staff who have been deputed, the geo-coordinates of the events, a calendar of events, and the route map. Additionally, the mobile platform will be used to monitor public participation and feedback. Dr. Mehta directed the district administrations to ensure that the deputed personnel receive proper training and orientation to make the most of this opportunity and to effectively saturate all individual-benefit schemes.

The Yatra aims to reaffirm commitment for a developed India by 2047, besides reach out to the vulnerable populations to saturate various Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Some of such schemes are Ayushman Bharat, PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, PM Ujjawala Yojana, PM Kisan Saman, Jal Jeevan Mission, Jan Dhan Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, Kisan Credit Card, PM Pranam, PM Poshan Abhiyan, among others.

It was informed that the Government of India is providing 107 mobile IEC vans to cover 4291 Panchayats of Jammu and Kashmir in 20 days. The Yatra will also pass through 78 towns where the focus areas will be PM SvaNidhi, PM Vishwakarma, PM Mudra Yojana, PM e-Seva, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), RCS: UDAN, Vande Bharat Trains etc.

In recent times, J&K has been amongst the frontrunners, with Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav being the most recent one, where it was adjudged best performing State & UT on 31st October. The Chief Secretary emphasized on maintaining the same momentum in development process and expressed hope that J&K shall again be amongst best performers.

Three foreign tourists...

This was the second major fire incident involving houseboats that are anchored on the Dal and the Nigeen lakes. In April 2022, seven houseboats were gutted in a devastating fire on Nigeen Lake, mostly popular among foreign tourists, on the outskirts of the city. However, no one was hurt in the incident.

Srinagar Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Aijaz and senior tourism department officials visited the scene of the blaze on the Dal Lake and assured all possible help in rebuilding the damaged houseboats, the officials said.

The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) also expressed its grief over the fire incident and said, "It is indeed a great loss to the heritage houseboat population." Javid Ahmad Tenga, the KCCI president, in a statement urged the Lt Governor-led Jammu and Kashmir administration to assess the losses and extend the necessary moral and monetary compensation to the victims on a war footing to ensure their rehabilitation.

It also demanded quick permission for the reconstruction of the gutted houseboats and for ensuring supply of the required quantity of timber at the earliest.

Kishtwar to soon emerge...

The minister said at the same time, the Ratle project with a capacity of 850 MW has been revived as a joint venture between the Centre and the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

In addition, the existing Dulhasti power station has an installed capacity of 390 MW, while the Dulhasti II hydroelectric project will have a capacity of 260 MW, he said.

Singh said these projects shall not only augment the power supply position therefore making up for the shortage of power supply in Jammu and Kashmir, but the huge investment for setting up these projects is also a boost for direct as well as indirect opportunities for the locals.

For six long decades, he said the successive governments at the Centre and the state had ignored the Kishtwar region because of their "vote bank politics". "It was only after Modi took over that he changed the work culture and ensured that all neglected regions would be given their due attention and priority so that they may also rise to the same level... Kishtwar is going to emerge as north India's major power hub after completion of the ongoing projects," Singh said.

He added that for several years, people in Kishtwar were agitating and demanding a degree college for Paddar but the Congress and National Conference governments deliberately ignored the demand.

"It was only after Modi took over in 2014 that a degree college was sanctioned for Paddar under the Centre's RUSA (Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan) scheme," he said.

Citing another example, the minister said before 2014, road travel to Kishtwar was cumbersome and even during minor landslides, the Doda-Kishtwar road used to get blocked.

"Today, the road travel time from Jammu to Kishtwar has reduced from over seven hours in 2014 to less than five hours now. Similarly, during these nine years, Kishtwar has come up on the aviation map of India and has been sanctioned an airport under Centre's UDAN scheme, which nobody had ever imagined," he said.

The minister added that three new national highways including Khilani-Sudmahadev highway, a series of degree colleges, mobile towers on the Machail Yatra route and in other remote areas have also come up during Modi's tenure.

As for Machail, Singh said mobile towers have been set up, multiple toilet complexes constructed and solar plants installed for regular power supply, and all this happened only after 2014.

"Not only this, the motorable road to Machail is under fast track construction and the day is not far when Kisthwar to Machail travel would be just about one-and-a-half to two hours," he said.

Meanwhile, the multi-speciality medical camp at Gulabgarh was attended by nearly 2,000 patients.

All the villagers registered for the camp were ushered to general OPD, where medical officers and specialists elicited the clinical details and advised investigations, where required, an official spokesman said.

Singh thanked the Army and the team led by Major General Shivendra Singh for providing the much-needed medical facilities to this remote hilly rural area.

NIA Files supplementary...

Amritpal and Amrik deported from the Philippines, the spokesperson said.

"The charge-sheeted accused persons played a pivotal role, at the behest of Arsh Dala, in a larger conspiracy, primarily focused on raising funds for the proscribed KTF," the spokesperson said.

The official said Arshdeep and his arrested accomplice Manpreet arranged the recruitment of potential members, forming terrorist gangs in Punjab, and carrying out targeted killings and firings at the residences of potential victims, coercing them into complying with their extortion demands.

"Investigations have also revealed that extortion funds were being systematically channelled to various foreign countries through both banking and non-banking channels. These illicit financial transactions were aimed at fuelling terrorist activities in India," the spokesperson said.

The agency said investigations have further revealed that KTF operatives based abroad were involved in regular recruitment and handling of their terror syndicate associates.

"They were also involved in smuggling of arms, ammunition, and explosives from across the border through drones etc. These terror hardware supplies were then used for carrying out terrorist activities on Indian soil," the spokesperson said. (Agencies)

JERC comes up with regulations for power procurement process

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 11

The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for J&K and Ladakh Union Territories has come up with guidelines for load forecasts, resources plans, and power procurement process.

In a notification, a copy of which is in possession of news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the JERC announced that these Regulations shall apply to Jammu and Kashmir Power Corporation Ltd (JKPCL) and all the distribution licensees in the territory of the UT of Jammu & Kashmir and the UT of Ladakh.

These guidelines would all inter/intra state purchases of power from conventional and renewable sources made or

proposed to be made by JKPCL or by any distribution licensees.

As per guidelines, the distribution licensee along with JKPCL shall prepare the power procurement plan for a period of five years with due regard to the requirement of electricity in its area of supply.

"The plan may include long-term, medium term, and short-term sources of power purchase, as per demand-supply position, in accordance with these Regulations," reads the notification.

The JERC announced that the power procurement plan presents a framework for long-term forecasting of power demand, energy require-

ment, and supply positions and the need for the development of Long/medium/short term

power purchase agreements/arrangements with state-owned old as well as new generation sources, central sector plants, independent power producers (IPP), captive power plants, power trading companies, power market or any other source.

According to the notification, the distribution licensee in consultation with JKPCL for the multi-year control period shall submit the power procurement plan along with necessary supporting documents for approval as a part of the business plan.

"While examining the plan the Commission may call for such additional information and data as it may deem necessary for reviewing the power procurement plan and the Distribution Licensee /JKPCL shall furnish such

information, as and when required by the Commission and during technical validation, the licensee shall demonstrate the power procurement forecast methodology," the notification states.

About the demand and energy forecast, the JERC said the assessment shall be based on trends and statistical analysis of historical data, future projections, and forecasted results of the implementation of business plans.

"The distribution licensees along with JKPCL shall carry out technology/fuel-wise categorization of existing generation capacity and any pipeline capacity which has been planned to be added to get an optimal energy mix to meet the rise in energy demand," the notification states. KNO

9,000 foreigners among 14 lakh tourists date with famous ski resort of Gulmarg in 10 months

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 11

The world famous ski-resort of Gulmarg has been the first choice of domestic and foreign tourists this year as the destination has attracted almost 14 lakh tourists in the first ten months of the ensuing year. The figure includes 9,000 foreigners and almost four lakh local visitors.

Gulmarg is a town nestled in the Pir Panjal range of the Western Himalayas at an altitude of 8,690 feet above sea level. Literally translated as 'Meadow of Flowers' it is encased by glimmering snow peaked alps, verdant green pastures, colorful meadows,

deep valleys and pine covered slopes.

Gulmarg, known as Gulmarg in Kashmiri, is a town, hill station, popular tourist destination, popular skiing destination and a notified area committee in the Baramulla district

The main attraction for the visitors is the Gulmarg Gondola - Asia's largest and highest, and the world's second-largest and second highest cable car project.

Officials in the Directorate of Tourism informed the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), there was a surge in tourists since January to October with a total of 1380273 visitors including locals visiting the place. Among

them were 993456 domestic tourists, 377921 local visitors and 8896 foreign guests.

An official said that it was for the first time that 8896 foreign guests visited Gulmarg.

Tourists flocked to witness the snowfall, with adjacent places including Tangmarg, Gulmarg, Boothapathri, Kongdori Peak Affarwath Peak and Babarshi also experiencing fresh snowfall.

Sajad Ahmad, a local resident of Gulmarg, told KNO that this tourism season remained fruitful and they are hopeful that the coming months will also attract a large number of tourists as many events, cultural programs are on

cards. "The flow of tourists is much better than what it was earlier. We are thankful to the tourism department for the promotion and with time, it's getting better and better," a local hotelier said.

Welcoming the tourists, people from the tourism sector said that it was a good thing that local business was flourishing after almost three years. "These days, tourists visiting Gulmarg are enjoying it a lot," they said.

Hoteliers at Gulmarg are also upbeat. "This time all hotels are packed and the season is going on very well after several years," said Lateef Ahmed, a hotelier. KNO

BIG FEAT for J&K: 20,126 Pashmina Shawls, 9,700 carpets issued GI tags so far

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 11

Jammu and Kashmir administration has achieved a milestone by issuing Geographic Indication labels to over 20,000 Pashmina shawls and 9000 carpets so far.

Kashmir's Pashmina shawls and carpet got GI tags in the years 2021 and 2022, respectively, to fight counter-branding.

As per the data accessed by news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), till October, a total of 20,126 Pashmina Shawls have been issued GI labels.

During the same period as many as 9,700 carpets have been also GI Tag labelled.

GI tagging is a recognition granted to products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities, reputation, or characteristics that are essentially attributable to

that place of origin. This recognition not only adds value to the products but also protects the traditional methods of production and ensures that consumers are getting authentic, high-quality items.

The granting of GI tag has enhanced the exports of the handicrafts, particularly Pashmina shawls and carpets.

Data suggested that in the last four years handicrafts worth Rs 4,740 crore have been exported to various countries.

Official data revealed that handicrafts worth Rs. 1116.37 crore were exported in FY 2022-23 against Rs. 563.13 Crore in FY 2021-22.

This year in the first quarter, handicrafts worth Rs 208.21 crore were exported from Jammu and Kashmir to the rest of the world.

Official documents

accessed by the Kashmir News Observer further revealed that an export strategy is being prepared by the government to double exports in the coming five years.

"Export Strategy for Pashmina, Carpets, Paper Machie, Walnut and Sozni being prepared with an aim to double exports in 5 years. MoU Signed with NIFT for contemporary design and Packaging," it said. The official document said GI tagging has provided greater recognition and protection to the handicrafts of Jammu and Kashmir subsequently boosting the local economy.

"Jammu and Kashmir has become the first UT/ State in India to issue QR-based labels for all its crafts. This move is expected to provide greater recognition and protection to these crafts and also help in boost-

ing the local economy," it said. The document said that 12 more crafts are in the pipeline for GI tagging, including seven from Kashmir and five from Jammu.

"Jammu and Kashmir has a rich tradition of handicrafts, and the government has been taking various steps to promote and protect these crafts. As part of this effort, 10 crafts from Jammu and Kashmir have already been registered under the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. These crafts are Pashmina, Carpet, Sozni, Kashmir Walnut Wood Carving, Kashmir Papier Mache, Kani Shawl, Khatam-band, Basholi Painting, Basholi Pashmina and Chikri wood. Apart from these 10 crafts, 12 more crafts are in the pipeline for GI tagging, including seven from Kashmir and five from Jammu," it said. KNO

AAC express condolences with bereaved families

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 11

Awami Action Committee (AAC) Saturday expressed deep sorrow over the demise of the wife of Ghulam Mohiuddin Shah of Narwara, a longtime member of the organisation and a well-wisher of the Mirwaiz family.

AAC in a statement issued to the

news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) expressed condolence with Ghulam Mohiuddin Shah and other bereaved family members and made a special prayer for the elevation of the ranks in Jannah for the departed soul.

The organisation also expressed deep sorrow over the demise of Altaf Ahmed Wali, a resident of Hawal.

On the direction of AAC Chairman Mirwaize-Kashmir Dr Moulvi Muhammad Umar Farooq, a delegation of the organisation visited both bereaved families and expressed condolence and solidarity with Ghulam Mohiuddin Shah and his brother Meraj-ud-Din Shah; and with the bereaved Wali family of Hawal. The delegation prayed for Jannat-ul-

Firdous to the departed souls and forbearance to the bereaved family members.

Meanwhile, AAC on behalf of Mirwaiz Kashmir Molvi Umar Farooq expressed deep sorrow over the burning of five houseboats in Dalgate and expressed his solidarity with the houseboat owners and their families for their loss. KNO

CWC: England put up best performance, thrash Pakistan

AGENCIES KOLKATA, NOV 11

England produced their best performance of a disappointing ICC Men's Cricket World Cup campaign...

from 76 balls to help spark England in their final game of the tournament...

And, with the ball, England were right on the money right from the start...

Willey finished with figures of 3/56, becoming the 14th England men's player to reach 100 wickets in the ODI format...

A brilliant spell of swing-bowling early in the second innings saw Pakistan lose both of their openers...

Abdullah Shafique was

trapped in-front off just the second ball of the innings for a duck. And Fakhar Zaman departed two overs later...

The pair did see out the powerplay, but captain Babar's tidy innings came to an unsatisfying end when he was caught at midwick off Gus Atkinson for 38.

Any lingering hopes for Pakistan were effectively snuffed out when Moeen Ali saw Mohammad Rizwan coming, pulled back his length, and turned the ball back through the gate to clean up Pakistan's number four for 36.

Rizwan's ugly-looking dismissal was made all the worse by the batter



suffering with cramp in the follow-through from his big heave.

On a turning wicket it was Adil Rashid and Moeen who took advantage of the scoreboard pressure, with

Rashid removing Saud Shaeel for 29, bowling him around his legs, and then cleaning up Shadab Khan (4) with a peach of a googly.

The leg-spinner finished

with 2/55, while Moeen - who also had Iftikhar Ahmed caught for 3 - took 2/60 in what could also be his final ODI for England.

Willey returned to pick up his third, reaching 100

ODI wickets in his final England appearance with the dismissal of Agha Salman, who had provided some resistance for Pakistan with 51 from 45 balls.

Some late hitting limited the margin of Pakistan's loss, as Shaheen Shah Afridi (25) Mohammad Wasim (16*) and Haris Rauf (35 from 23) connected some big late shots. But it was too little too late for a Pakistan side who join England in departing the tournament at the group stage.

Earlier, England captain Jos Buttler decided to bat after winning the toss. From Pakistan's perspective, this wasn't the best of news, given the huge net run rate swing they required to snatch the fourth semi-final spot, but skipper Babar Azam added that they'd try to make the

best of the circumstances.

After overcoming an early hostile spell from Shaheen Afridi and Haris Rauf, the England openers flourished in Kolkata. They were also assisted by some wayward bowling from Rauf, who conceded three wickets in his first three overs, two of which went over the keeper's head for a four.

Once in, both the batters racked up a number of boundaries and ensured that England were going close to seven at the end of the first Powerplay.

Things slowed down once Mohammad Wasim came into operation in tandem with the tweekers, with the batters failing to find boundaries. Dawid Malan eventually fell to Iftikhar Ahmed while trying to reverse sweep the bowler.

FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2023

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

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

Table with columns: Train No., Station From, Dept. Time, Station to, Arr. Time, Frequency / Day, Period. Continuation of festival special train routes and schedules.

LIST OF FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS PASSING THROUGH NORTHERN RAILWAY NETWORK

Table with columns: Train No., Station From, Dept. Time, Station to, Arr. Time, Frequency / Day, Period. Lists trains passing through the Northern Railway network during festivals.

Position as on 11.11.2023. For any kind of information such as arrival/departure timings and stoppages enroute etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or NTEs App. Includes Northern Railway logo and contact info.

EDITORIAL

Ensure implementation of B2V commitments

The government of Jammu and Kashmir has started another phase of the Back to Village (B2V5) programme to listen to and address the genuine concerns of the masses in rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir. It has conducted an interaction with the visiting Prabhari Officers and members of the Panchayat Raj Institutions, field officers of the line departments, and common masses to assess the participation, outreach, and feedback regarding various flagship programmes of the J&K government. The moot question arises at the moment is whether the Back to Village programme has been able to yield the desired result. The answer would definitely not be satisfactory one. The main reason behind this is the execution of commitment made with the general masses during the interactions under such programmes. The authorities have definitely failed to keep a constant check on the implementation of the announcements made under the previous Back to Village Programmes. The B2V programme was devised to hold direct interaction with the people in rural areas to ensure that governance is taken at the doorsteps of the villagers. It is aimed to involve the people and Government officials in a joint effort to deliver the mission of equitable development in the rural areas of the Union Territory. During the programme, the Government servants visit each Panchayat of the Union Territory, stay there for a specific period to interact and obtain feedback from the grass-roots so as to tailor Government efforts in improving delivery of village specific services. The first edition of the programme was launched in the month of June 2019 while the Phase-II was conducted in November 2019, Phase-III in the month of October 2020 and Phase-IV in November 2022. At the inception of the programme, the government officers held an introductory and interactive session to understand the people's grievances and demands. The Phase-II focused on the devolution of powers to Panchayats and tried to understand how these Panchayats are functioning and what the grievances and demands are, while Phase-III was designed in the format for grievance redressal. During the Phase-IV the visiting officers were apprised about the commitments made during the previous Back to Village Programmes and works completed during the previous years. Now, the government has asked all the Administrative Secretaries to undertake a district outreach programme wherein they would undertake visits to districts once every week on the pre-designated days for public hearing as well as taking stock of progress of developmental works. The Bureaucrats, who till recent times remained inaccessible to the people, would furnish reports on weekly basis highlighting the steps taken for redressal of grievances brought to their notice by the public during the outreach programme for the appraisal of the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat. The need of the hour is that the higher-ups should take an on-spot assessment of the works implemented under various schemes and fix responsibility for all the lapses committed by them. The non-execution of commitments after such interactions only hurt the faith of common masses in the administrative set and it needs to be avoided at any cost.

J&K, UT Conducts Fifth Phase of B2V

ONKOLU

In Jammu and Kashmir, the 5th phase of the much publicized Back to Village Programme (B2V) begun on 7, November 2023 and it will last up to 16, November. This edition of B2V focused on saturation of self-employment schemes, progress on implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, saturation of welfare schemes including old-age pension scheme, sports, culture, progress on achievement of deliverables, availability of electricity in villages along with the host of other things.

An official spokesman said that during the 10 day programme, officers would visit their assigned Panchayat areas and undertake a review of previous and current year deliverables. Jammu and Kashmir chief Secretary A K Mehta chaired a meeting on Sunday to review the preparations for the fifth phase of the 'Back to Village' (B2V) Programme which is scheduled to start in the UT from November 7. In this regard, officers are visiting their assigned Panchayat areas and are undertaking review of previous and current year

deliverables.

They are laying the groundwork for next year's Gram Panchayat Development Programme with special focus on improving the penetration of e-services. Addressing the meeting, the chief Secretary observed that the previous edition of the B2V programme helped in collating the requirements of the villages and prioritizing works of public importance, helping the government in ensuring the last-mile delivery of various services. They also helped in the identification of beneficiaries for skill development and self-employment schemes. The CS stressed that the current edition of B2V shall focus on the saturation of self-employment and welfare schemes, implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission along with the host of other parameters for which a booklet is being circulated among the officers concerned. The entire data will be collected digitally and analyzed for consequential action at the relevant levels of the government. The spokesman said that RDD shall provide the requisite training to the officers who will be undertak-

ing this programme for the first time.

Mehta appealed to the public to participate in the B2V programme. The programme is being conducted up to 16th of November during which the Prabhari officers are visiting their respective panchayats and are staying there for a specific period and are interacting and taking feedback from the gross-roots so as to tailor government efforts in improving the delivery of village specific services. It is an initiative to take the administration to the doorsteps of the people across 4,483 panchayats to address genuine development-related and other needs of the people. 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. The Back to Village Programme is the flagship public outreach, participation and feedback programme of the UT government. During the programme, the Prabhari officers will visit their respective Panchayats and interact with the public and undertake review of previous and current deliverables, preparation

of next year Gram Panchayat Development Programme with special focus with respect to improving e-services penetration, user experience for greater accessibility and usage by citizens at large besides feedback on various notable achievements of departments recognized at the national level. This edition of B2V shall among others focus on saturation of self-employment schemes, progress on implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, saturation of welfare schemes including old-age pension schemes, sports, culture, progress on achievement of deliverables, availability of electricity in villages along with host of other parameters for which booklet is being circulated to Prabhari officers.

The entire data will be collated digitally and will be analyzed for consequential action at relevant levels of the government. The key objective of the programme is saturation of services and bridging the gap between government and people. Chief secretary Dr A K Mehta on Monday chaired a high level meeting of senior functionaries of the government of Jammu and

Kashmir to review preparations for Fifth Phase of Back to Village Programme which is J&K governments flagship public outreach programme and serves as a robust tool for participation of people in governance. The announcement in regard to the conducting of B2V5 programme was made at a high level meeting of the senior functionaries of the Jammu and Kashmir government chaired by Dr A K Mehta. Chief secretary said that the previous B2V also helped in identification of beneficiaries especially youth and women for availing skill development and self employment schemes. In collaboration with banks substantial number of unemployed youth has been provided self-employment opportunities.

The deputy commissioners shall do the phasing of B2V5 in their districts as per the operational requirements. The Back to Village Programme has come a long way and is now a component of Aspirational Panchayat programme. The Panchayat Development Index is another innovation being implemented by J&K government. The

key objective of the programme is saturation of services and bridging the gap between the government and people. He appealed for overwhelming participation of public in B2V5 programme, as it serves as a true measure of the initiatives success. Further all officers were strongly encouraged to actively participate in B2V5 activities to achieve the specific objectives set for this phase. In short the B2V5 programme is a way to connect, interact with the people by the concerned officers by going to the doorstep of the people and solve the issues and problems of the people and involve the people at the gross root level and to take feedback from the public in order to improve the facilities available to the people. It is hoped that this fifth phase of the Back to Village programme will deliver best to public by bringing administration to the door step of the people. This is real democracy in practice and these programmes should be encouraged and the general public should participate with zest and zeal in such programmes aimed at the betterment of people.

The integral role of Rehbar-e-Taleem teachers in shaping the educational landscape of J&K

NISAR HUSSAIN

Articulated by Rabin-dranath Tagore, "A teacher cannot truly teach unless he is himself learning." It means a teacher has to remain acquainted, updated, and in touch with the latest trends, techniques, methodology, pedagogical skills, etc.

The teaching profession is undoubtedly above all other professions, and it may not be wrong to call it the mother of all other professions. The way importance is attached to this profession, it would be absurd and insane to take it for granted. When a fresh teacher gets recruited, an induction training program for freshers is being conducted so that the recruitee gets acquainted with the new job and its demands. Moreover, he or she has to keep abreast of the latest syllabus in the concerned subject. After getting into this profession, the teacher undergoes different training programs from time to time, through different agencies like SCERT, DIET, and at times through NGOs like Pratham, etc. The motive of all these programs is to keep

a teacher updated with innovative trends and techniques so that he or she may efficiently deliver the content at the grassroots level through relevant techniques and make the learner capable of achieving the set competencies. Furthermore, hard spots, if any, confronted during the teaching-learning process, are also recorded and taken up for review by the experts to reach their solution.

Moreover, the Department of Education always remains on its toes to equip teaching professionals with modern pedagogical skills and spends a huge chunk of money on these trainings. The teaching professionals entered the Education department through different processes, either through academic merit or through competitive examinations depending upon the policy in vogue.

Let me quote the example of Rehbar-e-Taleem teachers who were recruited through a proper scheme depending upon their academic merit at the time of their recruitment. It means those who were recruited were the highest merit holders. No

doubt, a certain chunk of teachers among them were 10+2 (as the minimum qualification required was 10+2), but till date, they have enhanced their qualifications and are now trained graduates or trained post-graduates, and a considerable number have qualified national and state-level competitive exams like NET, SET, GATE, besides having enhanced their pedagogical skills through different trainings received from time to time throughout their service. You hardly find any case of untrained teachers among this lot at this point in time.

One more category - general line teachers - got recruited either through SSRB on an academic merit basis prior to 2009 or through competitive exams post-2009 or through promotion from Lab Assistants to GLT. And in this case, also, those with 10+2 qualifications enhanced their academic as well as professional qualifications with the passage of time. Hence asserting that a particular community of teachers is a threat to the department is in no way justified; rather, it is conversely

a threat to their self-esteem.

Rehbar-e-Taleem (ReT) teachers in Jammu and Kashmir have a significant impact on the education system of the region. In a challenging socio-political environment, these teachers serve as the backbone of the educational framework. They are instrumental in providing quality education, especially in remote and underserved areas where access to education is limited. ReT teachers bridge the educational gap by ensuring that children, including girls, have the opportunity to attend school and receive basic education.

These teachers play a vital role in fostering a positive learning environment, nurturing young minds, and instilling values of knowledge and tolerance. They contribute to curriculum implementation, help students develop essential skills, and facilitate a holistic approach to education. Moreover, ReT teachers promote community engagement by interacting with parents and local communities, raising awareness about the importance of education, and encouraging active participation in

school activities.

In conflict-affected regions like Jammu and Kashmir, ReT teachers also serve as sources of stability and hope for the students, providing them with a sense of normalcy amidst challenging circumstances. By imparting education, these teachers contribute to building a more educated and enlightened society, paving the way for a better future in the region.

Pertinent to mention is that whatever assignments are being undertaken within or outside the department, you cannot ignore that about 80 percent of Rehbar-e-Taleem teachers are involved in such assignments. Be it Master trainers, Resource Persons, BLOs, District Nodal Officers, and Zonal Nodal Officers for various programs like cultural programs, CWSN-related programs, and many other administration-related assignments, you will always find these teachers at the forefront. Moreover, the services of these teachers are utilized on a deployment basis in Higher Secondary Schools for teaching 11th and 12th classes. It is a clear indica-

tion that they have immense expertise and professional skills to perform such tasks.

Let me talk about the foundational, preparatory, and middle-standard educational institutions. These Government Institutions have got about 90 percent of Rehbar-e-Taleem teachers. For the past two decades, these schools have shown a commendable increase in enrollment, and the quality of education has also improved a lot. The considerable amount of increase in the overall result percentage in board exams is the fruit of the hard work and dedication of these Rehbar-e-Taleem teachers who literally are involved at the grassroots level. In conclusion, Rehbar-e-Taleem teachers play a significant role in the overall educational setup. Their role in uplifting the standard of education in government-run institutions cannot be overlooked. Their expertise and skills in the teaching-learning process are highly commendable.

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A curriculum will eliminate linguistic, caste and religious discrimination

VIJAY GARG

Recently, a public interest petition was filed in the Supreme Court with the aim of bringing uniformity in the field of education in the country, according to which, 'One Nation-One Education, One Nation-One Syllabus and One Nation-One Curriculum' in the entire country. Implementation is demanded. According to this, Right to Education should be changed to Right to Equal Education Act. Students across the country should study the same curriculum in their own mother tongue. Syllabus and curriculum of all subjects should be same as needed. The reasoning behind this is that all the competitive exams are conducted across the country, they are conducted through the same question paper. The same type of paper is taken at the country level

for admission and appointment in engineering, medical, NDA, civil services, banks and railways in the country. While in the country CBSE, PSEB etc. innumerable education boards are imparting education according to their respective prescribed curricula. For example, when the question papers of competitive exams are set according to the syllabus of a board, students who have received education through other boards have to prepare separately for that exam again. Have to study separate syllabus. Right to education is everyone's right. Therefore, it has been demanded in the court that it should issue an order to the central government to prepare the same syllabus and curriculum for the students across the country through NCERT, not only the syllabus but also the books of all the subjects of the mother

of the states. Prepare on the basis of the language, which also have the same price. NCERT if the price of a book produced by the company is one hundred rupees, then the same book is available in the market for five hundred to one thousand rupees. Which points to the direct exploitation of the parents. Presently the syllabus of Central Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas of the country are same all over the country. Not only this, the uniform education system is applicable in developed countries like France, America, England, Japan, Russia and Singapore. If we can spend crores of rupees from the government exchequer to send our school principals to receive training on Singapore's model of education, then we can't we implement such a uniform education pattern? In our country, no matter how

talented a child is, he has to take separate coaching to prepare for competitive exams, for which the parents have a separate burden of coaching expenses apart from schooling. The mental pressure a student goes through is different. This leads to very bad results, an example of which is the large number of suicides committed by such students at coaching hub Kota. Uniform education in the country, uniform syllabus and curriculum, hard working children will not have to turn towards such coaching centers. They will be able to prepare for these competitive exams by studying the same syllabus at home. But the coaching mafia operating in the country is a major obstacle in implementing a uniform education and a uniform syllabus, whose annual business is said to be around five lakh

crore rupees. What is taught to the students through various education boards is not completely at par with the syllabus of competitive exams. Students are forced to take refuge in coaching centers. So these coaching centers have hijacked our education system in a way. Another book publisher mafia also never wants uniform education and uniform syllabus to be implemented in the country. If the syllabus and curriculum remain the same for two-four years, then the book publisher mafia will suffer. The sales graph of their books will decrease. If such a system is implemented, their business of crores and billions will be hurt. So only for their profiteering such mafia there are obstacles in implementing uniform education and uniform syllabus in the country. Equal education means employer and worker, minister and sentry,

teacher and education minister, clerk and commissioner, children of rich and poor will be able to get the same education through the medium of the same language. Linguistic, caste, religious discrimination will be curbed to a large extent in the country. Religion-caste gaps will decrease. Children of all classes will have equal opportunities to advance. The whole country will be aware of the diversity of their country. Unity in multiplicity flourished properly will be able to Equal education in the true sense - equal syllabus only can bring true socialism in the country. Will future generations know who were the real pillars of the world's largest democracy? The blood of many martyrs like Sardar Bhagat Singh and his comrades has contributed not only to the liberation of the country. People will have the opportunity to con-

nect with their rich heritage and roots of native culture. Creating separatist thinking like 'Azadi-Azadi', 'Bharat will be your pieces - Insha Allah' in a free country. You will get rid of education. It is a relief step in this direction that the Supreme Court has asked the country's Ministry of Education, Ministry of Law, CBSE and ICSE and other education boards to file their response by November 11, 2023 regarding implementation of common education and common syllabus. If the court takes a positive step in this direction and our governments also sincerely cooperate for the good of the common people, then surely it will prove to be a revolutionary change for the education system of our country.

Vijay Garg is a Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout

Visceral fat: This is Exactly how much protein you need in every meal to burn belly flab

Visceral fat is the kind found under the skin which wraps around the stomach, liver, upper part of the intestines, and heart. If left untreated, it can result in several health conditions ranging from heart disease to cancer, from metabolic syndrome to type-2 diabetes. While diet and workouts are key to managing belly flab, experts say that proteins are the most important macronutrient which, in the right quantities could speed up the loss of visceral fat.

How much protein to eat in every meal for weight loss?

When one eats sugar or carbohydrates, insulin is released in the body by the pancreas to allow the cells to use energy and control the sugar levels in the bloodstream as well. However, when one constantly eats high-carb foods, the body keeps pumping in insulin which can result in the accumulation of sugar in the form of fat. Therefore, as a first, it is advised to avoid eating too many large meals in a day and alternatively rely on three at regular intervals.

Ideally, one should eat 25



grams of protein in a meal to reduce visceral fat. This helps support blood sugar balance and also induces satiety to control calorie intake. Some of the healthiest sources of lean protein include nuts, fish, seeds, and poultry.

Sugar also makes the body resilient to leptin – a hormone that naturally tells the body when full. High levels of insulin, triggered by excess intake of carbs and sugar, can block leptin signals in the brain. As a result, one continues to eat mindlessly.

How to burn belly fat naturally?

Besides eating 25 grams

of proteins in a meal, it is advised to increase the intake of the following foods to burn belly fat naturally:

- Olive oil
 - Green leafy vegetables
 - Berries
 - Whole grains
 - Lentils and beans
 - Cruciferous vegetables like cauliflower and broccoli
 - Complex carbs like oats
 - Apple cider vinegar
- Experts also recommend eating carbs for breakfast and lunch in limited quantities and abstaining from them for dinner. Dinner should ideally include grilled vegetables or lean meat and must be had by 7 pm.

Can women develop prostate cancer? Experts say they might, find out how

The prostate is a part of the male reproductive system located right beneath the penis and bladder. The walnut-shaped gland tends to get bigger with age and is one of the leading causes of cancer in men. However, this disease is often seen as a cause of concern in only men as women are believed to not have a prostate altogether. But in truth, trans women and some intersex people also have prostates.

Do women have a prostate?

While women do not have a prostate gland, the smaller glands on the front of the vagina known as the Skene's glands are sometimes referred to as the female prostate. Therefore, to put the mind at ease, prostate cancer is not a cause of concern in women as they do not have the actual gland. Yet, they can develop a tumour in the Skene gland and contract a disease similar to prostate cancer in men – thereby earning it the name 'female prostate cancer'.

Female prostate cancer is an extremely rare disease and mostly affects older, post-menopausal women with small tumours. If there



is something wrong with the female prostate, healthlinerecommends watching out for the following symptoms:

- Painful sexual intercourse
 - Pressure behind pubic bones
 - Abnormal menstrual cycles
 - Bleed in the urine
 - Passing the urine from the urethra
- What is prostate cancer?**
Prostate cancer is most likely to affect men aged 50 and above and the risks increase with age – the disease is mostly diagnosed in men aged 65-69. While the disease is not always life-threatening, it is important to catch the tumour before it progresses and spreads to other body parts.

For timely diagnosis and treatment, it is important to be aware of the symptoms of the disease. Although there might be no prominent signs in the early stages, some of the sneaky symptoms could appear in urine habits as an enlarged prostate can put pressure on the urethra, such as:

- Weak flow of urine
- Straining while urinating
- Prolonged dribbling after peeing
- Feeling like the bladder has not fully emptied
- Difficulty in urinating
- Need to urinate too frequently
- Waking up too often at night to urinate
- Unexplained weight loss
- Testicular pain
- Loss of appetite
- Bone and back pain

Follow These natural ways to maintain a hormonal balance in your body

Hormones are like messengers in the body, they help in different functions of the body like eating and sleeping to name a few. They give signals to the body about what to do and when to do a certain activity. Released by the endocrine system, it helps in the coordination of different functions of the body.

The body releases a certain amount of hormone that is required by the body for its functioning. However, your lifestyle and diet might affect the hormones in your body and along with that, age is another factor that plays a role. Therefore it is important that you follow a diet that is healthy.

Hormonal imbalances in the body can have serious consequences and it is important that you maintain the hormonal balance in your body. Here are some natural ways you could follow to maintain hormonal balance.

Include proteins in your meals: Proteins are useful in the production of certain hormones that play a crucial role in energy, stress, metabolism and several other aspects.

Maintain a healthy weight: Obesity could be a reason for hormonal imbalances in the body and therefore, it is important that you maintain a healthy weight. Moreover, it could also cause problems with insulin resistance in the body leading to a higher risk of diabetes.

Include fibres in your diet: Consuming higher amounts of fibres can help you remain full for longer and also improve your insulin sensitivity. When the insulin sensitivity improves, certain hormones are produced which help to keep you full for longer.

Reduce your stress: When you are stressed, your body releases cortisol which helps to manage your stress. However, when the stress becomes chronic, it can impair your hormonal mechanism which causes your cortisol levels to remain high. This in turn might increase your calorie intake which will eventually lead to obesity.

Can monkeypox cause heart injury? In a first-ever case, infected patient diagnosed with myocarditis

At first, a 31-year-old diagnosed with monkeypox developed myocarditis a week after the onset of symptoms of infection. This is the first-ever case that associates heart inflammation and damage with infectious disease. Now is considered a rare complication of the disease characterised by skin lesions, this case study appeared in the journal JACC: Case Reports.

According to the report, the patient had visited a health facility five days following the onset of monkeypox symptoms like fever, myalgia, malaise, and multiple swollen lesions on the hands, face, and genitals. A PCR swab sample from a skin lesion was taken to confirm the monkeypox diagnosis. Three days after this, the patient returned to the emergency room complaining of chest tightness radiating through his left arm. Upon examination, inflammation of the heart muscle was reported – confirmed as myocarditis.

How are myocarditis and monkeypox linked?
Earlier, monkeypox was linked with smallpox infection, a more aggressive virus.

In this study, experts used cardiac magnetic resonance (CMR) mapping, a comprehensive imaging tool that helped with myocarditis diagnosis. The case puts the spotlight on how cardiac crisis can be a complication of monkeypox infection. Although the concerned patient was discharged a week after full recovery, further research is required to establish a relationship between heart injury and monkeypox.

What is monkeypox?
Monkeypox is a viral infection transmitted to humans from animals with symptoms similar to the ones previously seen in smallpox patients. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), the infection is clinically less severe. Yet, it is a cause of concern as the infection can transmit through close contact with bodily fluids, respiratory droplets, or lesions.

What are the symptoms of monkeypox?
The incubation period of monkeypox – the time taken for the symptoms to appear after contracting the infection – is mostly between 6-13 days or 5-21 days. The key symptoms that may appear in the process are: Intense headache, Back pain, Fever, Intense lack of energy, Intense headaches, Swollen lymph nodes, Skin lesions on the face, soles of the feet, palms, and genitals, Chills, Muscle aches, Sore throat, Cough, Nasal congestion

From boosting immunity to improving skin health: Know the health benefits of carrot juice

Carrots have always been known to be beneficial for the eyes but it just doesn't end there. The vitamins, minerals and antioxidants present in the vegetable are beneficial for other parts of the body as well.

They are low on carbs and fats and you could include them in your regular diet as well. It is high in vitamins A, C and K; all of which are known to be extremely beneficial for the skin. The fruit also has carotenoid pigments called lutein and zeaxanthin which help to fight the free radical damage in the body. Like the vegetable, its juice is also beneficial for the body. Here, take a look at the health benefits of carrot juice.

It boosts your immunity: Vitamins A and C present in the juice can help to prevent free radical damage in the body. It also has Vitamin B6 present in it which is beneficial for the body's immunity.

It can help with blood sugar: Drinking carrot juice helps to improve blood sugar levels and it is also good for the gut bacteria that are associated with diabetes. The juice also has a low glycemic index which makes this a healthy choice.

It is good for skin health: Carrot juice has vitamin C present in it which helps to



improve collagen production in the skin and enables skin elasticity. Also, the antioxidants present in the skin helps to protect the skin from damage.

It might be good for your heart: The vegetable juice has potassium present in

it which helps to dilate the blood vessels and that helps to lower blood pressure levels and also prevent the chances of stroke. Along with that, the antioxidants present in it helps to reduce the oxidation of lipids.

Buckle up for your safety: Why is it important to wear seat belts in a moving vehicle?

On Sunday, former Tata Son's Chairman Cyrus Mistry lost his life in a horrific car crash, which the reports suggested was a result of him not wearing a seat belt.

This incident has brought the often repeated and reiterated suggestions by the traffic police to wear seat belts while driving as a safety measure.

According to the WHO, every year approximately 1.3 million people die as a result of road accidents with the top reason being over speeding which increases the fatality rate by over 85 per cent for the occupants.

Car occupants ignore the road rules

While speeding has been a major cause of concern regardless of the time of the day, the construction of new and better highways has led to fast and risky maneuvering by cars. It has always been blamed on fewer cops and empty roads that enable motorists to do away easily with traffic rules.

However, officials say that it is also the carelessness of the passengers who disregard their safety by not wearing seat belts, which are available in all car variants today.



According to Central Motor Vehicle Rules, wearing a seat belt is mandatory for a passenger sitting in the rear seat. According to Rule 138 (3), persons "seated in the front seat or the persons occupying front facing rear seats" must wear seat belts while the vehicle is in motion. A provision fine of 1,000 has been provided for those violating the seat belt rule.

Celebrities endorse safety belts

Industrialist Anand Mahindra, in the aftermath of Mistry's demise, has taken a pledge to ensure "to always wear my seat belt even when in the rear seat of the car. We all owe it to our families."

Use of Seat Belt Safety Restraint Saves Lives Here are the top reasons why you wear seat belts

Passengers can become projectiles: Many times, those not wearing seat belts, especially those in the back, can become projectiles during an accident. Unbuckled passengers can be easily ejected through the windows in case of a crash, resulting in their death.

Helps open airbags: In most cars, the airbags do not open till the passengers wear seat belts, and that can be a major cause of fatalities.

Keeps you from receiving a fine: If you are caught not wearing a seat belt, you could be issued a traffic ticket, be required to pay a fine, and end up with a violation on your driving record.

Prevents auto insurance from declining to cover damages: Most of the insurance policies in accident coverage have a clause that states you will not be reimbursed for any damages, both personal injury, and vehicle damage if you were not wearing your seat belt.

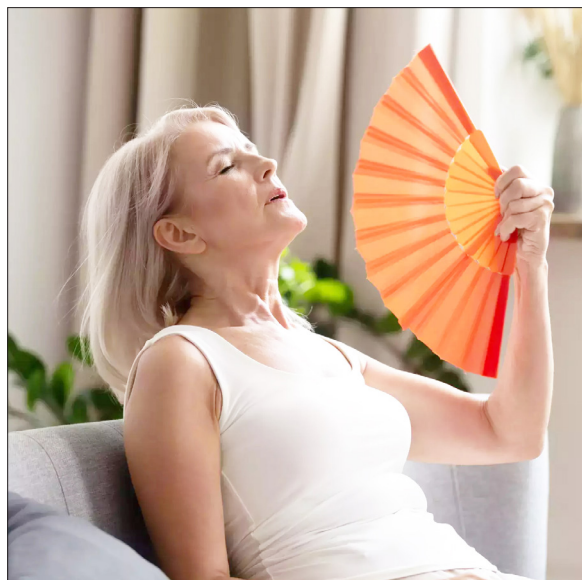
Are hot flashes giving you nightmares? Temperature-regulating outfits could be key to managing menopause symptoms

NASA has revealed that the London-based company Fifty One Apparel is using its technology to help women to stay comfortable during menopause through a range of temperature-regulating clothing.

Named after the average age when women begin to experience menopause, the company's clothing maintains the temperature-regulating properties using the Outlast technology once funded by NASA but retains the look and feel of high-end fabrics.

"I did some initial research to find out what was on the market, and there was absolutely nothing apart from nightwear," Nicholson said in a statement.

While exploring high tech fabrics for regulating temperatures, Fifty One's owner Louise Nicholson found that these products tended to be cooling fabrics, which ignored the cold flashes that often follow hot flashes during menopause, said the



US-based space agency. Her search soon brought her to a technology called Outlast.

In the 1980s, NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston was looking for ways to improve insulation in spacesuit gloves. The center

entered into a Small Business Innovation Research contract with the Triangle Research and Development Corporation to explore the use of phase-change materials, which maintain a steady temperature as they change phase from solid to liquid or

vice-versa.

Triangle was able to demonstrate the effectiveness of a temperature-stabilizing fabric insert for a spacesuit glove. While the technology never went into space, Gateway Technologies (now called Outlast Technologies) acquired exclusive patent rights from Triangle and soon began marketing it under the name Outlast.

Outlast has been used in numerous products, but Nicholson noticed that there was not any brands using this technology specifically for menopause.

The initial products, a line of shirts in four styles, were first sold to consumers in London and later the company expanded to e-commerce, selling tops, bottoms, and nightwear globally. It is further expanding its range of Outlast-based products, including accessories like scarves, facemasks, and turbans.

As of 2021, the US is Fifty One's second-largest market after the UK.

National Nutrition Week: Experts names the Best eating habit crucial for arthritis patients

We are nearing the closing of this year's National Nutrition Week – but rest assured that would not downgrade the importance of following a healthy diet and eating well. Eating well and eating clean holds paramount importance for everyone – be it a healthy individual or one struggling with a chronic or acute condition. Amidst this, we discovered a healthy eating habit that could be beneficial for arthritis patients – people who struggle with joint pain and stiffness.

Arthritis is a chronic condition characterised by tenderness and swelling of one or more joints. Mainly, it is characterised by joint stiffness and pain which can worsen with age. While doctors recommend moderate-intensity workouts for the management of the condition, diet could also help alleviate the discomfort and manage the condition better with the nutrients on offer. Amidst this, experts named a crucial eating habit that could be life-saving for arthritis patients – it is



eating green vegetables daily.

Eating plenty of green vegetables like asparagus, broccoli, spinach, kale, and Brussels sprouts is a must for arthritis patients as they are rich in phytochemicals and antioxidants that fight inflammation and support joint health.

According to The Arthritis Foundation, green leafy vegetables reduce oxidative stress on the body by fighting free radicals and inflam-

mation. These veggies are also rich in vitamins K, C, and A which make them essential for health.

Additionally, a study published in the International Journal of Preventive Medicine suggested that antioxidants can also help improve disease-fighting abilities essential for rheumatoid arthritis patients. In another study in the American Journal of Lifestyle Medicine, it was stated that dark leafy greens contain oodles

of beta-carotene, a pigment that lowers C-reactive protein levels which in excess can cause acute inflammation.

Researchers also recommend a LIFE (Low-Inflammatory Foods Everyday) diet for arthritis patients which includes:

- Kale
- Spinach
- Bok choy
- Collard greens
- Swiss chard

GDC Thannamandi organizes International Seminar on Indigenous Medicinal Plants

J1 NEWS SERVICE

THANNAMANDI, NOV 11

The Department of Botany in collaboration with Department of Zoology of Govt Degree College Thannamandi organized International Seminar on Indigenous Medicinal Plants with special reference to Ayurveda to mark the National Ayurveda day here on Friday.

In order to promote the Ayurveda, one day International Seminar (hybrid mode) on the topic Indigenous Medicinal Plants with special reference to Ayurveda, organized under the patronage of College Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Farooq Ahmed organized in which OP Sharma Vidyarthi, IFS, Former, PCCF/ Director, Ecology, Environment and Remote Sensing, J&K Govt was Chief Guest. Dr. Ashaq Malik, Head, Department of Botany was convenor whereas Dr. Shiraz



Ahmed, Head, Department of Zoology, organizing secretary of the Seminar.

In his welcome address, Prof. Farooq Ahmed, highlighted the importance of Ayurveda with special reference to herbal medicinal plants and the scientific recognition of oldest method of home remedies among the communities across nation. He thanked Shri Alok Kumar (IRS), Principal Secretary to Government Higher Education Department, J&K, India and Dr. Yasmeen Ashai, Director Colleges,

Higher Education Department, J&K chief Patron and patron of the conference respectively for guidance, encouragement and support and appreciated the entire organizing team to hold international seminar successfully on this important topic.

The daylong seminar spread over four sessions including two plenary sessions had 8 resource persons from different universities/organizations in India, Europe and Africa who spoke on various topics of national and international importance

pertaining to Ayurveda, indigenous knowledge and their relevance to modern day livelihood and holistic health throughout the world. They also emphasized upon Indo-African ties for better sharing of indigenous wisdom and promote Ayurveda.

The First Technical session was Chaired by Prof. Mammo Muchie, Consultant on UNESCO's Higher Education, Research and Knowledge Forum] Research Professor, Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa in which Dr. Christian Bar-

tolf, President, Gandhi Information Centre, Berlin, Germany; Dr. Gopesh Kumar Sharma, Research Officer (Ayurveda), Regional Ayurveda Research Institute, Jammu, J&K (Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India); Dr. Sumeet Gairola, Associate Professor, Dept. of Botany, HNB Garhwal University, Srinagar, Uttarakhand, [Former Principal Scientist, CSIR-IIIM Jammu] and Dr. Mahroof Khan, Head, Department of Botany, Govt Degree College Mendhar were resource persons.

Prof. Altaf Hussain, Prof. Naveen Sharma and Dr. Shokat Ali were Rapporteurs of this session.

OP Sharma Vidyarthi chaired the second plenary session in which Prof. Jamilu Ya'u, Head, Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria; Dr. Devarajan Thangadurai, Professor and Head, Department of Botany, Karnataka University, Dharwad, Karnataka; Dr. M. Israil Ansari Professor, Department of Botany, University of Lucknow, Lucknow, and Prof.

Mammo Muchie, South Africa were resource persons. Prof. Fatima Parveen, Dr. Ather Aziz Raina, Prof. Romy Dar were rapporteurs of this session. Besides this the students of College including Mehtab Khan also displaced the locally available plants during the conference. Dr. Akum, Dr. Mufane from South Africa and Dr. Ather Aziz Raina also gave important insights during the online proceedings.

Earlier, Dr. Ashaq Malik introduced the audience about the programme and

moderated the online sessions whereas Dr. Shiraz, organizing secretary and Dr. Khalid Rayaz, Head, Geography Department and Staff secretary conducted the offline proceeding of programme. Prof. Fatima Parveen from Department of Chemistry presented the formal vote of thanks whereas Prof. Supriya Gupta, Head, Computer Science provided all the technical support. The other members of organizing committee who played pivotal role in the organization of this seminar include Dr. Naseem Ahmed, Dr. Nahin-un-Nisa, Dr. Asif Ajez Lone, Dr. Mudasar Majeed, Dr. Nisar Ahmed Bhat, Dr. Mohd Javaid, Mr. Zahid A. Lone, Dr. Anzar Hussain Shah, Dr. Shabir A. Bhat, Dr. Mohd Arshad, Dr. Wahid Ahmed, Dr. Sarfaraz Hussain, Dr. Nusrat Farooq, Dr. Sajjad Ahmed Bhat, Mr. Sheikh Zubair Ul Islam and Dr. Nazarat H. Bhatti.

Manjit Singh demands restoration of democratic system in J&K

J1 NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, NOV 11

Demanding restoration of democratic system in J&K, the Apni Party Provincial President Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh has impressed upon the party leaders and workers to intensify their door-to-door campaign to spread the developmental agenda of the Party.

A meeting of Apni Party's ward members was chaired by Manjit Singh at Party Office in Gandhi Nagar to discuss the political scenario and emerging situation especially after the delay in holding Panchayati Raj, Urban Local Body, and Assembly Elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting had also held threadbare discussion over various issues referring to the development including poor implementation of Smart City Project, drainage/sewage, traffic jam, con-



gested roads in old city, scattered garbage and blockage in the drainage system etc.

In his address, the Former Minister said that it is unfortunate to note about the unnecessary delay in restoring the democratic system in Jammu and Kashmir even as the situation is conducive, and the people have repeatedly raised their voice for the holding of Assembly Elections.

"There is a feeling among the people that they have remained unrep-

resented in the present form of Govt, and therefore, the officials are not listening to the people," he said, citing example of the poorly implemented Smart City Project by utilizing crores of rupees (public money) to develop / face lift Jammu City to improve basic amenities etc.

However, the Smart City Project works have caused great inconvenience to the people and the roads are being dug for one reason or another wasting the public money without any

kind of accountability," he said.

He further questioned the authorities for their silence over the protection of historic sites in Jammu's historic places like Mubarak Mandi, three/ four entry points at Gumat Bazaar area etc.

"It appears authorities plan developments from the comfort of their offices," he said and added that the Old Railway Station at Bikram Chowk and it remains still missing and waiting for restoration. The old Railway

Station Building is not visible, and the site remains completely encroached or taken over by a new concrete building which has erased Jammu and Kashmir's history.

He further appealed to the Govt to seriously work for the development, preservation and protection of historic sites in Jammu.

He said that public issues are increasing, and the authorities remain unconcerned because of the absence of an elected Govt in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The holding of Assembly Elections in J&K is necessary to restore confidence with the restoration of statehood to the erstwhile state," he added. Earlier, he issued certain directions to the Party leaders and workers to hold regular interaction with the people in each ward in Jammu and listen to their grievances for early redressal of their issues.

SGWF celebrates Green Deepawali with Grand Plantation Drive in Sunderbani



J1 NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, NOV 11

Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation, a leading environmental organization, conducted a successful plantation drive to celebrate Green Deepawali in the picturesque town of Sunderbani. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from notable figures, including Inderjeet Ji Mahraj, Nain

Chand Sharma, Dogar Nath (Office Secretary), and several dedicated volunteers participated in the drive here at Shiv temple Sunder bani.

Dr. Sonia Verma, the esteemed Founder President of the foundation, took the opportunity to address and inspire the participants. She highlighted the significance of embracing eco-friendly practices during the fes-

tive season and encouraged everyone to contribute to a greener future.

The plantation drive aimed at not only symbolizing the essence of Green Deepawali but also fostering a sense of environmental responsibility within the community. The foundation extends gratitude to all the participants and volunteers who made this event a success.

Viksit Bharat Yatra is a National Movement For the People, Of the People : DC Srinagar

J1 NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 11

In order to ensure smooth and successful conduct of the proceedings under forthcoming "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra", a brainstorming session cum meeting was held under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Athar Amir Khan was present on the occasion.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner held a detailed discussion with the all District / Sectoral Officers present in the meeting and illustrated the various aspects of the Yatra, which mainly aims at ensuring the effective execution of the Central Government welfare schemes in the District.

The Yatra will commence from 20th November 2023 in all Panchayats and Rural areas of the District.

The DC highlighted the fundamental objectives of the Viksit Bharat Yatra, encompassing critical aspects such as reaching out to the vulnerable sections eligible under vari-

ous welfare schemes not yet covered, 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 held an extensive discussion on various schemes targeting awareness in both rural and urban areas. He stressed the Officers to assess the current status of scheme saturation and outlined strategies to achieve optimal coverage during the Yatra. Stressing on the need for collaborative efforts, the Deputy Commissioner directed all stakeholders to work in synergy, aiming for the smooth implementation of the initiative for achieving saturation under all public welfare schemes.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner laid focus on key schemes, including the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, Pradhan Mantri



Kissan Saman Nidhi, Kisan Credit Card (KCC), Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Urban), Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma, Jal Jeevan Mission, Pradhan Mantri POSHAN Abhiyaan, Khelo India among others.

During the meeting, deployment and route plan for a Mobile Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Van, designed to traverse all Panchayats and Urban areas with an aim to achieve saturation of all schemes and enhance awareness among the populace was discussed. As part of the Yatra, a Digital Van will traverse all Panchayats and Municipal Wards of the District, delivering the Prime Minister's message and hosting promotional events.

In this regard, a comprehensive action plan has been prepared by the District Administration to cover all Blocks and Urban

areas, with Nodal Officers assigned specific duties for a smooth yatra passage.

During the Yatra, people will also be able to share their experiences "Meri Kahani Meri Zubani" and participate in on spot Quiz Competition.

The Commissioner, SMC also underlined the various aspects of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra initiative and stressed on the need for effective projection of the same to maximise their impact on ground.

Earlier, Chief Planning Officer, Srinagar Mohammad Yaseen Lone briefed the meeting about the key objectives of "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra" initiative through a detailed Power-Point presentation.

Besides, Additional District Development Commissioner, Srinagar, Zahoor Ahmad Mir and Additional Deputy Commissioner, Syed Shabir Ahmad, the meeting was attended by Superintending Engineers of PDD & R&B, District Statistical & Evaluation Officer, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Education Officer, Secretary SMC, LDM, all District/ Zonal Officers and other concerned.

Khatana accuses Congress of thriving on communal politics

J1 NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, NOV 11

Pokhran (Rajasthan), Nov 11: In a series of impassioned addresses during various meetings in support of BJP Candidate Mahant Pratappuri ji Maharaj in the Pokhran assembly constituency, BJP MP Rajya Sabha (Nominated) Er. Gulam Ali Khatana accused Congress of thriving on communal politics and denying minorities the benefits of development and growth. He said that BJP Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi provided equal opportunities to the minorities and even special schemes for their economic growth and development.

MP Khatana emphasized the contrast between the Congress and the BJP in their approach to minor-



ity development, claiming that the Congress had resorted to divisive tactics that instilled fear among minorities. He alleged that the Congress party, during its tenure, had neglected the minorities' rights to development and growth.

MP Khatana praised the BJP-led government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi

for providing minorities with equal opportunities and introducing special schemes tailored to their development and growth. He highlighted the inclusive policies of the BJP, asserting that the party was committed to fostering an environment where every citizen, irrespective of their background, could thrive.

MP Khatana pledged the BJP's commitment to transforming Rajasthan's developmental and economic landscape if the party is given the mandate in the upcoming elections. He outlined the party's vision for inclusive growth, job creation, and infrastructure development that would benefit all sections of society, including minorities.

The MP called upon the voters in the Pokhran assembly constituency to support BJP Candidate Mahant Pratappuri ji Maharaj and expressed confidence that, under the BJP's leadership, Rajasthan would experience a positive and transformative change.

Khatana said that BJP is determined to the overall development and upliftment of all communities in the state.

Apni Party leaders condole family members of ex-hockey player in Jammu who was killed in Portugal

J1 NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, NOV 11

Apni Party leaders today visited the residence of a former national level hockey player namely Gurpreet Singh here at Camp Gole Gujral in Jammu to condole his family members and relatives. Gur-

preet Singh was shot dead under mysterious circumstances in Portugal.

The Apni Party leaders including Provincial President Apni Party Transport Union, Tirath Singh, Provincial General Secretary Transport Union, Yash Choudhary, District President Minority Wing, Vice

President Minority Wing, Gurpreet Singh Awal, and others met the bereaved family members, and conveyed their condolences to the family members.

The inconsolable family and relatives demanded that the Govt of India should bring back the body of their son Gurpreet Singh

from Portugal to Jammu so that they can perform his last rites as per the rituals.

The Apni Party leaders expressed their sympathies with the bereaved family members and assured that they would highlight their demand so that the body of their son could be brought to Jammu.

M.K Ajatshatru Singh, Kuwarani Dr. Ritu Singh address press on UK Visit, share insights from House of Commons event

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

M.K Ajatshatru Singh, a senior BJP leader, former minister, and the grandson of the last Dogra ruler Maharaja Hari Singh, accompanied by Kuwarani Dr. Ritu Singh, addressed a press conference today in Jammu following their successful return from the UK. They shared insights from their participation in the House of Commons event in the UK Parliament and discussed the current sentiments of the people of Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (POJK). Speaking to media persons, M.K Ajatshatru Singh spoke about their participation in a House of Commons event commemorating the 76th anniversary of Jammu & Kashmir's accession to India. He highlighted the contributions of the Dogra dynas-

ty to the princely state and the role of Maharaja Hari Singh in signing the Instrument of Accession. He also mentioned that he was surprised to find that Maharaja's documents had been properly archived in the UK and that these documents clarify the whole mist on the fake issue created by Pakistan.

Ajatshatru Singh also mentioned that people from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (POJK) are planning to organize a conference in Geneva in March to highlight their plight. He said that POJK delegates he met in London were mostly "living on foreign soil" and were hopeful of a positive outcome of the upcoming conference. They also admonished Pakistan for illegally occupying their region.

He mentioned that the POJK delegates apprised



him that the regime of Maharaja Hari Singh ji was much better before 1947. He also noted the enthusiasm of POJK residents regarding Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah's declarations to reclaim the region from Pakistan.

Interacting with media persons, Kuwarani Dr. Ritu Singh mentioned that she

had highlighted in the House of Commons about the social and cultural initiatives in Jammu & Kashmir aimed at women empowerment, inclusion, skills development, and capacity building to boost the economy.

She also mentioned that she had gifted items to dignitaries that included Basohli Pashmina, Basohli

art made by Paper Bag, and October brand promoting young entrepreneurs of Jammu.

She talked about the positive changes on the ground post abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir. She also threw light on the Jammu tourism and enhancing business opportunities for women entrepreneurs. She also spoke about the best industrial policy of Jammu and Kashmir under the visionary leadership of Lt Governor Manoj Sinha. She has also invited the Indian diaspora to come and invest in Jammu and Kashmir. She has also extended her support to help the women of POJK on humanitarian grounds. The press conference concluded with M.K Ajatshatru Singh and Kuwarani Dr. Ritu Singh extending Diwali greetings to the people of J&K.

Altaf Bukhari expresses grief over loss of lives in massive houseboats fire in Dal Lake

Urges admin to provide immediate relief, compensation to affected families

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 11

Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Saturday, expressed his profound grief over the loss of three lives in the devastating fire that destroyed at least five houseboats and six residential huts at Srinagar's Dal Lake early this morning.

In his statement, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, while expressing his sorrow over the incident, said, "My heart goes out to the families who suffered huge losses in the fire incident that erupted in the wee hours today. One

can imagine the pain and agony that the victim's families must be experiencing at this time."

Expressing his solidarity with the sufferers, he said, "In this hour of grief, I personally and the Apni Party stand in solidarity with the victims of this devastating fire incident."

Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari appealed to the LG administration to provide immediate relief and a comprehensive compensation to the sufferer families.

He said, "I appeal to the Lieutenant Governor's administration to step forward and ensure the affected families receive immediate relief, followed by a comprehensive compensation package. This support is crucial for them to reconstruct their lives

and businesses." Meanwhile, the party's provincial president, Mohammad Ashraf Mir, led a delegation comprising senior party leaders who visited the fire victims this morning.

Besides Mir, the prominent party leaders who were part of the delegation included party's district president for Srinagar Noor Mohammad Sheikh; Youth President of Srinagar and Constituency Incharge Khanyar, Mohsin Zaffar Shah; the Senior Vice President of Srinagar and Incharge of Constituency Habba-Kadal, Jeelani Hamid Kumar; the Youth Zonal President of Lalchowk, Hilal Rock, and others. The leaders met with the concerned families and extended solidarity to them.

J&K getting special attention in health sector: Arvind

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

Jammu and Kashmir BJP secretary and Reasi district prabhari, Arvind Gupta, has hailed the decision of the government to increase the number of BAMS seats from 60 to 100 and also the number of beds from 60 to 150 or even 200, based on requirement and occupancy. He said that it is one more step towards enhancing the intake of students for Ayurvedic medical seats and also further strengthening the Ayurvedic healthcare infrastructure in the UT.



special attention in healthcare and medical education sector.

Arvind Gupta said that, both, Jammu as well as Kashmir, has got separate AIIMS, new medical colleges in various districts have come up with best healthcare infrastructure, number of seats for MBBS courses have been increased. The people in Jammu and Kashmir have been issued Ayushman Gold Health cards for free medical treatment upto

rupees five lakh. These are few examples which display the commitment of the Modi government to provide better and easily accessible medical facilities.

Gupta said that in comparison to the previous governments of Congress and other parties, the present government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has got appreciation for its untiring efforts for reaching doorsteps of the poor, needy and marginalized sections with an objective of mitigating their problems and bringing changes in their lives.

He said that it is not only health sector but many other fields, where Modi government has brought revolutionary changes and put the nation and its people on the path of peace, progress, healthy and dignified living.

2-Day Waste to Wealth Eco Gallery "Eco-Giri" concluded at CUJ

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

The Department of Environmental Sciences at the Central University of Jammu (CUJ), in collaboration with Students for Development (SFD), has successfully concluded a two-day event titled "Eco-Giri." This event marked the pioneering initiative of a larger campaign focused on upcycling waste into wealth and using the proceeds for the education of underprivileged children residing near the campus.

The "Ecogiri" event took place at the Central University of Jammu and showcased a remarkable collection of items made from waste materials collected from the campus and adjoining villages, skillfully crafted by PG students of the department. The event aimed to demonstrate how waste materials can be creatively transformed into valuable resources, aligning with



the principles of sustainable living and environmental conservation.

The event attracted students, faculty, and environmental enthusiasts from the university and beyond, serving as an inspiring platform for the promotion of eco-friendly practices and community engagement. Attendees had the opportunity to witness and purchase a wide array of upcycled products, which ranged from handcrafted home decor to fashion accessories, and more. The upcycled items not only showcased the innovative potential of waste materials but also contributed to

the promotion of a circular economy and sustainable consumption.

The "Ecogiri" campaign serves a dual purpose, with the two primary objectives: Upcycling of Waste into Wealth: The campaign underscores the importance of transforming waste materials into valuable products, thereby reducing waste, conserving resources, and promoting sustainable living. The upcycled products are not only environmentally friendly but also economically viable, making them an attractive option for conscious consumers. Education for Underprivileged Children: The

proceeds generated from the sale of these upcycled products will be dedicated to the education of underprivileged children residing near the Central University of Jammu. This initiative reflects the university's commitment to social responsibility and community development. By channeling the funds into the education of disadvantaged children, the university aims to create a positive impact in the lives of those who need it most.

Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain appreciated the collaborative efforts of the Department of Environmental Sciences and Students for Development, emphasizing the importance of such initiatives in promoting environmental awareness and community welfare. The Vice-Chancellor expressed hope for the continued success of this campaign and its lasting impact on both the university and the local community.

Prof. Richa Kothari, Head of the Department of Environmental Sciences at the Central University of Jammu, expressed his enthusiasm for the "Ecogiri" event and the broader campaign, stating, "We believe that this initiative is not only an environmental responsibility but also a social one. By upcycling waste materials and supporting the education of underprivileged children, we are taking steps towards a more sustainable and equitable future."

The success of the "Ecogiri" event has set the stage for ongoing efforts to promote waste reduction, sustainable living, and community development at the Central University of Jammu. The collaboration between the Department of EVS, Central University of Jammu (CUJ) and Students for Development (SFD) underscores the power of partnerships in driving positive change.

Five-Day Ram Katha concludes Yudhvir emphasizes upon preserving temple heritage in JKUT

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

The five-day Ram Katha organized by Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President, concluded successfully today at Shri Haumam ji Mandir, Gummat, Jammu.



The Katha was performed by Pt Sunil Sharma, who threw light on the seventh incarnation of Lord Vishnu as Shri Ram and the significance of the Shri Ram Temple in Ayodhya. Hundreds of people of nearby areas attended the Katha, which was a resounding success. The Katha was marked by its spiritual fervor and its emphasis on the importance of Ram Rajya, a society based on the principles of righteousness, justice, and equality.

In his address, Yudhvir Sethi thanked Pt Sunil Sharma for delivering a spiritually uplifting Katha. He said that the Ram Katha had served to rekindle the faith of the people of Jammu and Kashmir in Lord Ram and his ideals. He said that the Katha had also inspired people to work towards the establishment of Ram Rajya in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said temples are our heritage and we must invoke some efforts to save the pristine glory of our rich heritage. "Temples are not just religious places, but also cultural and historical landmarks. They represent our rich heritage and culture. We must do everything we can to protect and preserve our temples," he added.

Sethi said that the Ram Katha was a fitting prelude to the consecration of the Shri Ram Temple in Ayodhya on January 22, 2024. He appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to participate in large numbers in the consecration ceremony.

The senior BJP leader emphasized upon maintaining communal harmony and brotherhood in the Jammu region while asserting that these are the hallmark of the City

of Temples. He added that in the current times when the anti national and anti-social elements are hell bent upon disturbing the communal fabric, it is essential for the people of Jammu not to be led away by the provocative statements of such elements and maintain communal harmony at all costs.

Among others who were present include Priya Sethi (ex minister), Vijay Gupta (president Gummat Bazar Association), Sanjay Mahey (ex corporator), Gulshan Mahajan (Ex corporator), Sardar Harvinder Singh (president Steps Traders Association, Gummat) Parveen Korni (president East Mandal), BJP leader Vipin Sharma, Chakshu Kapoor (General Secretary Mahilla Morcha, Jammu district), Anuradha sharma (president East Mandal).

Rural lives changing under "Vibrant Village" scheme: Ashwani



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

Sharing various path breaking steps of the Union Government under Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, for bringing the rural and far-flung areas at par with the Urban areas in matter of basic amenities, BJP senior leader and former MLA Ashwani Sharma, said that there is a visible change in the lives of rural people.

He was interacting with the people, during his weekly public darbar at BJP headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Ashwani Sharma, along with BJP Health & Medical Cell Convenor Puneet Mahajan, was apprised of the problems by a large number of people and various deputations who had reached party office to seek intervention of

the former MLA in getting their problems resolved. Their problems were listened patiently and taken up with the senior officials of the concerned departments for proper and early redressal.

Ashwani Sharma said that today there has been vast change in the lives of the people in villages as they too are getting the basic amenities and their areas have got a facelift. He said that the people, in the past during the rule of Congress and other parties were deprived of the basic facilities and there was a big gap between the Urban and Rural areas in various fields.

Today rural population, particularly the people in villages are getting water through tap, almost every village connected with the major towns and cities through proper road net-

work, better healthcare infrastructure has been established in Government Dispensaries, Sub-District Hospital, School have been upgraded, the farmer are getting fertilizers, pesticides on time and financial assistance under PM Kissan Samman Nidhi etc. Ashwani Sharma said that the credit for improving the socio-economic status of the village people goes to PM Narendra Modi, who is concerned and committed for the welfare of the farmers and want to see them prosper and progress. He asked the people in the public darbar to inform their near ones, neighbours, friends, relatives etc. about the pro-people, pro-poor, pro-development programmes and policies of Narendra Modi government.

M A Dar expresses shock, sorrow over gutting of houseboats at Dal Lake

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOV 11

Prominent Socio Political Activist and Sr Trade Union Leader Mohammad Altaf Dar has expressed shock and sorrow over the massive fire incident that broke out at Dal Lake destroying around several houseboats.

In a statement, Mohammad Altaf Dar said that the news of massive fire consuming several houseboats was no less than a sad and disappointed in which three tourists lost their lives in an overnight houseboat fire on Dal Lake in Srinagar. The bodies have been recovered from Dal Lake.

Altaf Dar stated that the houseboats are the heritage of Kashmir valley which is the floating real estate for the tourism sector and needs to be protected at any cost.

Mohammad Altaf Dar also called upon the district administration and the Tourism Department Kashmir to endeavour the

loss at its earliest and provide compensation and welfare measures to the affected.

Expressing sorrow over the massive loss, Moham-



mad Altaf Dar said, "It was a moment of dismal when I came to know about the massive fire incident that turned houseboats into ashes. The plight of the house boat owners is no less than catastrophe and we all collectively need to help them to preserve the heritage of Kashmir."

Mr. Dar hoped that the administration would do one's utmost help to the houseboat owners in helping them to pull through the unfortunate event. My heart goes out to the family members of the affected" he said.

Modi govt did works neglected by previous governments: Ashok Koul

JJ NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, NOV 11

Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Org.), Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir said that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi led government did all those works in these 9 years which were never done by the previous governments.

Addressing the local residents, Ashok Koul said that the development and the prosperity of the region are directly linked to the decision taken by the people themselves. He attributed the unprecedented development of the remote areas in the hilly region to the decision of the people to choose Modi ji as the PM in 2014 and in 2019. He said that the Modi government is committed for the welfare of people in every single area that was left neglected earlier.

Koul added that the massive public response to the BJP programmes in every district, Mandal and booth, itself speaks that the people have made up their mind to stand by BJP and vote overwhelmingly in its favour in general elections. He said that a large number of mega development projects related to road, rail, air connectivity, healthcare, education, social welfare schemes for every section of the society, has proved that Narendra Modi did what was never done by



the previous governments. He asked the party cadre to remain in regular touch with the masses and keep reminding them about the pro nation, pro development programmes and policies of Narendra Modi government.

Ashok Koul addressed 3-meetings organized in connection with the Booth Jan Samvad programme organized at BJP Office Pooch, Panchayat Chandak, War no. 9 & 10 Surankote in District Poonch.

Poonch District President Rajesh Raina, Dis-

trict Prabhari Rajinder Gupta, Spokesperson Sunil Gupta, senior leader Shehzad Khan, Mandal President Mehtab Bukhari and other party leaders also accompanied Ashok Koul in these programmes.

Similar programme was held in Booth 27, 28 & 29, Ward no 9, Karan Nagar, Amphalla Mandal, Jammu District.

Another programme was held in Booths 114 & 115, Panchayat Lorkote in Mandal Doongi under Assembly Constituency Rajouri in District Rajouri.

BSP J&K President SR Majotra dies of accident, Mayawati, Karimpuri condoles death

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

An emergent meeting of BSP was called by Rajesh Gupta General Secretary BSP J&K UT on Saturday to condoled the death of party's J&K UT unit President S R Majotra.

In a statement on Saturday, Rajesh Gupta said S R Majotra died in a mishap he accidentally fall from his Kathua residence roof top when he was climbing the stairs. He was 72 and survived by his wife and three sons.

Paying tributes to S R Majotra Gupta expressed his deep shock and said it's unbelievable he was very active and dedicated towards his party. His untimely death has created a vacuum in the party which will never be fulfilled. Gupta prayed to almighty to give strength to the family members of Majotra and give space to noble soul in heaven.

Meanwhile BSP Supremo Ms Mayawati and J&K Coordinator Dr Avtar Singh Karimpuri former RS Member also conveyed their condolences to the bereaved family of SR Majotra telephonically.

Others those pay tributes to S R Majotra were Badri Nath, Charanjeet Chagotra, Adv. Shashi Bhushan, Gaurav Kumar, Raja Singh, Darshan Rana, Mrs. Nisha Angral, Kaushal Targotra, Subedar Ramesh Chander, Ranjeet Kumar, Tilak Raj Bhagat, Kartar Chand and others.

Non-Local labourer case; SIU conducts search in Shopian



JJ NEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, NOV 11

Special Investigation Unit (SIU) Shopian carried out search in Rawalpora Shopian in connection with the case pertaining to the terror attack on non-local labourers at Gagren Shopian. The search was carried out in non-residential house of active terrorist Hanzal Yaqoob Shah son of Mohammad Yaqoob Shah linked with proscribed terror outfit LeT for his involvement

in case FIR No. 126/2023 under section 307 IPC, 7/27 IAA, 16, 18, 20, 23, 38, 39 UAP Act of P/S Shopian.

It is pertinent to mention here that on 13/07/2023, terrorists equipped with illicit weapons aimed at 03 non-local labourers and left them injured at Gagren Shopian. The search was conducted as per procedure and law. The search was carried out in a bid to dismantle the terror ecosystem and to eradicate the terrorism completely.

Police arrests notorious drug peddler in Pulwama

JJ NEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, NOV 11

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

A police party of Police Station Pulwama at a checkpoint established on Sirnoo Mooghama Road intercepted a vehicle (Tata Mobile) bearing registration number JK13F-6030 driven by Feroz Ahmad Rather son of Ghulam Mohd Rather resident of Karimabad Pulwama who after noticing police party tried to flee from the spot but was apprehended tactfully. During search, 75 bottles of Codeine Phosphate and Cash amount

of Rs 39,050 (proceeds of narcotics) were recovered from his possession. He has been arrested and the vehicle used in the commission of crime has also been seized.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 301/2023 under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigation has been initiated.

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.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, JAL SHAKTI (IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DEPARTMENT) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION, JAMMU

e-mail : xenfcjammu@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Fresh Short Term e-NIT No. 31 of 2023-24

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, e-tenders (in two cover system) Cover-Ist containing CDR and prequalification documents and Cover-IInd containing price Bid are invited on percentage basis as per specifications in BOQ from Registered contractors having upto date GST Clearance certificate.

S. No	Name of work	Amount of Work (In lacs)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of completion	Cost of Tender documents (In Rupees)	Class of contractor
1	Construction of 12m long stud on R/s on Chatta Nallah along Chowadhi- Chatta road at Chatta (D/S)	05.72	11440.00	30days	500.00	A,B,C&D
2	Construction of 12m long stud on R/s on Chatta Nallah along Chowadhi- Chatta road at Chatta (U/S) with 18m long crate revetment	11.15	22300.00	30 days	1000.00	A,B,C&D
3	Construction of Crate revetment and stud for the protection of land and houses in various wards at different spots in local Nallah at Panchayat Aithem, Panchayat Bajalata in Nagrota block	05.02	10040.00	30 days	500.00	A,B,C&D
4	Construction of Crate revetment and stud for the protection of land and houses in various wards at different spots in local Nallah at Panchayat MarhDarabi at Panchayat Chibba in Nagrota Block.	06.10	12200.00	30days	500.00	A,B,C&D

Position of AAA : **Accorded**
Position of Funds: **Available.**

Important Dates

- i) Date of Publishing of Tender Notice : 09-11-2023 (06:00Pm)
- ii) Date of downloading Tender documents start : 09-11-2023(06:00 Pm)
- iii) Bid submission start date : 09-11-2023 (06:00Pm)
- iv) Bid submission end date : 16-11-2023 (04:00 pm)
- v) Date and time of Bid opening : 17-11-2023 (12:00 PM)

1. The complete bidding process will be online.
2. The tenders shall be received on-line on or before 16-11-2023 upto 4:00 PM. The Bids will be opened online on the same website www.jktenders.gov.in at above mentioned time and date at the office of the Executive Engineer Flood Control Division Jammu on 17-11-2023 or any other date convenient to the tender opening authority.
3. Bids must be accompanied by bid cost of documents as mentioned in the above table in the form as specified in the bidding documents. The Cost of Tender should be paid through Challan simply remitting into Treasury under MH: 0702 and uploading treasury Challan receipt along with Tender shall be pledged to Executive Engineer Flood Control Division Jammu payable at Jammu. (Note:- The fee on account of downloaded bidding documents shall be acceptable in form of Treasury Challan under MH: 0702. Further, bidders are requested to mention name of the work/ NIT No. on the particular Challan. The Treasury Challan before date of publishing of e-NIT shall not be accepted).
4. The bids of the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids and the tender shall be applicable for the financial year 2023-24.

No: FCD/J/4478-89
Dated: 09.11.2023

DIP/J-11000/23
Date: 11-11-23

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Flood Control Division
Jammu

Reasi Police books notorious criminal under Public Safety Act

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

Working on multipronged strategy of Reasi Police to deal with the notorious criminals, District Police Reasi booked a notorious Bovine smuggler of Reasi under Public Safety Act (PSA) and lodged him in Kot Bhalwal Jail Jammu.

Mohd Azam S/O Abdul Hussain resident of Village Kothian, Tehsil Pouni District Reasi was found involved in many criminal cases: case FIR No. 134/2020 U/S 188 IPC r/w 11 PCA Act, FIR No. 01/2021 U/S 188 IPC r/w 11 PCA Act, FIR No. 03/2021 U/S 188 IPC r/w 11 PCA Act of Police Station Sunderbani District Rajouri, FIR No 15/2021 U/S 188 IPC r/w 11 PCA Act of Police Station



Akhnoor District Jammu and FIR No 63/2023 U/S 188 IPC r/w 11 PCA Act of Police Station Pouni District Reasi and a complaint U/S 107/151/110 Cr.PC is also registered at Police Station Pouni District Reasi.

However in view of his continuous involvement in bovine smuggling and other variety of criminal

cases and to safeguard the general public it was necessary to book him under stringent law.

On the directions of Sh. Amit Gupta-JKPS Senior Superintendent of Police Reasi his dossier for Public Safety Act was framed and sent for necessary detention order to District Magistrate who formally issued the order of their detention under the PSA. By the order of Sh. Vishesh Paul Mahajan (JKAS) District Magistrate Reasi, he was arrested and lodged in Kot Bhalwal Jail Jammu under Public Safety Act.

SSP Reasi while sharing the details conveyed that Reasi Police is committed towards the safety of the public and to eradicate notorious criminal from the society.

PM remembers Maulana Azad on his birth anniversary

JJ NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOV 11

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has remembered Maulana Azad on his birth anniversary. Shri Modi said that Maulana Azad was a profound scholar and a pillar of India's freedom struggle and his commitment to education was commendable.

In a X post, the Prime Minister said;

"Remembering Maulana Azad on his birth anniversary. A profound scholar and a pillar of India's freedom struggle, his commitment to education was commendable. His efforts in shaping modern India continue to guide many people."

PM appreciates efforts of all those involved to promote Meri Maati Mera Desh initiative

JJ NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOV 11

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi appreciated efforts of all those involved to promote Meri Maati Mera Desh initiative.

Savitribai Phule Pune University has organised Selfie With Meri Maati campaign under Meri Maati Mera Desh initiative.

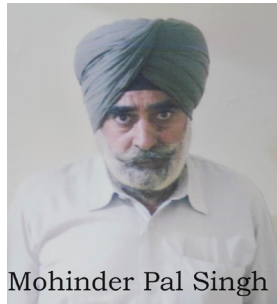
In this campaign more than 25 lakh students from 7000 colleges of 40 universities participated and this campaign got recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records due to huge participation.

Responding to the X threads of Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Eknath Sinde about this campaign, the Prime Minister posted on X.

Charge-sheet produced in fake PRC fraud by PoJK refugee for 4.5 Lakh Relief; EOW CBJ

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV 11

Economic Offences Wing - Crime Branch Jammu produced 158 page charge-sheet in the Court of law in case FIR No. 06/2020 U/S 420, 465, 467, 468, 471, 201, 120-B/RPC P/S Crime Branch Jammu against accused 1) Mohinder Pal Singh 2) Ajit Pal Singh (Expired) both sons of Piara Lal @ Piara Singh R/o Korotana Kalan Tehsil-RS Pura (Now Suchetgarh) Distt. Jammu, A/P village Magarpur Tehsil Mustafabad Distt. Yamuna Nagar Haryana for their involvement in hatching criminal conspiracy and managing fake PRC with the motive of using it as genuine before the office of PRO (Provincial Rehabilitation Office) Jammu to avail Rehabilitation package/ compensation of an amount of Rs.4,49,692 as POJK Refu-



gee.

The case owes its origin to a written complaint lodged by Gurnam Singh S/o Gian Singh R/o Nai Basti Korotana Khurd, Tehsil Suchetgarh, R.S Pura Jammu, alleging therein that the accused is a displaced person of Jalbhi Tehsil Bhimber District Mirpur and he manipulated the permanent resident certificate in his favour by producing the fraudulent documents. After obtaining the PRC (Permanent resident certificate) the accused connived with

the concerned Revenue Authorities and got the original file and record destroyed to hush up the fraud and later produced the PRC as genuine before the concerned authorities to claim one time Settlement Relief as POJK refugee.

On receipt of the complaint a preliminary verification was initiated and during probe the allegations were prima facie substantiated, leading to the registration of formal case for indepth investigation. During the course of investigation relevant record was seized, statement of witnesses recorded, Scientific, Circumstantial and other Material evidence was gathered and offences U/S 420, 465, 467, 468, 471, 201, 120-B/RPC were established against the accused and the charge sheet was produced in the Court of law for judicial determination.

ECWJ of State Taxes Deptt in collaboration with Deptt of Handicrafts, celebrate Diwali



JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV II

Enforcement Central Wing Jammu of State Taxes Department in collaboration with Department of Handicrafts, celebrated Diwali by organizing Mela Exhibiting art and craft things by local artisans thereby promoting Viswakarma Scheme recently launched by the honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

Ritu Mahajan, Deputy Commissioner, Enforcement (Central), Jammu inaugurated the Mela. All the staff members comprising of Assistant commissioner, State Taxes Officers, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and Ministerial Staff were present on the occasion. SHO GRP Jammu, Inspector Niaz Ahmed along with other officials also participated in the event.

Harivinder Singh, Chief Parcel Supervisor Railways also made his pres-

ence. Besides locals also showed their participation.

Local Artisan displayed various items like Diwali Pujas made of cow dungs, candles, purses, watches, beautifully designed made of resin.

Besides Suits dupattas (with Kashmiri work) Bed sheets fully embroidered were also displayed.

The main motive of this Mela was to promote the handmade products made by the local artisans. People participation was overwhelming. Artisan felt happy that their handmade products were being acknowledge by the people.

By encouraging such activity, it boosts up national economy and sense of nationalism among masses. This is how eco-friendly Diwali was celebrated by the Department.

Deputy Commissioner State Taxes, Enforcement (Central) Jammu.

Mehbooba's cousin Sarwar Mufti joins DPAP Elections are crucial for the existence, survival of J&K: Azad



JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR NOV II

The former Chief Minister and DPAP chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad on Saturday warned people against falling in trap by some political parties or candidates and wasting their ballot. He said this is the crucial time for the people of Jammu and Kashmir who have to choose their leader carefully without falling into the sentiments or trap since the situation post 2019 has changed substantially. "There have been lots of people in the political field with some invisible support and aiming to contest elections but this vote belongs to the one who is sincere for the people and their rights," said Azad while addressing a gathering in Bijbehara, Anantnag. On the occasion, Sarwar Mufti, the first cousin of PDP president Mehbooba Mufti joined the party along with hundreds of his workers. Sarwar has prematurely retired from services to join the DPAP following his faith and trust in the leadership of Ghulam Nabi Azad. Meanwhile, Azad said that it is the fight for existence and survival and any misadventure would create disaster in the elections if people are not voting properly and

choosing their leader cautiously. Azad, however, reiterated a demand for elections and said that administrative set up is nowhere replica to elected democracy. "Officers might do a good work but that doesn't mean it is in any case substitute to democracy where people directly elected their representatives. So it is the time to hold elections and allow people to choose their representatives," he said. The DPAP chairman said that earlier the votes were sought on issues of smaller significance but these upcoming elections would hold a greater significance since the lands and jobs of the people of Jammu and Kashmir are at stake. "I have assured my people to safeguard your land, resources and jobs. So I need your support and vote to form the government of my own in an order to do so," he said. Among others present on the occasion were Taj Mohiuddin Treasurer, Mohd Amin Bhatt Provincial President, Gulzar Wani Zonal President, Ch Haroon Khatana Gen Secretary, Salman Nizami Chief Spokesperson, Adv Saleem Parray official Spokesperson, Shafiq Shabnam Provincial Gen Secretary, Shuby Jaan secretary, Mir Altaf and others.

GDC Ramnagar celebrates World Science day, launches Constitution week activities

JJ NEWS SERVICE
RAMNAGAR, NOVEMBER-II

As part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Science Club and AKAM Club of Government Degree College Ramnagar, organized a poster making competition on the theme, "SCIENCE FOR HUMAN WELLBEING" and a seminar on the theme "ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS" to encourage students to know about how science is contributing in enhancing the quality of life.

The Programme was organised under the supervision of Prof. Sumita Rao, convener Science club and Prof. Ritika Mahajan convener AKAM club. Dr. Bhavnish Chand, Principal of the college was the chief guest on this occasion. In all, 13 students participated in the poster making competition and made beautiful and message oriented posters on the given theme.

Dr. Kewal Kumar, Assistant Professor of Botany, Prof. Sonia Raj, Assistant Professor of Zoology and Dr. Rashmi Gupta, Assis-



tant Professor of Physics were the jury members.

On the basis of judgment of jury members, Ms Krishika of Sem-III, Anisha of Sem-III, and Sakshi Devi of Sem-III shared 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

Throwing light on importance of Environmental laws and World Science Day, Dr. Bhavnish Chand, appreciated the initiative taken by the Science Club and AKAM Club and said that it is an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate Constitution week and the glorious history of its people, culture, Science and achievements. He further added that such awareness programmes in educational institutions will go a long way in

sensitizing the students. After Poster making competition a seminar was conducted on the theme "Environmental Laws".

Prof. Ritika Mahajan acted as resource person and delivered a detailed lecture on environmental issues and how environmental laws have been created to conserve the environment so that our coming generations may survive sustainably.

Formal vote of Thanks was presented by Prof. Shobha Rani, HOD of Dogri. Technical assistance was provided by Dr. Divya Puri. Logistic support was presented by Dr. Rashmi Gupta, Dr. Suresh Dogra, HOD Physics, Prof. Swarna Devi HOD Political Science also graced the occasion.

Billawaria, Zorawar release Punjabi video song 'Sakhiyon'

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV II

Deputy Mayor Jammu Baldev Singh Billawaria released the Punjabi video song 'SAKHIYON' in an impressive function held at Press Club Jammu. On the occasion, Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria was chief guest and the Zorawar Singh Jamwal (Chairman Team Jammu), Dr. Urja Singh (Culture and Social activist), Shadab Khan (Bollywood Actor), Tariq Khan (Bollywood Director) and Baba Kandeshwar were present. Reham is the singer as well as the Lyricist and Composer of the song. The music and Mix master of the song has been composed by San J Saini and video Director and Editing work is done by Changaiz Khan, featuring in this video song by Sahil Singh Rajput & Neha Rajput, Story concept Abhishek, Director of Photography (Lambang Neeraj), Produced by Shyam Singh Pawar



& Anamika Pawar, Make up Artist (NP Makeover), other artists Vanshika Pawar, Bani sharma, Sourav Manhas, Ridham Thapa & Akash Singh. The Deputy Mayor, who was the chief guest on the occasion, applauded the efforts of the talented singers and their team for the wonderful piece of art. Deputy Mayor Jammu, Billawaria said that the young team deserves all kudos for great work and I wish them all the best for bright future.

Deputy Mayor Jammu, lauded the efforts of the young talent from the UT of J&K. He further said that new opportunities are being opened up everywhere today for the innovative minds. Deputy

Mayor said that J&K Government must open its doors to the music and film industry and ensure its presence felt here in a big way. He expressed his hope that the people of Jammu will appreciate the song and shower their love on it. While speaking on the occasion, Guest of Honour Zorawar Singh Jamwal said that it is good to see that the young talent of Jammu has been coming out to work on the project and congratulated his team for the beautiful video song 'SAKHIYON'. The event organisers also expressed their gratitude to Deputy Mayor, Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria and other guests for making this event successful and colourful.

2nd UT Ladakh Taekwondo Championship concludes at Kargil

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV II

The 2nd UT Ladakh Taekwondo Championship concluded at Indoor Stadium Kargil organised by Ladakh Taekwondo Association under the aegis of Taekwondo Federation of India organized 2nd UT Ladakh Taekwondo Championship at Indoor Stadium, Kargil.

DC Kargil Balasaheb Suse was the chief guest, while Maqbool Hussain SE PHE&IFC Maqbool Hussain was the guest of honour and Incharge DYSSO Kargil Mohd Yousuf, General Secretary Ladakh Khokho Association, Syed Mehraj Uddin Shah and Murtaza Ali Representative British Paints were the special guest.

The Championship was organised under the overall supervision of TFI Observer Manoj Kumar from Haryana, who supervised the overall championship through virtual mode due to bad Weather he was not able to make a personal appearance.



DC Kargil appreciated the Association for their handwork and efforts to promote Taekwondo in Ladakh.

He assured the association to help promote the sports in every village of the district to find out the best talent and give them exposure.

Suse appealed to the players to focus on one goal and put more and more effort on the particular talent they have so that more Tashi and Shahnaz can be developed.

Anayat Ali, General Secretary Ladakh Taekwondo Association said that about six players from Ladakh participated at international level so far and more than 100s participated at national level.

About 109 players of different Associations from all parts of Ladakh participated in the 2nd UT level Championship.

Later the Chief Guest and other guests distributed Medals and Trophies among the players and officials.

Its pertinent to mention here that Ladakh Taekwondo Association supporting the National Slogan of Vocal for Local procured all the mementoes from Ladakh Carving a unit by an educated Youth Ahmad Ali (M tech) to support the Local Wooden carving products which the Deputy Commissioner Kargil appreciated.

My Diwali celebrations just got brighter celebrating it with underprivileged kids: Ritika

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV II

Chief Spokesperson BJP Mahila Morcha J&KUT Ritika Trehan today appealed well-off people to celebrate Deepawali by sharing the festive joy with the poor and the under-privileged. She had a really good time today with the inmates of Bal Niketan and the weaker sections of society. It took them some time to open up to me, but later on we had a blast bursting crackers. Every anaar that we lit, they would shout on top of their voices in excitement. Unko dekh ke hi asli Diwali ka mazaa aa gaya," said Ritika. Recalling how she used to celebrate Diwali as a kid, she said, "Just like everyone living in India, Diwali for me too has been really huge since childhood.

Ritika along with other leaders of Morcha Spokesperson Geetanjali Mahajan, Program incharge Monika Khosla, Deepali Handa principal & director Tiny tots school & many other ladies today visited the Bal Niketan



and distributed crackers, sweets and gifts among the inmates, thereby bringing a smile on innocent faces. Ritika interacted with children, enquired about facilities. She said while celebrating festivals, we must remember the poor and needy and share joy with them. "While we celebrate Diwali with much fanfare, we must also remember those living in orphanages and old-age homes who are unable to celebrate the festival for lack of resources, if we are able to bring a smile on their face, then I think our celebrations are doubled", she said. Speaking on the occasion, Ritika asked concerned departments to ensure the inmates of Bal Niketan were provided adequate

facilities. She highlighted the need for the children to explore avenues to keep them engaged in productive activities. "Diwali is all about giving, sharing, and spreading happiness. On this auspicious day, everyone tries to do their best to make their loved ones happier. Normally, the poor and destitute do not have a chance to celebrate the festival. Celebrating it with destitute and orphans will be a great humanitarian gesture," said Ritika. "Everyone can share some joy during the festive season. It also gives the underprivileged some hope and respite from their monotonous lives, said Ritika. "I am extremely happy to celebrate my Diwali with these children," added Ritika.

GCW Udhampur organizes workshop on Empowering Self-Defense

JJ NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR NOVEMBER II

In an effort to prioritize safety and equip students with crucial self-defense skills, Government College for Women, Udhampur organized a Self-Defense Training Workshop for the students of the college.

This workshop was jointly organised by IQAC, WDC and NCORD Cell of the college. The workshop aimed to provide invaluable techniques and knowledge to enhance personal safety and confidence among the student body.

The workshop was conducted by seasoned self-defense experts from 4 Para, HQ Northern Command who covered a diverse range of practical skills including situational awareness, physical defense techniques, and effective strategies to handle various threatening scenarios. Through a



series of interactive sessions, the students learned and practiced these vital skills in a safe and supportive environment.

The workshop was scheduled for a week, 6-10 November 2023, in the college premises. A total of 100 students of all experience levels and backgrounds were encouraged to participate.

Prof. Anjali Mahajan, Principal, GCW Udhampur expressed excitement about the workshop in the inaugural session stating, "Empowering our students

with the tools and knowledge to protect themselves is an essential aspect of holistic education. This workshop serves as a valuable opportunity for our community to learn, grow, and feel more confident in their ability to navigate the world safely."

The workshop culminated with a valedictory session wherein the trained cadets demonstrated various skills learned during the sessions. With safety and preparedness at its core, this initiative underscores Women Develop-

ment Cell's commitment to the well-being and empowerment of its students.

The sessions were jointly attended by Prof. Kewal Kumar, Vice Principal, Dr. Anita Sharma, Convener IQAC, Prof. Sanjeev, Staff Secretary, Prof. Ajay Kumar, Prof. Sumit Sharma, Prof. Rajinder Singh, PO NSS, Prof. Rukhsana, and Prof. Preet Sharma. The workshop was coordinated by Dr. Kamal Deep Kaur, member IQAC, WDC and NCRD.

Arnav Chopra of DPS Jammu Clears International Standard Of UCMAS Abacus Computation Proficiency Examination

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOV II

Arnav Chopra (IV-D), a student of Delhi Public School Jammu brought laurels to the school and his parents by passing the International Standard of UCMAS Abacus Computation (Zhusuan) Proficiency Examination held on 17th December, 2022 for which the results were declared recently. He passed the examination with Grade 11 (Distinction). UCMAS is a child development program based on Visual Arithmetic and Abacus that boosts brainpower in children aged 4 to 13 years. Along with strengthening math skills, the UCMAS approach promotes whole brain development and establishes foundation-



tal building blocks like memory, concentration, creativity and problem solving-core skills that inspire greater confidence and success in all subjects areas and in life.

The esteemed management DPS Jammu, Hon'ble President-RCT, Sh. M.K Ajatshatru Singh Ji, distinguished PVC, Dr. Kuwarani Singh Ji, Hon'ble Director, Sh. S.S Sodhi Ji along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ms. Ruchi Chabra congratulated Arnav and his parents and extended their best wishes for all his future endeavours.

Round II of B2V-5 concludes at Shopian, covering 34 panchayats

JI NEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, NOVEMBER 11

On the concluding day of round second of ongoing Back to Village (B2V5) programme, 34 Visiting/Prabhari Officers continued their visit to designated panchayats across Shopian district, interacting with the public on various issues of public importance.

During these programmes, a variety of stalls were installed by concerned departments to showcase the flagship schemes and other services being provided by them for the convenience of the people.

The Visiting Officers (VOs) also held scores of Gram Sabhas and delved into different policy issues and discussed the development plans of panchayats.

They also inspected



several community institutions, including schools, health centres, anganwadi centres, ration depots and other government offices. They also assessed ongoing and completed works, reinforcing the importance of effective project execution.

In addition, the Prabhari Officers inaugurated various essential projects. These developmental works are expected to make a significant impact on the lives of the local

population. During these programmes, the cultural dimension was equally vibrant with songs, dramas and folk shows held in schools, besides cleanliness drives, plantation drives and issuance of land passbooks also held. The VOs dedicated efforts towards raising awareness about digital services, transparency, a corruption-free system and the vision of a Nasha Mukta (drug-free) India among the public.

Newly constructed 180-Bedded building commissioned at GMC&AH Rajouri

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, NOVEMBER 11

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, today visited Government Medical College and Associated Hospital (GMC&AH) to ensure smooth operation of the newly constructed 180-bedded additional building there.

The newly constructed building is set to address the growing healthcare needs of the community, with two vital departments, Ophthalmology and Radiation Oncology, now operational within its premises. The strategic implementation of these departments aligns with a holistic approach to healthcare, covering both preventive and specialized medical services.

The expansion has augmented the total bed capacity of the hospital to 500, a noteworthy achieve-



ment that is expected to alleviate patient load, reduce waiting times, and elevate the overall quality of patient care. This milestone underscores the dedication of the administration to meet the rising demands for healthcare services in Rajouri and its surrounding areas.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of this expansion, stating, "The new building is a testament to our unwavering commitment to providing accessible and high-quality healthcare to the people

of Rajouri. The addition of specialized departments will enhance the capability of the hospital to address diverse medical needs effectively."

The increased capacity is poised to make a tangible difference in the lives of the residents, ensuring that they have timely access to advanced medical treatments. The additional beds and improved facilities are expected to enhance the operational efficiency of the hospital and create a more conducive environment for both patients and healthcare professionals.

This development is a stride forward in the continuous efforts to bolster the healthcare infrastructure in Rajouri. The administration expresses gratitude to all stakeholders, including the hospital staff, for their tireless efforts in making this expansion a reality. The newly inaugurated building stands as a symbol of progress and a promise to prioritize the well-being of the community.

Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Khurshid, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Imran Rashid Kataria, and Medical Superintendent of Associated Hospital GMC Rajouri, Dr Mehmood Hussain Bajar; Dr Javed Ahmed; Dr Shazia Qayoom HOD Department Ophthalmology and Dr Abdul Hakeem HOD Department of Radiation Oncology/Radiotherapy were also present.

DG BSF, Director Agriculture Kashmir visit IIKSTC Dussoo Pampore

JI NEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, NOVEMBER 11

The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today held an interactive meeting with Director General BSF at India International Kashmir Saffron Trade Centre (IIKSTC) Dussoo Pampore.

Both the Officers visited different facilities at IIKSTC where they were briefed by the concerned technical experts.

On the occasion, Director Agriculture informed DG BSF regarding various steps taken by the department over the last few years for the promotion, development of this world famous heritage crop (saffron) of Kashmir. Director Agriculture also highlighted the modern facilities available at IIKSTC for the benefit of saffron growers. Increase in the prospects of Kashmir saffron at national, international levels after getting GI Tag was also discussed.

Round II of B2V-5 culminates in 51 Gram Panchayats of Bandipora

JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 11

The second round of phase fifth of the Back to Village (B2V-5) programme culminated on Saturday in 51 Gram Panchayats of Bandipora district, with much enthusiasm and public participation.

The designated Visiting Officers (VOs) along with supporting staff remained stationed at their assigned village panchayats for two days and listened to villagers and prepare Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) as per the needs of people of the village.

On day second today, Senior Officers of district administration along with concerned Officers visited various Gram Panchayats of the district to monitor the proceedings of the ambitious Back to Village programme.

Gram Sabhas were organised in all the 51 Panchayats under phase second of B2V-5 and Visiting



Officers participated in these special gram sabhas. Sports kits, soil health cards, artisans registration cards, land passbooks, child care kits and indoor game kits were distributed among the beneficiaries by the Visiting Officers at their respective stations.

The Visiting Officers were seen interacting with members of the Gram Sabha, administering pledges to make our system and society corruption free. Formulation of GPDP, distribution of land passbooks, inspection of public

offices, inspection of works taken up under various CSS, B2V and other schemes, inspection of Amrit Sarovar projects, awareness on Self Employment scheme and feedback on welfare schemes were some of the activities carried out during the second round.

The Visiting Officers documented all the grievances projected during these days and assured public early redressal of their genuine issues and demands.

The resource persons 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.

Arrangements for conduct of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra reviewed at Kupwara

JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 11

On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Altaf Ahmad Khan Saturday convened a meeting, here to review and strategize the arrangements for the upcoming 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra'.

In a threeday discussion held in the meeting, the ADDC impressed upon all the officers for smooth conduct of the Yatra, which primarily aims at ensuring the effective execution of the Central Sponsored Schemes. The ARTO Kupwara was directed to chart out route plan for IEC vans which shall traverse in all the 385 panchayats of Kupwara district. Meanwhile, it was given out in the meeting that each District Officer



will identify one beneficiary of Centrally Sponsored Scheme focused for IEC during Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in every Panchayat for recording their success stories. The identification of the beneficiary, with complete address and contact details, have to be furnished by Monday.

The District Informatics Officer-NIC shall upload the success stories of beneficiaries on the Viksit

Bharat Portal in coordination with the District Information Officer after the approval of the District Level Committee.

The fundamental objective of the Viksit Bharat Yatra is to reach out to the vulnerable sections of the society, eligible under various schemes but yet to benefit owing to lack of awareness about these schemes. Emphasizing the imperative need for

collaborative efforts, the ADDC directed all the stakeholders to work in synergy, aiming for the seamless implementation of the ambitious initiative. The meeting was attended by JD Planning, Abdul Majeed; ACR Kupwara, Irfan Bahadur; ACD, Hilal Ahmad Mir; DIO, Ifthakhar Naseem; ARTO, Anees Wani and other concerned officials from NIC and Planning.

DHEW Gbl conducts Awareness programme at Sonamarg, Lar

JI NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 11

On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, the District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW) in collaboration with SAKHI - a one-stop support initiative today organised an awareness program at Boys High School, Gagangar, Sonmarg.

The event aimed to educate the 170 participants, both boys and girls, about the services provided at the One-Stop Centre (OSC) for distressed women, along with introducing the recently inaugurated SAKHI club.

The Centre Administrator at OSC Ganderbal, Malik Shugufra Nabi (Advocate) sensitized the attendees about the OSC's support for distressed women and introduced them to the newly established SAKHI club. District



Coordinator for DHEW, Sabita enlightened the participants about various schemes available for girls and women

under the Department of Social Welfare. The audience showed a positive response, actively engaging throughout the

session. In a parallel initiative, the OSC team conducted awareness programs at several Anganwadi centres in the village of Lar, focusing on introducing the Sakhi Club and fostering collaboration with other departments. Notably, this event led to a substantial accomplishment as 70 volunteers joined the SAKHI club, emphasizing its significant voluntary contributions to society.

The B2V-5 awareness program and the SAKHI Club activities showcased a proactive approach in educating the community about available support systems and opportunities for women and girls in Ganderbal. The positive response received from participants underscores the effectiveness and importance of such initiatives in empowering and supporting the community.

DC Ramban reviews ICDS sector, applauds progress

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, NOVEMBER 11

Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Choudhary today conducted a meticulous review of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) sector in Ramban District. The review encompassed a thorough evaluation of ongoing schemes and initiatives geared towards enhancing the well-being of beneficiaries, with a specific focus on women and children.

Highlighting the district's prowess, PO ICDS, in a detailed presentation, said that Ramban's ICDS projects are taking lead in implementation, beneficiary care, and overall outcomes.

Notably, the district secured the top rank on the Poshan tracker, surpassing all others in the Union Territory in recent months. This achievement follows a commendable ascent, with Ramban



jumping from the 19th position to clinch the leading rank in implementation of parameters in just six months.

The ICDS infrastructure in the district boasts 802 functional Anganwadi Centres, strategically distributed between 771 rural and 32 urban centres. To ensure effective monitoring, all 802 centres have been geographically tagged. The district benefits from a robust workforce, with 715 Anganwadi workers and 756 Anganwadi helpers actively contributing to the cause. A recent recruitment drive

further fortified the team, bringing in 65 Sanginis (AWWs) and 68 Helpers (AWHs).

In terms of beneficiaries, a total of 23,708 individuals, including 2,179 pregnant and lactating women, are registered, with 22,163 Aadhaar verifications completed.

The district's ICDS initiatives adopt a three-pronged focus, encompassing nutritional support for beneficiaries (SNP), early childhood care and education (ECCE), and enhanced healthcare for children and women.

Critical to the success of these endeavors are the capacity-building initiatives undertaken. All Anganwadi workers have received training in early childhood care & education, technological tools for monitoring, and an emphasis on nutrition and health tracking.

The Deputy Commissioner commended the progress and achievements of the ICDS sector in Ramban. During the review meeting, he directed the ICDS authorities to maintain a continuous follow-up on malnourished children and women, ensuring prompt tracking and implementation of corrective measures. The Deputy Commissioner reiterated his commitment to prioritizing the well-being of the community, particularly the vulnerable sections.

DC Srinagar visits spot to review post fire incident situation

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 11

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Saturday morning visited Dal Lake following an incident of devastating fire breaking out at Abikarpura in

Dal Lake opposite Ghat No. 09 in which houseboats and residential structures got gutted in the blaze.

The Deputy Commissioner accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Syed Ahmad Kataria, Tehsildar Khanyar, Aaliya Tabasum and other senior

Officers of District Administration visited the incident site and took spot review of post fire incident situation.

On the occasion, the DC took first hand appraisal and assessment of the damages caused from the devastating fire incident and

lauded the efforts of the SDRF, Fire Services, Police and the local people who took prompt action in dosing the fire to prevent further damage. Four adjoining houseboats were relocated by the fire controlling team to cut the spread of fire flames and further damage.

Interacting with the fire affected, the DC expressed support and sympathy with them on behalf of the District Administration Srinagar. He also assured that every kind of possible support shall be provided from the District Administration for their immediate rehabilitation.