



# JINDRAH IMAGES

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## PM Modi reviews progress of schemes to empower women announced in I-Day address



**AGENCIES**  
NEW DELHI, OCT 10

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday chaired a high-level review meeting to discuss the progress made on schemes for the empowerment of women and on setting up stores to sell generic medicines that he announced in his Independence Day speech.

In his address, the prime minister has spoken about making two crore 'Lakhpati didis' - making two crore women engaged in self-help

groups or anganwadis 'Lakhpatis'.

Modi also took stock of the various livelihood interventions planned to achieve this target.

In his Independence Day speech, Modi had spoken about equipping 15,000 women self-help groups with drones for agriculture and related purposes.

The prime minister was given an overview of the plans to implement this, ranging from training of women SHGs to

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## President on 2-Day visit to J&K today



**AGENCIES**  
NEW DELHI, OCT 10

President Droupadi Murmu will embark on a two-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir from Wednesday, a spokesperson of the Rashtrapati Bhavan said.

She will grace the 20th convocation of the University of Kashmir at Srinagar immediately

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### President Murmu to attend convocation ceremony of Kashmir University, security bolstered in Srinagar

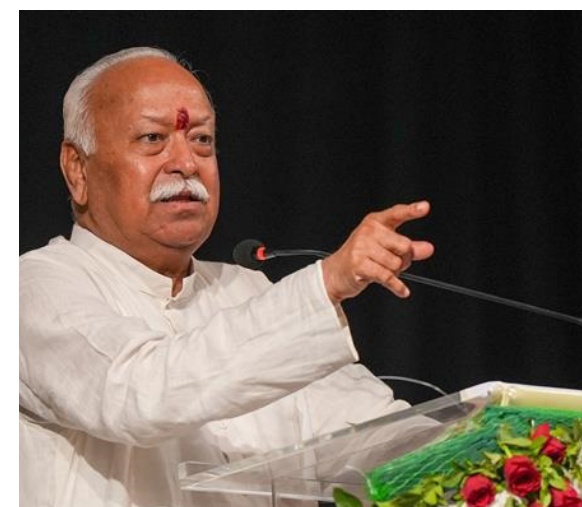


**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCT 10

Security has been beefed up in Srinagar and adjoining areas ahead of President Droupadi Murmu's visit to Kashmir on Wednesday

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## RSS Chief Dr. Mohan Bhagwat to undertake 3-Day tour of J&K from Friday



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Chief Mohan Bhagwat will be in Jammu and Kashmir for a three day tour beginning from October 13, the organization said in a statement on Tuesday.

Bhagwat's visit to the Jammu-Kashmir comes amid RSS leaders travelling across the country to review the functioning of the organization, according to the statement.

During the tour, the statement said, the RSS Chief will chair a workers meeting on October 14 to review the functioning of the organization in the Jammu and Kashmir and the social upliftment

activities being conducted by it.

He will also chair a coordination meeting the next day and address a gathering of volunteers in Kathua district, the statement said, adding that the RSS is completing 100 years of its establishment in 2025 and that the work on its expansion target will also come up for discussion during Bhagwat's tour.

## LG reviews performance, expenditures of Centrally Sponsored Schemes in J&K



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCT 10

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Tuesday chaired a high-level meeting at Civil Secretariat to review the implementation and sector-wise progress of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes in the UT of Jammu Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; R K Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Administrative Secretaries, Divi-

sional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and senior officers.

The Lt Governor appraised the performance, financial outlays and expenditures of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) in various sectors including agriculture, education, health, social welfare, livelihood mission, border area development, Rurban mission, skill development etc.

"Transparency and speed of implementation have played a pivotal role in enabling transformation of J&K in the last three years. 100% utilization of allocation under various

flagship programmes of the Government of India is critical for inclusive growth and unlocking the potential of our Union Territory," the Lt Governor said.

He directed the officials to track set indicators at district level, organize workshops for Deputy Commissioners and District officers, and monitor the delivery machinery.

We need to make dedicated efforts for on-ground execution for 100% saturation of all schemes to ensure all entitled beneficiaries get facilities and no one is left behind, the

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## Ensure adequate, reliable power supply during winter season: LG to PDD

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCT 10

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a meeting to review the performance of Power Development Department and took stock of power scenario in the UT.

The Lt Governor discussed comprehensive strategy of Power Development Department to meet the peak electricity demand. He also directed for enhancing sustainability and efficiency to ensure adequate and reliable power supply during winter season.

The Lt Governor directed the officials for concrete measures to ensure maximum power supply to smart meter saturated feeders and bring down the AT&C losses in these areas to single digit. Smart meter saturation of Jammu, Srinagar and District Headquarters should

be done on priority. PDD should ensure metered areas receive reliable services and quality electricity, he added.

It was informed that around 4 lakh smart meters have been installed across the UT.

The Lt Governor directed for compliance of curtailment plans and timely replacement of the damaged transformers to avoid inconvenience to the consumers. An advance buffer stock of transformers for border and far flung areas should be kept in view of the upcoming winter season, he added.

Power theft should be tackled through effective enforcement on the ground, he said.

The Lt Governor further directed for tapping the potential of new and renewable energy and effective implementation of Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) in

the UT.

Rajesh Prasad, Principal Secretary, Power Development Department briefed the chair on the interventions of the department to reduce the demand and supply gap. He said, massive capacity addition was accomplished after the previous winter to enable the system to meet additional peak demand.

The Lt Governor stressed on the need to ensure resource adequacy in terms of availability of additional power capacity to meet the increasing demand during winter.

It was informed that from Financial Year 2020-21 to 2023-24, the peak demand has gone up by over 28%, while the peak deficit has decreased from 22% to 12%.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Dr RP Singh, Chairman JKPCCL; Dr Mandeep Kumar

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## CS interacts with newly appointed ALRs, DLOs



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCT 10

Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta Tuesday met the newly appointed Assistant Legal Remembrancers (ALRs)/District Litigation Officers (DLOs) in presence of the Secretary Law, Achal Sethi here.

On the occasion the Chief Secretary impressed upon these candidates to work with full dedication and honesty and defend all the cases on behalf of the government with full vigour. He sensitized them about the nature of their

work and asked them to defend the weak and underprivileged upholding the highest standards of professionalism.

Dr Mehta enjoined upon them to keep the ethics paramount over every other concern. He observed that only society built on right values and morality can flourish in long run. He advised them to be hard on criminals involved in narcotic trade and malpractices in the society as eventually it is the court of law that has to dispense the justice

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## 'Gaganyaan' test space flight scheduled for October 21: Dr Jitendra Singh

**AGENCIES**  
NEW DELHI, OCT 10

The launch of "Gaganyaan" Test Vehicle Space flight, that is, "Gaganyaan" Test Vehicle Development flight (TV-D1) is scheduled on 21st of this month.

This was disclosed here today by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh while addressing the gathering at a felicitation programme of ISRO scientists associated with the Chandrayaan Mission, here today.

ISRO will also test the efficacy of the Crew Escape System which is the crucial part of "Gaganyaan" mission, resulting in unmanned and manned missions to outer space by 2024. The test is to be conducted at Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. Crew Module will carry the astronauts during the Gaganyaan mission to outer space.



The test involves launching a crew module to outer space and bringing it back to Earth and recovering it after touchdown in the Bay of Bengal. Indian Navy personnel have already started mock operations to recover the module.

The success of this test will set the stage for the first unmanned "Gaganyaan" mission and ultimately manned mission to outer space in low Earth orbit, informed the Minister. Before the ultimate manned "Gaganyaan" mission, there will be a test flight next year, which will carry "Vyommitra", the female robot astronaut, he said.

Gaganyaan project envisages demonstra-

tion of human spaceflight capability by launching a human crew to an orbit of 400 km and bringing them back safely to earth, by landing in Indian sea waters. The prerequisites for Gaganyaan mission include development of many critical technologies including human rated launch vehicle for carrying crew safely to space, Life Support System to provide an earth like environment to crew in space, crew emergency escape provision and evolving crew management aspects for training, recovery and rehabilitation of crew.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, India is among the top five nations in the field of space exploration.

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## Two local Lashkar-e-Toiba terrorists killed in Shopian encounter: Police

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCT 10

Two local LeT terrorists were killed in an encounter that broke out in Alshipora area of South Kashmir's Shopian district on Tuesday, police said.

A police official told news agency, that acting on specific information about the presence of terrorists, a joint cordon was laid by police, CRPF and the army's 44 Rashtriya Rifles at Alshipora village.

As the joint teams zeroed in on the suspected spot, the militants fired indiscriminately at the forces, triggering an encounter. In the exchange of fire, two militants were killed and their bodies were retrieved," he said. "Two terrorists who have been identified as locals and affiliated with Lashkar-e-Taiba terror outfit.

Meanwhile ADGP Vijay Kumar while identifying slain terrorists as Morifat Maqbool and Jazim Farooq said that Jazim was involved in killing of



Kashmiri Pandit Sanjay Sharma.

"ShopianEncounterUpdate: Killed #terrorists have been identified as Morifat Maqbool & Jazim Farooq alias Abrar of #terror outfit LeT. #Terrorist Abrar was involved in killing of Kashmiri Pandit late Sanjay Sharma, Police post on 'X' while quoting ADGP Kashmir.

Officials said so far this year, 35 terrorists have been eliminated in different operations in the Kashmir Valley. "Thirty five number of terrorists have been killed in the valley including the two killed today in Kulgam, while majority of the killed ter-

rorists were foreigners," they said.

Meanwhile, a police spokesman in a statement issued to KNO said that based on specific information regarding the presence of militants in Alshipora area of the south Kashmir district, a joint cordon and search operation was launched by Police, Army's 44RR and CRPF's 178Bn in the area.

"During the search operation as the joint search party approached towards the suspected spot, the hiding militants fired indiscriminately upon them, which

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## Fresh snowfall briefly halts traffic on Sonamarg-Zojila Highway



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
GANDERBAL, OCT 10

Fresh snowfall in the high-altitude areas of Zojila Pass in Ganderbal district, Central Kashmir, resulted in the temporary suspension of traffic on the Sonamarg-Zojila highway on Tuesday morning, leaving commuters stranded for about an hour.

According to Kargil Police, traffic on this strategic road was halted from both directions for about an hour due to the fresh snowfall and slippery road conditions at Zojila Pass.

Officials said that the Sonamarg-Zojila road

had to be closed due to the fresh snowfall in the upper reaches of Zojila in Ganderbal district, Central Kashmir.

"Due to fresh snowfall & slippery road conditions at Zojila Pass of NH-1D traffic has been stopped at Minamarg & Sonamarg till weather improves," Kargil Police said in a post on X earlier in the day.

Vehicular traffic was resumed approximately an hour after the suspension, as weather conditions improved across the Zojila region.

"Due to improvement in weather conditions across Zojila, traffic

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## World Mental Health Day observed in GCW Parade



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 10

Government College for Women Parade on Tuesday organized a mega event to observe World Mental Health Day, 2023.

The theme of the event was Mental Health, a Universal Human Right. College Principal Prof. (Dr) S.P. Sarswat was the Chief Patron on the occasion.

The event was conducted in collaboration with Manodarpan- Psychological Counselling Cell & Department of Psychology of the college. The Welcome address

was presented by Dr Palak Malhotra, faculty Department of Psychology, while the Key note address was delivered by Dr Ravinder Kour, Hod Department of Psychology.

Dr Piyali Arora, Faculty Department of Psychology and Convener Manodarpan Psychological Counselling Cell highlighted the importance of this year's theme of the World Mental Health Day.

The Students of Psychology Department participated in a symposium on the theme and highlighted the importance of

mental health care in the society.

Later, a short film on 'mental health awareness' was showcased before the audience. The Principal of the college appreciated the endeavor taken up by the organizers. She said that Mental Health Awareness is the need of the hour, and hoped that students of the college will definitely come-up with their concerns to respective teachers of the psychology department and counselling cell to seek timely help in case of any confusions.

The program was anchored by Ameesha Rajput student of Psychology Department and the vote of thanks was presented by Dr Gurpreet Kour member Psychological counseling cell & convener NSS wing of the college.

Faculty members present were Prof. S.K. Dhar, Convener IQAC of the college, Dr Sushma Chib, HOD Mathematics, Dr Parveez Ahmed of Chemistry department, Dr R.K. Pandit, the Department of Physics. The program was appreciated by one and all.

## DSC Ramban revisits District Skill Development Plan

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, OCTOBER 10

Asserting that Ramban is known as an organic district, Deputy Commissioner Mussarat Islam today asked the District Skill Committee (DSC) to introduce the courses pertaining to service sector, food industry and processing sector including bread-making, bakery, cleanliness, grading and packaging of Anardana, Honey, Walnut, Rajmash, poultry and dairy farming.

The Deputy Commissioner said this while chairing a Special Meeting of the District Skill Committee to revisit the District Skill Development Plan, besides reviewing progress on implementation of the plan already approved for 2023-24.

Reviewing the activities approved and taken-up under the Skill Development Plan, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Heads of Polytechnic



College, ITIs and all other institutions for providing skill as well as vocational training to the youth by organizing special short-term and crash courses which have potential to provide them job opportunities by using the resources and agricultural produce available in the district. The district administration will help them to provide forward linkage with the market, he added.

Directing the departments to guide their pass-out trainees for availing the benefits from different job oriented schemes of various sectors, the Deputy Commissioner directed the General Manager,

DIC and officers of KVIB to sponsor loan cases of candidates trained under District Skill Development Plan. He said that to put special focus on the training of unemployed youth, especially girls, besides providing them handholding to set up their business units at local level.

The Deputy Commissioner directed Principal Polytechnic and Superintendent of ITIs to also organize training courses pertaining to ongoing national projects including Railways, NH-44 and Power Projects and its maintenance.

The Deputy Commissioner directed all the departments to organize

awareness camps, besides launching an IEC campaign on social media to sensitize and encourage youth to avail benefits of recently launched Vishwakarma and other schemes of their respective sectors.

Among other, Chief Planning Officer, Dr. Kasturi Lal, Chief Education Officer, Dev Anand, Principal, Government Polytechnic College, Vivek Mahajan, Chief Horticulture Officer, Anil Gorka, Chief Agriculture Officer, Gopal Sharma, Superintendent ITI, Parvez Iqbal, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry officer, Director, RSETI, besides other senior officers attended the meeting.

## NCORD meeting held at Shopian

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SHOPIAN, OCTOBER 10

The Additional Deputy Commissioner, (ADC) Shopian, Dr. Zakir Husain Faaz today chaired the District level NCORD committee meeting at Mini-Secretariat, here.

At the outset, the ADC reviewed implementation of measures to contain the menace of drug addiction. He inquired about the areas of concern, age group of addicts, hotspots of drug peddling, abuse etc.

Members of the committee apprised about the situation with regard to the drug menace and listed the measures taken at district level to control the drug peddling and its consumption.

The ADC emphasised on conducting awareness camps in schools and colleges on mass scale to sensitize the youth about hazards and ill effects of consuming drugs.



ADC asked concerned officers to put in coordinated efforts to contain the drug peddling and break the supply chain besides taking stringent action against the persons involved in this heinous trade.

He assured the departments that all requisite support will be provided by the District Administration for saving youth from the ill effects of the drugs. Furthermore, the ADC instructed all officers

to facilitate wall paintings with the "Nasha Mukta Bharat" (Drug-Free India) message, along with helpline numbers, in prominent locations; at schools, colleges, Panchayat offices, and Tehsil offices.

Assistant Commissioner, Revenue, Shahbaz Ahmed Bodha; Additional SP, Shopian, Naresh Singh; CAO, CHO, DFO, Tehsildars, besides Civil and Police Officers attended the meeting.

## Sankalp Saptah Culminates in Marwah with Resounding Success in align with Aspirational Blocks Programme

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 10

The week-long transformative program, Sankalp Saptah, reached its pinnacle on Monday here in the Aspirational block of Marwah.

Held in alignment with the Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP) the landmark event, inaugurated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at Bharat Mandapam, ITPO, New Delhi, not only symbolized governmental commitment for public welfare but also a crucial step towards enhancing governance at the block level, with direct and substantial benefits to local citizens.

Guided by the Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav, the Sankalp Saptah in Marwah unfolded a tapestry of impactful activities hosted by different



departments.

Initiating with "Sam-pooran e Swasthya," the health department delivered vital services ranging from ANC clinics to immunization drives, NCD screenings, anaemia tests, and extensive TB awareness campaigns.

The second day hosted the "Suposhit Pariwar Poshan Mela," a collaboration by the ICDS Department, emphasizing nutrition-related activities, complemented by culturally enriching ceremonies such as "Godh Brai" and "Annaprasan" at anganwadi centers.

Subsequent days were dedicated to fostering

cleanliness, promoting agricultural advancements, improving education in primary and middle schools, and celebrating progress and development at Panchayat Ghars under Swachhata ek Sankalp, Krishi Mahotsav, Shiksha ek Sankalp activities.

The concluding day brought together SDM Marwah, Joint Director Planning Mohd Iqbal, block level officers, local PRIs, and the community, sharing profound insights and experiences garnered throughout the week.

SDM Marwah eloquently highlighted the aims and objectives of Sank-

alp Saptah, emphasizing its roots in aspirations gathered during chintan shivirs at the village and block levels.

This initiative embodies the Government's unwavering commitment to grassroots development and governance enhancement, aligning seamlessly with the vision outlined in the Aspirational Blocks Programme initiated by the Prime Minister on January 7, 2023. The triumphant culmination in Marwah Kishtwar district stands as a testament to the synergy of community engagement and government initiatives, working harmoniously to usher in positive change at the grassroots level.

This event echoed the resolute dedication of the government, propelling progress and development to every corner of the Nation.

## DDC reviews implementation of JJM in Doda district

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, OCTOBER 10

District Development Commissioner Doda, Vishesh Mahajan, as the Chairman District Water and Sanitation Mission (DWSM), reviewed the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the district here at a meeting of Jal Shakti Department (JSD) held in DC office complex.

The DDC was informed that 185 projects at an estimated cost of Rs 748.31 crore have been tendered, allotted and execution has been started on ground to provide safe drinking water through tap water connections to every households as envisaged under JJM.

The JJM schemes include construction of 372 Slow Sand Filtration plants of which 207 have been allotted and 33 started on the ground, while out of 2 Rapid Sand Filtration plants, one has been



allotted.

Similarly, work on 3 Borewells has been started out of 05 sanctioned Borewell projects. DDC reviewed scheme wise and JE wise progress of JJM schemes, issuing specific direction and timelines.

The Chairman DWSM (DDC) set the target of 100% completion of 98 schemes in all respects by 31st of October 2023.

The SE Hydraulic Circle Doda was asked to certify the completion of all the laying of pipeline, construction of GSRs to 100%, and Slow Sand Filtration plants up to 50% in respect of all the 185 allotted

schemes on 31st of October 2023. Taking strong note of slow progress in some of the schemes, SE has been directed to submit the list of low performing Engineers for initiating the inquiry and fixing the responsibility of the deliberate attempt of hampering the prestigious union government scheme (JJM). DDC has further asked to seek an explanation from the Engineers who failed to address/report the issues/bottlenecks in time, resulting in hampering the smooth execution, thus delaying the work beyond stipulated time frame.

Directions have also been issued to conduct a meeting of Executive Engineers with the contractors of ailing projects to ensure the work is carried out smoothly adhering to the given timeline. They have been asked to coordinate with the forest officers and ensure the work is executed smoothly in the forest areas adhering to the timelines.

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

## DC Kulgam reviews Physical/ Financial achievements under District Capex in RDD sector

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
KULGAM, OCTOBER 10

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting of officers to take the stock of physical and financial achievements made under District Capex in the RDD sector.

During the meeting, Assistant Commissioner Development briefed the chair that 1837 works have Administrative approval and 1658 works were allotted whereas 1591 works were taken up and 933 works stands completed.

The DC instructed all the concerned officers to complete the rest of the works within the stipulated time.

During the meeting, bottlenecks impeding timely completion of



works were also discussed.

The DC stressed to make efforts on ground to get 100% expenditure of the releases.

He urged the concerned to work religiously and to induce extra efforts to achieve the desired

results. The meeting was attended by ADCC Showkat Ahmad Rather; ADC Viqar Ahmed Giri; JDP, Zahid Sajjad; ACD, Mohammad Imran; ACP, Sharjeel Ali; Executive Engineer REW, BDOs and other officers.

## Patriotic enthusiasm marks 2nd Phase of "Meri Maati Mera Desh" campaign in Srinagar Panchayats

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 10

Portraying a resounding testament to unity and patriotism among the people, several programmes were held in Panchayat Blocks of Srinagar District here today to mark the 2nd Phase of "Meri

Maati Mera Desh" campaign with Amrit Kakash Yatra, celebrating India's 75th year of Independence. The Programmes were held on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad by Rural Development Department at Nayabat Office Harwan.

The event witnessed soil collection and tribute paying to brave hearts in the presence of BDC, DDC and PRI members of the District and other large number of local people.

The campaign entered the second phase with Amrit Kalash Yatra being held across the country. As



a pan India outreach campaign, its aim is to touch

every household of the country and collect Mitti

and Rice grains from Panchayat Villages and Urban Wards. In rural regions, it will be combined at the Block level to create Block-level kalash. Speaking on the occasion, the speakers highlighted the significance of campaigns like "Meri Maati Mera Desh" in setting the stage for endur-

ing peace and prosperity. Pertinently, the Amrit Kalash Yatra will culminate on 30th October, 2023 in New Delhi when 7500 Amrit Kalashes collected across the country will find their resting place in Amrit Vatika, a gesture of homage to India's valiant heroes.

## DLSA Samba organises awareness program on World Mental Health Day

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 10

As per the Action plan for the month of October, 2023 issued by Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority (JKLSA), District Legal Services Authority, Samba organised an awareness programme on "World Mental Health Day" with the theme "Mental Health is a universal Human Right" here in Government Model Hr. Sec. School, Ghagwal, Tehsil Ghagwal.]

The awareness program was held under the directions of Yesh Paul Kotwal, Worthy Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Samba (Pr Distt & Sessions Judge Samba) and Rekha Kapoor Nischal, Secretary in collaboration with Department of Health.

Dr. Rajiv Mengi, Incharge Medical Officer Ghagwal, was the resource person in the programme. He deliberated upon the importance and need of Mental Health in today's stressful life. The proceedings of the program were conducted by Rahul Sharma, Panel Lawyer DLSA Samba.

The objective of organizing this program was to increase awareness and sensitization among the masses as how we can handle stress by adopting Meditation and Yoga in our day to day life.

The program was attended by Neena Sagoch, Principal Govt. Hr. Sec. School Ghagwal, Lekh Raj Attri, CHO and Kulwant Singh, Health Educator, faculty members and students of Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Ghagwal and Para Legal Volunteers of District Legal Services Authority Samba.



## Govt SPMR College of Commerce organises awareness programme on commodity derivatives



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 10

Manodarpan Career Counseling Cell of Government SPMR College of Commerce, in collaboration with Sharekhan Jammu under World Investor Week 2023, organized Awareness Programme on Commodity Derivatives to mark SEBI being celebrated from 9th to 15th October 2023.

The programme began with lighting of the traditional lamp by the guests and Principal of the College Surinder Kumar, who was the Chief Guest.

He highlighted the importance of imbibing investment behaviour by the students and encour-

aged them to take benefit of such sessions to enhance their knowledge base. He also appreciated the efforts of organizing Committee for taking such initiative for the benefit of the students.

Earlier, Prof. Reeta Menia Co-convenor Manodarpan Career Counseling Cell formally welcomed the resource person, faculty members and all participants.

Jai Gopal Goel, Senior Manager, MCX Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) and Ajay Kapoor, Business partner and director Sharekhan Jammu Outlet gave an in-depth understanding of the commodity Derivatives market.

Goel talked about dif-

ferent aspects of commodity futures including objectives, regulatory framework, ecosystem, hedging mechanisms, instruments and career opportunities available for students.

Over 50 students participated in the interactive session. Prof Savita Jamwal, Dr Monika Mahotra, Dr Sandhya Bhardwaj and Dr Roomi Rani were also present. The proceedings of the event were coordinated by Dr Jagmeet Kour and Prof Reeta Menia presented the vote of thanks. Prof Ashu Manhas, Convenor, Manodarpan Career Counseling Cell, Prof Shreya Sharma, Dr Fayza and Prof. Rajni Bala managed the whole event.

## Role of KPS in Kashmiri Language and Literature

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 10

The 2-Day Seminar on Role of Kashmiri Pandits to Kashmiri Language and Literature concluded today at JKAACL Jammu. The initiative taken by JKAACL was appreciated by all

On the second day, the event began with paper reading session. The session was presided over by Prof. Shad Ramzan, convenor Kashmiri Language. Others who shared the presidium included P.N Trisal and Gouri Shankar Raina.

In the session, P.N. Trisal read the paper on the Contribution of Kashmiri Pandits in making History of Jammu and Kashmir and Gouri Shankar Raina read the paper on Kashmiri Pandits Contribution to drama.

Earlier in the beginning, Dr. Shahnawaz, ECCO(G), JKAACL welcomed the guests on behalf of the Secretary, Bharat Singh. He thanked the writers and audience for making the event successful.



After the paper reading session, Short stories were presented by Prof. Makhn Lal Pandita and Vijay Sagar.

This was followed by Kashmiri Poetry. The Poetry session was presided over by P. N Shad, while Prof. B.L.Zutshi was guest of honour. Writers who presented their poetries included P.N. Shad, Badri Nath Abhilash, Bal Krishen Sanyasi, Pyare Hatash Tej Sagar, Satish Safer, Rajinder Agosh, Mohan Lal Tickoo (Didar Mohan), Ramesh Nirash, Mahraj Krishan, Santosh Shah Nadaan, Kusum Dhar, Chaman Pinjuri, Som Nath Bhat, Pitamber Razdan, Nancy Chetna, RajniBahar, Shad Ramzan and Gopi Krishan Bahar.

The prominent among audience were Prof. Veena Pandita, Dr R. L. Shant and others.

At the conclusion of the event, Light music programme was presented by the young budding artists like Gandarav Kaloo, PranavPandita, Vishwas Pandita, Simran Gurtoo, Pallvi Koul and ShriyaGurtoo who spellbound the audience with their melodious voices. They were equally supported by Rahul Bhardwaj on Tabla, Rakesh Anand on Flute, Vicky Gill on Synth and Ritesh on Octopad. The musical evening was composed by Kuldeep Saproo a renowned music composer. The program was ably conducted by Vijay Wali.

## Deputy Commissioner Rajouri reviews progress of Power sector projects



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, OCTOBER 10

To enhance the standard of living by ensuring uninterrupted power supply to the residents of Rajouri, 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, Mohamad Khurshid, XEN PDD Rajouri, Mohd Rashid, along with other concerned officers. The primary focus of this meeting was to evaluate the status of various power sector projects undertaken as part of the District capex budget, DDC, BDC, PRI grants and SSY.

During the review, it was informed that a total of 112 projects had been approved, with an impressive 101 projects already having been allotted. Furthermore, a notable achievement was the completion of 09 projects, signifying tangible progress in the infrastructure development of the region. 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 Vikas Kundal, 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.

"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," the Deputy Commissioner said.

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 the 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.

## KVK Shopian organizes Awareness programme under HADP



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SHOPIAN, OCTOBER 10

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Shopian, today organized one-day awareness cum popularization program under Holistic Agricultural Development Project (HADP) titled 'Integrated Farming System for Self-help Groups & Farmer Interested Groups', here.

The Power of Innovative Extension approved under HADP project Innovative Extension Approaches witnessed active participation from various stakeholders in the agriculture sector. Among others the programme was attended by Senior Scientist & Head KVK Shopian; along with Kendra Staff, field functionaries of line departments, SHGs, FPOs and progressive farmers from the district.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Shopian, Dr Zakir Hussain Faaz, encouraged everyone to avail the opportunities under HADP, emphasizing its potential to render farming not only lucrative but also attractive to the youth.

He underscored the

## World Mental Health Day observed in Katra

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, OCTOBER 10

To raise awareness, advance understanding and promote action in support of mental health as a universal human right, Health Block Katra organized a one-day program to mark World Mental Health Day. The event, held under the theme "Mental Health is a Universal Human Right," took place at the CHC Katra, under the supervision of Dr. Gopal Dutt, Block Medical Officer Katra.

Advocate Sunil Sharma and Advocate Pallvi Sharma representing the Tehsil legal services Katra elaborated in detail the concepts in Mental Health. They said that Mental Health is a state of mental well-being that enables people to cope with the stresses of life, realize their abilities, learn well and work well, and contribute to their community.

It is an integral component of health and well-being that underpins our individual and collective

abilities to make decisions, build relationships and shape the world we live in. Mental health is a basic human right and it is crucial to personal, community and socio-economic development.

Dr. Ruchi Sharma Consultant Physician and Dr. Preeti Sharma Consultant Paed explained in detail mental health care and treatment. They said it is vital to not only protect and prevent mental well-being of all but efforts are required to address the needs of people with mental health condition. This could be done through community based mental health, which is more accessible and acceptable than institutional care, helps prevent human rights violations and delivers better recovery outcomes for people with mental health conditions.

The program witnessed the active participation of healthcare officers and officials from Block Katra, patients, and members of the Tehsil Legal Services Committee Katra.

## RTO Kashmir records revenue of Rs 200 Cr in Q1, Q2 of FY 2023-24

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 10

The Regional Transport Office Kashmir has recorded revenue of Rs 216 Cr. in the first two quarters of current financial year 2022-23, representing a growth of 30 percent compared to the previous financial year during the same period.

The information was shared during a meeting led by Syed Shahnawaz Bukhari, Regional Transport Officer Kashmir.

The meeting also highlighted a significant achievement by the MVD Kashmir as they issued a record number of 1607 Fresh Commercial Route Permits for Maxi Cabs, Taxis, and Buses in the last six months, after the process was resumed after nearly 10 years. This showcases the department's proactive efforts in liberalizing commercial permits and improving transportation services.

Furthermore, the RTO commended the officers and officials of MVD for their remarkable performance in collecting fines for various road safety, traffic and transport violations. The fines collected have witnessed a remarkable growth of 71 percent, with total recovery increasing from Rs 0.87 Cr. to Rs 1.50 Cr. during the period under review.

RTO urged officers to continue working with enthusiasm towards this objective and emphasized that violators should not only be penalized, but their driving licenses, registration of vehicles, and commercial permits should be suspended and cancelled.

It was given out in the meeting that across all the districts of Kashmir division, 303 driving licenses, 52 registration certificates of vehicles, and 305 commercial permits were suspended or cancelled in the last two quarters.

It was revealed that during the Q1 & Q2 of the financial year, 43297 new vehicles were registered. Also, 2604 fresh permits were issued and 9792 renewed; 2627 fresh fitness certificates were issued and 14256 renewed; 17599 fresh driving licenses were issued and 17956 renewed, besides 6594 vehicle transfer cases were completed in the first two quarters.

RTO Kashmir reiterated the importance of prioritizing a smooth and reliable public transport system to enhance the convenience of the general public. "By implementing an efficient public transport system, the number of cars on the roads can be significantly reduced, thereby alleviating traffic congestion. It will not only ensure ease of mobility for the residents but also contribute to more sustainable and environment friendly transportation", he stated.

## MOU signed to start HIV Viral Load Testing in GMC Jammu



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 10

A memorandum of understanding was signed today between Jammu & Kashmir AIDS Control Society (JKACS) and Government Medical College (GMC), Jammu for starting free of cost HIV viral load testing in the premier hospital of the People Living with HIV (PLHIV).

The agreement provided for utilization of

the spare testing capacity of COBAS RT-PCR equipment for the quantitative HIV -1 Viral Load Testing in the Department of Microbiology, GMC Jammu.

At present, the samples of PLHIVs are being sent to Chandigarh for viral load testing. This in-house testing at GMC, Jammu will reduce turnaround time in the reporting of the final result which will help the clinicians to pro-

vide timely treatment to the PLHIVs.

The MOU was signed in the presence of Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, Principal, Government Medical College, Jammu, Dr. Manu Bhatnagar, Additional Director, J&K AIDS Control Society, H&ME Department and Dr. Sandeep Dogra, HOD, Department of Microbiology, GMC, Jammu along with their respective concerned officials.

## Meeting on Updation of District Environment Plan held at Shopian

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SHOPIAN, OCTOBER 10

The District Administration Shopian today convened a meeting of the District Environment Committee to discuss the updation of the District Environment Plan.

Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR) Shopian, Shahbaz Ahmed Bodha chaired the meeting. All

concerned departments were asked to share all requisite data for uploading on the district website to ensure its regular monitoring for better plan Management and for the knowledge of the general masses.

Discussing various parameters of the environment, ACR directed all to provide details regarding steps taken by the depart-

ment to maintain the Environment parameters and status of solid waste management plans.

Among others DFO, Mohammad Ayub; Wildlife Warden, Shopian, Intesar Suhail; EO, MC Shopian, Suhail Ahmed; District Soil and Water Conservation Officer and other concerned were present.

## Horticulture Department hosts Farmers' Awareness Camp in Latti

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
UDHAMPUR, OCTOBER 10

The Horticulture Department Udhampur on Tuesday organised a one-day Awareness Camp and Mobile Demonstration on the art of Fruit and Vegetable Preservation in Block Latti.

Over 80 women from different Self Help Groups (SHG) of NRLM enthusiastically participated in the camp, where they acquired skills in the preparation of fruit jams.

The event aimed to educate women about fruit and vegetable preservation techniques.

Sarpanch Kasturi Lal, Tehsil Singh Paramdeep Singh and Manager-Cum-Chemist S.K.S Sodhi briefed the participants about the department's ongoing schemes, including incentives available under the CAPEX Budget for the establishment of Fruit/Dry Fruit Processing Units.

The Horticulture Development Officer from Latti also addressed the participants, providing insights into various Horticulture schemes offered by the department.

NORTHERN RAILWAY			
E-Tender Notice			
Sr.DEN-HQ/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> with closing date-27.10.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/bid up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>			
Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	
Open	Works	Single Bid System	
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time	
05.10.2023	13.10.2023	27.10.2023/ 15:00 Hrs.	
<b>S.N. 1. Tender No.:- 177-2023-24-ADEN-2-FZR</b>			
Details of Tender: Misc. Works in Connection with the provision of 12.00 m wide FOB inter platform movement for divyangjan at Fazilka Railway Station on FZP-FKA section in C/W ABSS under ADEN-2/FZR.			
Advised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
2,52,62,147.76/-	2,76,300/-	60 Days	06 Months
Similar nature of work:- "Any civil work other than track work".			
<b>S.N. 2. Tender No.:- 178-2023-24-ADEN-2-FZR</b>			
Details of Tender: Misc. Works in Connection with the provision of 12.00 m wide FOB inter platform movement for divyangjan at Kapurthala Railway Station on JUC-FZR section in C/W ABSS under ADEN-2/FZR.			
Advised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
4,61,01,787.94/-	3,80,500/-	60 Days	06 Months
Similar nature of work:- "Any civil work other than track work".			
<b>S.N. 3. Tender No.:- 256-2023-24-ADEN-1-FZR</b>			
Details of Tender: Installation of Zerox Machine in Divl Office, Firozpur for doing day to day Photostat work of various branches as per their requirement for the period of two years.			
Advised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
12,57,459.55/-	25,200/-	60 Days	24 Months
Similar nature of work:- "NIL".			
Note: 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender. No.:- 177 & 178-2023-24-ADEN-2-FZR & 256-2023-24-ADEN-1-FZR Date: 09.10.2023 3140/23			
<b>SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE</b>			



## 'World Mental Health Day' Mental health issues in Kashmir higher than global average

J NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, OCT 10

The Kashmir Valley grapples with a higher prevalence of mental health issues compared to the global average, a situation attributed to various factors including conflict, climatic conditions, and economic challenges, according to the doctors who spoke to the news agency.

Despite these challenges, approximately 85 percent of the population maintains a healthy lifestyle, said Dr Mansoor Ahmad, Head of Psychiatry at GMC Anantnag.

He emphasised the moral responsibility of the community in recognising the signs of mental distress, particularly suicidal thoughts, and extending positive support networks. He also highlighted the alarming rise in drug abuse, especially among the youth, urging immediate action to prevent the ruinous impact on lives and careers.

"Drug abuse is becoming a serious issue of social concern during current times," Dr Mansoor said, adding, "The menace is ruining the lives and careers of our youth and it is high time to act now."

Dr Zoya Mir, a renowned clinical psychologist, shed light on the pressing mental health concerns among adolescents and young adults in the region. She said the COVID-19 pandemic worsened existing psychological issues, leading to problems like academic decline, social isolation, anxiety, depression, and substance abuse.

"Other than the COVID-

19 lockdown, financial stressors, family disputes, and academic pressure are among the factors that contribute to mental health issues in Kashmir," she said.

She stressed the importance of recognising mental health issues as legitimate health concerns and called for timely interventions and appropriate treatments.

To address these challenges, Dr Zoya suggested engaging in physical activities to boost mood, seeking help from mental health professionals when needed, and avoiding negative coping mechanisms such as smoking and self-harm. She also emphasized the significance of setting emotional and occupational boundaries to prevent overwhelming oneself with work or emotional burdens.

Dr Javaid Ahmad, a psychiatrist at District Hospital Shopian, highlighted the prevalence of mental health disorders, including depression, anxiety, and bipolar disorders, during these challenging times. He stressed the need for joint efforts to combat the stigma associated with mental disorders, enhance awareness, and encourage timely treatment-seeking behaviour.

"Mental health illnesses are provocative factors responsible for multiple social and behavioural problems including development of suicidal thoughts, while drug addiction is one of the major concerning social menaces that need an effective redressal," he said.

The doctors underscored the importance of creating supportive living conditions and environments that

facilitate healthy lifestyles. They identified early childhood interventions, including preschool psychosocial activities and nutritional support, as essential strategies to promote child development and build a foundation for a healthy community.

The mental health experts stressed the need for strengthening mental health treatment at the primary healthcare level, along with easily accessible diagnostic tests and affordable treatments. They called for a compassionate approach towards individuals struggling with drug addiction, urging comprehensive steps for redressal.

There is a need to adopt a soft and caring approach towards drug addicts, understand their concerns, elucidate the reasons and accordingly take comprehensive steps for redressal, they said. The doctors also acknowledged the impact of rural-to-urban migration, urbanisation stressors, and climate change-related displacements on mental health. They identified the economic and social vulnerabilities as factors that could heighten the risk of depression, anxiety, and substance abuse among communities.

"To address these multifaceted challenges, a collective and compassionate approach is imperative. By fostering awareness, reducing stigma, enhancing mental health infrastructure, and providing support networks, the Kashmir Valley can pave the way towards a healthier, mentally resilient society," said a psychologist. KNO

## 'World Mental Health Day': Srinagar's Tele-MANAS: A beacon of hope for mental health support

J NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, OCT 10

The groundbreaking Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele-MANAS) cell, operational at the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS) Srinagar, has emerged as a lifeline for individuals grappling with stress, drug addiction, and anxiety-related issues in Jammu and Kashmir. Since its inception eleven months ago, the first-of-its-kind mental health helpline has

received an overwhelming response, with approximately 27,000 calls being made.

Launched on November 4, 2022, this unique three-tier system incorporates mental health counsellors, clinical psychologists, and psychiatrists, ensuring a comprehensive support network for those in need.

A senior health official informed the news agency that the helpline has handled over 26,700 calls, addressing concerns ranging from stress and drug addiction to suicidal

tendencies and anxiety.

Notably, around 700 distressing calls involving suicidal tendencies were timely and effectively counselled, demonstrating the critical role Tele-MANAS plays in crisis intervention.

The recent introduction of India's first Tele-MANAS chatbot in Jammu & Kashmir has further extended the reach of mental health support. Designed to engage with individuals in distress, the chatbot provides 24/7 access to health counsellors, clinical

psychologists, and consultants. This digital initiative not only ensures round-the-clock assistance but also encourages individuals to seek help from the comfort of their homes, addressing privacy concerns and enhancing accessibility.

The toll-free helpline number for Tele MANAS Cell J&K is 14416/1-800-891-4416, and for the Tele MANAS Chatbot, it is 9797600601. The helpline operates 24x7, offering mental health services and drug de-addiction services

to the general public.

In light of previous studies conducted by the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS), it is evident that Kashmir faces a significant mental health challenge. A study in 2016 revealed that 11.3 percent of the adult population in the valley suffers from mental illness. Another study in 2015 by Medecins Sans Frontieres and IMHANS indicated that nearly one in five individuals in Kashmir exhibits symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder. KNO

## KU grapples to fill vacant seats, keeps admission process open for 5 months

J NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, OCT 10

With the Kashmir University celebrating its 20th annual convocation on Wednesday, the varsity seems to be no longer a preferred destination for aspirants of higher education.

The figures furnished by the varsity suggest that the varsity, once a coveted choice for aspiring students, is grappling with an unprecedented crisis as hundreds of seats remain vacant in various Post Graduate (PG) departments across its campuses.

In wake of this alarming situation, the university has kept the admission process open for five months as the seats have remained vacant, deciding to keep the admission process for the 2023 session open and has called students for counseling to

fill these vacant seats.

Additionally, candidates are being invited for spot admission in self-financed quota slots in various departments.

Official statistics available with the news agency reveals that a staggering 124 seats have gone unfilled in different PG departments at the university's main campus in Hazratbal, Srinagar.

Simultaneously, 45 seats remain vacant at the Institute of Technology Zakura campus. The North Kashmir campus reports 32 vacant seats, while the situation is worse in the South Kashmir campus with 111 seats lying unclaimed in various PG departments.

Even the Government Degree College's MSc Mathematics program has five vacant seats.

The noticeable increase in vacant seats in Kashmir

University has raised concerns among stakeholders as it is for the first time that the admission session has remained open for such a prolonged period.

In the past, the university was a top choice for students, who eagerly awaited their selection in PG departments. However, this year has seen a significant decline in admissions, despite the university's A+ grade recognition and NIRF ranking within the top 50 institutions.

Officials report that in previous years, the university received between 30,000 to 35,000 applications for various courses. This year, the number of applications was substantially lower, resulting in the surplus of vacant seats across the main campus and its satellite campuses.

In response to the admission crisis, the Directorate of Admission and

Competitive Examination (DACE) has issued a notification.

It states that the admission process for the 2023 session is now closed, but vacant seats in various programs necessitate additional counseling. "The final and last counseling session for courses like PG 3-year LLB, 5-year LLB, and 4-year B.Tech programs for the 2023 session is scheduled for October 17, from 10 am to 4 pm at DACE at KU," the notice reads.

This counseling session will address available seats under the open merit (OM), reserved categories, and self-financed quota that have remained vacant due to incomplete admission formalities or cancellations by selected candidates.

"Eligible candidates are those who appear on the general merit list, available

on the KU website, and have secured the required entrance test points for their desired programs," it reads.

As per the KU notice, the candidates who applied for admission under the self-financed quota will be considered only for vacant seats in their respective programs within this quota. "During the counseling session, candidates will be required to obtain and complete a counseling form," it reads.

For on-the-spot admission to available self-financed seats, candidates who have taken the entrance test and seek admission in the specified programs must also attend the counseling session. "However, these candidates must deposit a fee of Rs 500 as part of the self-financed application process," the KU notice reads. KNO

### FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

#### PM Modi reviews...

monitoring of activity, an official statement said. Modi had also spoken about taking the number of Jan Aushadhi Stores in India to 25,000 from the present 10,000 to increase the reach of affordable medicines.

The prime minister reviewed the implementation strategy for this expansion, the statement said. (Agencies)

#### President on 2-Day...

after her arrival in the city on October 11, the spokesperson said Tuesday.

On the same day, she will interact with members of local tribal groups and women of self-help groups at Raj Bhavan besides attending a civic reception to be hosted in her honour there.

On October 12, the President will visit Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine where she will inaugurate a remodelled Parvati Bhavan and skywalk, the spokesperson added. (Agencies)

#### President Murmu ...

during which she will attend the convocation ceremony of Kashmir University, officials said here.

Security forces, including police and paramilitary CRPF, have been deployed in adequate numbers around Kashmir University a day ahead of Murmu's arrival in the valley, the officials said.

They said the security agencies were carrying out area domination exercises in the city, including random checking of vehicles and patrolling of residential areas, around the venue of the function. Latest gadgetry like drones and CCTV cameras were being used to maintain a vigil in the city, the officials added.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Director General of Police Dilbag Singh chaired separate meetings to review the security ahead of the President's visit to Kashmir.

Singh held the meeting at PCR Kashmir where security arrangements put in place for the President's visit, including detailed deployment en route, in and around the venues, were deliberated upon.

Deployment of manpower from different forces and intelligence agencies and coordination aspects were also discussed in the said meeting, a police spokesman said.

The spokesman said the DGP also took a review of the overall security scenario of the Kashmir Zone.

Those who attended the meeting included ADG CRPF, J-K, Nalin Prabhat, ADGP, Headquarters, M K Sinha, ADGP, Kashmir Zone, Vijay Kumar and IGP CID Nitish Kumar.

The DGP stressed for optimum synergy among different agencies and forces, being deployed for the security of VVIP.

Singh also emphasised on patrolling and night domination while maintaining alertness to check

the movement of anti-national elements especially on inter-district routes and in the periphery of Srinagar city.

He also stressed for optimum use of resources and utilisation of technology and security gadgets, including CCTV cameras, as part of deployment. (Agencies)

#### LG reviews performance...

Lt Governor said. "Well-ordered functioning and implementation of the schemes, tracking and monitoring the progress of various projects is crucial for converting the programmes into desired outcome on the ground and to achieve the social objectives," he said.

The Lt Governor asked the Departments to create a comprehensive plan to avoid delays and create more fiscal space.

He directed the Labour & Employment Department to submit a proposal for the establishment of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) hospital in Srinagar.

The Health Department was directed to focus on increasing the Utilization of SEHAT Golden Card in Government Hospitals.

Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary Finance Department outlined various critical components of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes in the UT of J&K. KNO

#### Ensure adequate...

Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners; Heads of Departments and Power Corporations; Chief Engineers and senior officers attended the meeting, in persona and through virtual mode. KNO

#### CS interacts with...

to everyone. He maintained that the society has to be based on principles of justice and fair play.

Dr Mehta also observed that the law of limitation act describes the timeframe under which justice can be sought. He made out that by better legal counseling the time for administration of justice can be reduced significantly. He encouraged them to use their acumen in putting forth best defense in support of the UT government that eventually translates into defending the rights of common people.

He called upon them to support merit as they have been selected on merit basis only. He stated that it is evident from their diverse backgrounds that people now despite from poor families are able to government jobs on the basis of merit. He made out that the time favors hard work and people aspiring of seeking government jobs should work accordingly.

Later on the Secretary Law, Achal Sethi distributed the appointment orders among the 32 ALRs/

DLOs who were recently selected by the J&K Public Service Commission after the due selection process as per the prescribed norms. KNO

#### 'Gaganyaan' test space...

"India has recently created history by becoming the first country to land on the virgin south polar region of the lunar surface. With the launch of Aditya -1 which is the first space based Indian mission to study the Sun, India's ambitious space exploration programme has left a clear message that we are one of the most scientifically advanced nations in the field of Space Science and Technology," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh gave full credit to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for enabling India's Space scientists to vindicate the dream of their founding father Vikram Sarabhai by "unlocking" India's Space sector and providing an enabling milieu in which India's huge potential and talent could find an outlet and prove itself to the rest of the world.

"After the opening up of the Space sector by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in June 2020, the number of Space Startups sky-rocketed from merely 4 to 150 Startups," he said.

He said, India's space missions are designed to be cost effective.

Referring to applications of Space Technology to different sectors like Railways, Highways, Agriculture, Water Mapping, Smart Cities, Telemedicine and Robotic Surgery, which brought 'Ease of Living' for the common man, Dr Jitendra Singh said, Space tech has touched virtually every household in India.

"During PM Modi's tenure of nine years, India's disaster capabilities have become world class and we are providing Disaster Forecasts for neighbouring countries as well," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said ISRO is the epitome of India's Naarishakti, - with women scientists not only participating but also leading the various activities in Space research programmes.

On the occasion, ISRO scientists, - Dr Veeramuthuvel, Project Director, Chandrayaan-3; Ms. K. Kalpana, Associate Project Director, Chandrayaan-3; M. Shrikanth, Mission Director, Chandrayaan-3& Aditya L1; and Ms. Nigar Shaji, Project Director, Aditya L1 were felicitated by the Union Minister.

#### Two local Lashkar...

was retaliated, leading to an encounter," the spokesman said, adding that "In the ensuing encounter, two militants of LeT were killed and their bodies retrieved from the site of encounter."

He said that the slain have been identified as Marifat Maqbool son of Muhammad Mangloo of Cheigund Keegam, Shopian and Jazim Farooq alias Abrar son of Farooq Ahmad Wani of Heff Shirmal Shopian.

As per the police records, he said, both the mili-

itants were categorized and "involved" in several cases including attacks.

"Jazim Farooq alias Abrar was involved in case FIR No. 14/2023 under section 302, 307 IPC, 7/27Arms Act, 16, 18, 20 UAP Act of Police Station Litter pertaining to the killing of Kashmiri Pandit Sanjay Sharma," he said.

Marifat Maqbool was involved in case FIR No 202/2022 under section 20, 38 ULA(P) Act of Police Station Shopian, he said .

"It is pertinent to mention that another (militant), Aqib Bhat of Malangpora Pulwama involved in killing of Sanjay Sharma was already killed in Padgampora encounter in the month of February 2023," the spokesman said

The spokesperson said that incriminating materials, arms and ammunition were recovered from the site of the encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation, he said.

In this regard, he said, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered and further investigation is in progress.

"ADGP Kashmir congratulated the joint team of Police and security forces for conducting a successful operation without any collateral damage and termed the operation as a big success," he said.

Meanwhile, he said, people are requested to cooperate with Police till the area at the encounter site is completely sanitized and cleared of all the explosive materials, if any.

Meanwhile, PRO Defence Srinagar told KNO that on receipt of intelligence inputs from agencies about the presence of two Unidentified Terrorists in general area village Alishahpur, Shopian, a joint search operation was launched by the Indian Army and JKP on intervening night of 09/10 October 23.

"The area was cordoned by the security forces to carry out search. At around 01:00 AM the terrorists opened fire on the security forces which resulted in a fire fight. Two terrorists were neutralised during the operations. The slain terrorists have been identified as Morifat Maqbool and Jazim Farooq, both from LeT. It has also been learned from police sources that Jazim Farooq alias Abrar was involved in killing of Late Mr Sanjay Sharma a Kashmiri Pandit in Pulwama on 26 February this year. Two AK Series rifles, one pistol and other war like stores have been recovered," he said, adding that "This has once again brought to fore the nefarious designs of Pakistan in supporting terrorists and trying to disrupt peace and development in Kashmir. The high level of synergy between security forces and intelligence agencies has once again proved to be very effective in elimination of terrorists in hinterland." KNO

#### Fresh snowfall briefly...

has now been released from Minamarg towards Srinagar," announced the police in another post. (Agencies)



## 'World Mental Health Day' observed at GMC Baramulla



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, OCTOBER 10

The Department of Social welfare Baramulla in collaboration with Department of Psychiatry, GMC Baramulla observed World Mental Health Day under the theme 'Mental Health is the Universal Human Right' at Auditorium Govt. Medical College (GMC) Baramulla, today.

The seminar was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Zahoor ahmad Raina; Principal GMC, Professor Rubi Reshi; Medical Superintendent GMC, Dr. Parvez Masoodi; HoDs of different departments of GMC, officials of the Social Welfare department, doctors, besides a large gathering of students.

Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Raina emphasized the pivotal role of mental health in societal progress, stating that only mentally healthy individuals can truly contribute to society's betterment.

Prof. Ruby Reshi, in her address stressed that mental health is a univer-

sal human right entailing access to quality care, eradicating stigma, and creating supportive environments for emotional well-being.

Dr. Parvez Masoodi, while speaking on the occasion commended the Psychiatry Department for their dedicated work in addressing mental health issues and conducting vital outreach programs for the well-being of citizens.

He further highlighted the notable achievements of the department such as setting up of 6-bedded IPD facility, Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF), district-wide awareness and mental health camps, and comprehensive training for Drug De-addiction Centre staff at PHC Singhpora among others.

Other distinguished speakers included Dr. Rafia Rashid, a clinical psychologist affiliated with Medicines Sans Frontières (MSF), Dr. Tariq Chalko, Vice Principal of Government Degree College Baramulla, and Dr. Tajamul, Head of Psychiatry Department at GMC.

## Dr Piyush Singla assumes charge of Secretary, PD&MD; assesses departmental working

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 10

Dr. Piyush Singla, assumed the charge of Secretary, Planning, Development and Monitoring Department (PD&MD) here today.

After assuming the charge, Dr. Piyush Singla, chaired a meeting of officers of the department and Directorate of Economics and Statistics, J&K, at Civil Secretariat, Jammu.

The Kashmir based officers attended the meeting through virtual mode.

A detailed presentation was presented to Dr. Piyush Singla apprising him of the functions of Planning, Development and Monitoring Department.

Director General, Economics and Statistics, informed the Secretary that the DPCs have been convened both at Gazetted as well Non-Gazetted level and a number of officers have been promoted to the higher ranks.

The administration section of PD&MD informed Dr. Piyush Singla about the ongoing initiatives, Court Cases, RTI Cases, SRO-43/ RAS Cases, Grievances and other administrative issues. The Physical/ Financial progress of Centrally Sponsored Schemes / Centre Sector Schemes like BADP, PMDP, RMIS



was also presented to the Secretary.

The status of programmes like Pro Active Governance and Timely Implementation (PRAGATI), Project Monitoring Group (Central/ UT), E-Smiksha, Prime Minister's Reconstruction 20 Points Programme, Aspirational District/ Block/ Panchayat Programmes, Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), District Good Governance Index (DGGI) and Departmental Deliverables was also highlighted. DG, E&S apprised the Secretary that the Department undertakes 100 % physical verification of completed works, evaluation studies of schemes/projects, peak harvesting prices, Index of Industrial Production (IIP), Economic Census, State Domestic Product/ District Domestic Product, Civil Registration System (CRS), KAP Sur-

veys etc. Secretary, while addressing the officers and officials, asked them to lay special emphasis on Data Analysis, Orientation/Training Programmes, Capacity Building Programmes and sharing the price data with the Deputy Commissioners on fortnightly basis. He stated that Planning Cadre officers are performing their role effectively in plan formulation, data capturing and evaluation. He also said that Sustainable Development Goals are an essential component of planning process and more emphasis should be laid on it.

Director General Planning, Director Finance in Planning Department, Special Secretary Planning, Joint Directors Planning and other senior officers of the department were present in the meeting.

## Animal Husbandry Department Jammu organises day-long Workshop for capacity building of Dairy farmers

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 10

A day-long Workshop cum Seminar for capacity building of Dairy farmers was organized by Department of Animal Husbandry Jammu here today at Kisan Kendra, Talab Tillo.

The aim was to acquaint dairy farmers with latest schemes and techniques in dairy sector aimed at increasing the productivity and income of the farmers.

Director Animal Husbandry Jammu, Dr. Shubhra Sharma was the chief guest of the event, which witnessed huge participation of dairy farmers.

Several experts delivered informative lectures on important topics such as Quality Silage making, management of infertility in cattle besides various schemes and programmes being implemented by the department of Animal Husbandry.

Special emphasis was laid over formation and development of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in her address by



the representative from NABARD and by the field officers of the department as well with an aim to accelerate the process of formation of productive FPOs in Jammu division.

While addressing the gathering, the Director stressed on adopting convergence approach for implementing different schemes of Animal Husbandry department with other schemes of Central or UT govt. and NABARD to enable farmers to avail maximum benefits of all the schemes. She further emphasized on formation and promotion of FPOs to enhance farmers' competitiveness and increase their advantages in rapidly evolving market opportunities. Speaking further she said that such workshops are being organized by the department of Animal Husbandry to

build capacities and capabilities of farmers including women to encourage them to adopt improved animal husbandry practices to get better returns.

All the queries raised by farmers during the event were also amicably answered by the experts during the scheduled Question-Answer session.

The event among others was attended by senior officers of the Animal Husbandry department based in Jammu physically whereas the District officers of the department and Veterinary Assistant Surgeons from across the districts of Jammu division joined the event via virtual mode along with farmers from respective districts making this event a first of its kind in which officers and farmers from all the districts of Jammu division participated.

## DDC Jammu stresses on coordination, innovation for success of JJM



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 10

District Development Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, presided over a review meeting to evaluate the progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission projects in the district.

During the meeting, the DDC emphasised the pivotal role of Sub Divisional Magistrates in overseeing the Jal Jeevan Mission works. He urged SDMs to conduct regular reviews and field visits.

The DDC sought updates on ongoing projects and discussed potential challenges. Project timelines were reviewed

and reaffirmed. He encouraged all officers to use innovative approaches and motivation to meet targets within the specified timelines. The projects under review included dug wells, bore wells, tube wells, filtration plants and pipe networks. The DDC set clear targets for each division in the upcoming months.

In addressing challenges, the District Development Commissioner facilitated discussions on solutions and helped establish projected timelines while considering these hurdles. He called upon SDMs to work closely with the Jal Shakti Department and

contractors to ensure timely project completion. Concluding the meeting, Sachin Kumar stressed the importance of the Jal Jeevan Mission and the need to achieve associated targets. Despite challenges, he urged everyone to innovate and work effectively to meet these vital objectives.

The meeting witnessed the participation of key officials, including Chief Engineer and Executive Engineers from the Jal Shakti Department. Chief Planning Officer, Yoginder Katoch and others were also present, with Sub Divisional Magistrates attending remotely.

## ADC Doda presides over Mati Yatra Samaroh (Programme) in Block Chilly



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, OCTOBER 10

The Sankalp Sapta, which was a part of the Meri Maati Mera Desh campaign, was held in Chilly Pingal for one week. The event aimed to promote cleanliness and unity among the people.

During the event, soil from different Panchayats was collected and mixed for the Amrit Kalash Yatra, which was placed at the block level. This symbolized the unity and collective effort of the community towards a clean and prosperous nation.

The function was organized by the Block Development Officer, Chilly Pingal and was presided

over by ADC, Dr Ravi Kumar Bharti.

The Students from the Government Higher Secondary School in Chilly Pingal actively participated in cultural events and performed skits that highlighted the importance of cleanliness and unity.

ADC Bharti appreciated the efforts of the students and departments that excelled in their respective fields during the event. Certificates of appreciation were distributed to acknowledge their achievements.

Overall, the Sankalp Sapta event in Chilly Pingal was a successful initiative to promote cleanliness and unity among the community members.

Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rakesh Minhas today chaired a meeting of officers to review the arrangements for the ensuing Navratra festival here in the DC Office complex.

During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held with regard to the arrangements viz cleanliness, sanitation, drinking water, uninterrupted power supply, traffic plan and checking of rates of eatables besides security arrangements in and around the important temples and shrines of the district.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the Jal Shakti Department functionaries to ensure regular supply of drinking water at the shrines and other important points enroute to shrines. He directed concerned XENs of PMGSY divisions to repair Mata Bala Sundri, Mata Sukrala, Doula Mata, Jasrota Mata, Jourian Mata shrines, further directed concerned BDOs to repair bridge paths leading to the temples and shrines.

Similarly, the instructions were passed on to the PDD department to make provision of additional transformers for Mata Jourian and Mata Bala Sundri shrines to meet any contingency besides ensuring uninterrupted power supply to all the shrines.

The DC directed that representatives of Mandir management to not use polythene bags for distribution of parshads



besides opting traditional patta-dona for langar.

The RTO Kathua was directed to ensure no overloading and overcharging by the transporters on Yatra routes and to take action against the defaulters. He also directed the Traffic Police department to regulate proper traffic to rule out any traffic congestion during Navratra festival.

ASP Kathua was directed to maintain a proper security grid in and around important shrines and temples of the district.

The DC assured Mandir authorities that necessary logistics will be provided by district administration so that timely repair of defunct high mast lights near Mandir complex falling in their respective jurisdictions can be worked out.

The meeting decided that committees headed by concerned Tehsildar to regularly inspect the market to keep a regular watch on cleanliness,

single use plastic, eatables, overcharging etc.

The Department of Legal Metrology and Food Safety were directed to visit eateries, sweet shops to ensure quality of eatables, adulteration and submit daily reports to the Deputy Commissioner Office.

Members of management committees, Pujaris of temples and shrines projected various problems and demands for which the Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers for their mitigation.

Similar instructions were also issued to ADC Billawar, ADC Basohli and SDM Bani joined virtually to ensure all logistic and other services by different departments to be extended for smooth observance of Navratra festival.

ADC Kathua Ranjit Singh, SDM Hiranagar, CPO Kathua CEO Kathua and all other concerned officers of various departments were present in the meeting.

## DC Kulgam reviews implementation of 'PM Vishwakarma Scheme'

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
KULGAM, OCTOBER 10

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting of officers to review implementation status of 'PM Vishwakarma Scheme' recently launched by the government to facilitate and honour traditional skills of craftspeople and their exemplary commitment and contribution in economic growth of the society.

During the meeting,

it was informed that the scheme offers a range of benefits including toolkit incentive of Rs 15,000, training to artisans, Rs 500 per day during training, collateral-free credit support up to Rs 1 lakh (first tranche) and Rs 2 lakh (second tranche) at a concessional interest rate of 5%, incentives for digital transactions and marketing support.

GM DIC Kulgam informed the Chair that so far 1749 beneficiaries were registered under the scheme in the dis-

trict. The DC directed the stakeholders to extend the benefits of this scheme across the district and transform the lives of the artisans and craftspeople working with their hands and tools.

The meeting was attended by ADDC, Showkat Ahmad Rather; ADC, Viqar Ahmed Giri; JDP, Zahid Sajjad; ACD, Mohammad Imran; ACP, Sharjeel Ali; GM-DIC, Bashir Ahmad; ALC, DIO and other concerned officers.

## DC Srinagar chairs DLTFC meeting of Rural Employment Generation Programme

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR OCTOBER 10

A meeting of the District Level Task Force Committee (DLTFC) which met here today under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex gave approval to clear 48 cases under Jammu & Kashmir Rural Employment Generation Programme (JKREGP)

thereby providing loan amounting to several crores to eligible beneficiaries of the District for setting up income generating units.

The Committee under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner screened and scrutinised all the applications and all 48 beneficiaries were interviewed/interacted by the Committee and were selected for sponsorship under different Industries and sectors like Green House Vegetable growing, Multi Speciality Clinic, CSC center, Cutting Tailoring Boutique, Sheep farm,

income generating units.

Cow farm, Dairy products, shuttering, etc. The units are expected to generate employment opportunities for over 100 unemployed youth in the District.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner stressed on the line Departments to bring more and more unemployed youth of Srinagar District under the ambit of Government schemes launched to generate

maximum employment avenues.

The DC also stressed on the Bankers to ensure speedy disposal of these cases so that the aspiring unemployed youths are in a position to establish their income generating units without any difficulties.

The DC hoped that the units will go a long way in enhancing the socio-economic upliftment of the unemployed youth in Srinagar District.



## EDITORIAL

## Efforts on to grab power

The National Conference and the Congress are now busy in drafting the modalities to share power in Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Kargil where the two parties together attained absolute majority by winning 22 out of the total 26 seats. It has been decided that the leadership of two parties would meet in Kargil after a couple of days to finalize the constitution of the new Council which acts as the local government. NC has won 12 and Congress 10 seats. In the start, leaders and elected Councillors of the two parties would meet separately followed by a joint meeting which could take at least three to four days as presently the winners have gone to their constituencies to extend gratitude to the electorates. As per the alliance agreement, it was mutually agreed upon that two parties would share four posts of Executive Councillors (who enjoy rank of the Ministers and hold charge of different departments) equally between them. As far as the post of Chairman-cum-Chief Executive Councillor of Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Kargil is concerned, the two parties would reach a consensus on rotation for two and half years each as the Council has a term of five years. As per the procedure, initially the Council meeting has to be convened by the Deputy Commissioner Kargil, who serves as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to the Council in which all newly elected members have to take oath. This is followed by election of the Chairman-cum-CEC which can take place either unanimously or through voting. The first meeting of the Council has to take place within 15 days of the notification of results. Though the BJP won two seats, its strength in the Council will go up to six as the Union Territory Administration of Ladakh has to nominate four Councillors in the LAHDC Kargil with voting rights. Besides 12 seats of National Conference, 10 of Congress and two of BJP, there were two Independents who made it to the Council. AAP which contested four seats drew a blank while the PDP didn't field a single candidate in the elections. In the outgoing Council, NC had 10 seats, Congress eight, PDP two, BJP one and Independents five. However, two PDP Councillors had joined the BJP later. The BJP is also satisfied with its performance in the Council because it not only increased its seats but also strengthened its base at ground level. The party lost four seats with a very thin margin that has given it a lot of confidence. The National Conference, in order to corner the BJP, is expected to stake claim to the post of Chairman-cum-CEC for the first term of two and half years on the ground that it emerged as the single largest party winning 12 seats as against 10 of the Congress. Some of the Congress leaders are of the view that the National Conference was in power for the last five years and the Congress could get a first term for the post of Chairman. Amid this power game, it would be interesting to see how two National Conference and Congress would tread and further cement their alliance which, in the past, remained a bitter experience for two parties.

OMKAR DATTATRAY

There is no denying the fact that the UT of Jammu and Kashmir has transformed from terrorist capital to tourist capital as there is discernible change and improvement in the ground situation in J&K and there is great tourist footfall in the last and current year. The militancy in fact is on the death bed and counting its final days. On the whole some stray and residual militancy is showing its ugly head and with the help of dedicated security forces and support of the general public this very thin militancy will also be eliminated very soon and Kashmir will soon become again a paradise on earth and there are no two opinions about it.

Some time earlier and from the last over three decades Jammu and Kashmir only witnessed militancy and thousands of the precious human lives have been consumed by the giant of terrorism but now the situation has totally changed and from being a terrorist capital and den it has transformed into a tourist capital and this positive change is a welcome

development and augurs well for the overall development of Jammu and Kashmir and the common man of J&K is very happy for this change and wants that the fruits of this change and development should reach the last man standing in the queue.

With the active and successful anti terrorist operations, the security forces have maintained upper hand so far as the terrorism is concerned as the terrorists are now on the run and the common people are also not providing shelter to these enemies of humanity and thus they stand isolated as well as cornered and there are now only stray incidents of militancy in J&K and the people are happy with this transformation of the UT from a terrorist hub to tourist capital. Earlier the tourists were feeling insecure to visit Jammu and Kashmir read Kashmir due to the terrorism and several countries of the globe had issued advisories to its citizens not to visit Kashmir because of terrorism, but today the situation is totally changed and the foreign and Indian tourists are visiting in huge numbers to the tourist

spots in Jammu and Kashmir and contributing to the economy of the UT in a big way.

All the people connected with tourism directly or indirectly are gaining from the big tourist footfall and it is a big contribution to the tourist economy of Jammu and Kashmir. The people of the UT are welcoming tourists and providing all help to tourists so that they may not feel any difficulty. The hospitality of the people of J&K has earned admiration and appreciation from the tourists and thus they are coming in huge numbers to see and enjoy the mesmerizing tourist spots of Jammu and Kashmir. The increase in the tourist footfall is very significant and it has played its role and has thus changed the whole narrative of Jammu and Kashmir as there is significant change so far as the ground situation in J&K is concerned. Prime minister Narendra Modi who has the political will, determination and the big mandate has turned Jammu and Kashmir from a terrorist capital to tourist capital and hub. The national general secretary of BJP and incharge

Jammu and Kashmir Tarun Chugh has rightly remarked that Modi has transformed Jammu and Kashmir from a terrorist capital into a tourist capital and there are no two opinions about it.

In the last over three decades there was militancy and terrorism rife large in Jammu and Kashmir and the militants had an upper hand but now from sometime past there is positive change and the union territory has transformed from a terrorist hub into a tourist hub and this positive change has been possible due to the leadership of PM Modi and his direction and decision making power. Thus from the second term of Modi which had commenced from 2019, there has been a positive and encouraging change in the overall situation in Jammu and Kashmir and it has transformed from a terrorist capital into a tourist hub as the tourist both foreign and Indian have visited and are visiting in huge numbers to Jammu and Kashmir and changing whole narrative about Jammu and Kashmir. Tourists in lakhs and crores are visiting Jammu and Kashmir and contrib-

uting towards the economy of the UT and this is not an ordinary development as during last over three decades of militancy and violence the tourism had suffered a great loss and now from few years of the Modi dispensation, the tourist footfall has increased beyond imagination and has become an inseparable part of the economy of J&K and thus impacting the tourist economy of the UT. The coming of the tourists in great numbers is a welcome and positive development which has got a positive bearing upon the economy of Jammu and Kashmir and it has carved a place of pride in the tourist map of the world.

More and more Indian as well as foreign tourists are visiting Jammu and Kashmir and they are satisfied with the hospitality of the people of the UT and they are becoming the advertisement agents of J&K and are impressing the tourists to come to Jammu and Kashmir and have glimpses of the beauty of this paradise on earth. In fact the foreign tourists are becoming the peace, change and positivity ambassadors of Jammu and Kashmir

and through them there is great effect of the multiplier and the tourists in great numbers are coming from the foreign countries to see the beauty of Jammu and Kashmir. The UT is no longer the notorious place of terrorism but slowly and steadily changing and transforming into the tourist hub of the India as tourists both domestic and foreign are visiting Jammu and Kashmir and are experiencing the joy and beauty of J&K and taking much pleasure on the beauty of the union territory. In fact the total and positive change in the ground situation so far as the terrorism is concerned is a thing of joy and satisfaction for the common man and Jammu and Kashmir is fast turning into a tourist hub and capital and this is no ordinary development but a feat of significance as Jammu and Kashmir is experiencing and witnessing a total and positive change which is in the interest of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and mind it all the transformation and change has come due to the leadership qualities and strong will of the prime minister Modi.

## India's Bravehearts: Capt Tushar Mahajan

NILESH KUNWAR

On February 20, 2016, three heavily armed terrorists belonging to Lashkar-e-Taiba [LeT] terrorist group based in Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir [POJK] attacked a Central Reserve Police Force [CRPF] convey in the Pampore area of Pulwama district in South Kashmir. In this cowardly attack, while two CRPF soldiers were killed and nine others sustained bullet injuries, one civilian commuter was also killed.

Due to immediate retaliation by the security forces, the terrorists hurriedly abandoned their ambush site and this prevented any further casualties. However, taking advantage of the confusion the terrorists made good their escape and took shelter inside the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) complex located nearby.

Created to provide training to local entrepreneurs, JKEDI is a massive building with more than 60 rooms and hence provided the terrorists an

excellent place to take refuge. While this complex was quickly surrounded by the security forces to prevent the terrorists within to escape, launching an operation to apprehend or neutralise the holed-up terrorists was a difficult task fraught with extreme danger.

For one, being a multi-storey building with a large number of windows and wide corridors, the JKEDI complex negated the scope of any unobtrusive entry by the security forces. Secondly, with rooms on both sides of the corridors and several 'blind-corners' provided the terrorists an excellent place to take up concealed positions as well as the advantage to 'shoot and scoot'. Thirdly, due to the presence of staff members, instructors and trainees inside the complex, a hostage situation had developed and this precluded use of heavy weapons as the same could cause collateral damage.

Lastly, even after security forces had rescued the hostages, due to lack of proper entry/exit records, it couldn't be determined with complete surety that

all civilians had been extricated, and that there were no civilians still trapped inside the JKEDI complex. Thus, the security forces tasked to rid the JKEDI complex of terrorists had to carry out the building clearance exercise with due caution to avoid accidental casualties on hapless civilians who may not have been able to vacate the premises.

Capt Tushar Mahajan, was a Special Forces officer commanding one of the intervention squad tasked to clear the Pampore JKEDI building complex. As this group was in the process of carrying out room clearing drills, a terrorist hiding in a corner opened fire seriously injuring a soldier. Capt Mahajan immediately rushed ahead and despite being under heavy fire, successfully extricated the injured commando to safety. After providing him first aid and making arrangements for his evacuation, Capt Mahajan and his men recommenced the clearance operation.

On reaching the third floor the squad came under very heavy fire from a room. Capt Maha-

jan immediately took charge of this menacing situation and despite the evident danger, rushed forward and by lobbing grenades, silenced the terrorist holed up inside. Due to the grenade explosions, the room caught fire and as the squad started to move ahead along the corridor, they came under heavy fire from another room.

Since the room that Capt Mahajan had just cleared was ablaze, the squad members couldn't fall back and take cover inside it and were caught fully exposed in the corridor. Realising that his men were extremely vulnerable, Capt Mahajan singlehandedly charged towards the room, firing and lobbing grenades. This unnerved the terrorist hiding inside the room and he stopped firing at the squad members and instead brought down a heavy volume of fire on Capt Mahajan, and managed to hit him in the leg.

Despite being seriously incapacitated, Capt Mahajan still continued to stagger ahead while firing, and wounded the terrorist. However, while doing

so, he was hit once again in the arm but despite his grievous injuries and the excruciating pain, the brave officer still closed in and shot the terrorist dead. Capt Mahajan was quickly administered first aid and evacuated to the hospital but the braveheart succumbed to his injuries enroute.

It was due to Capt Mahajan's daredevilry and gallant action that his squad members caught in the corridor didn't suffer any casualties. While the uninitiated may opine that his actions were reckless, those who have even a rudimentary knowledge of counter terrorist operations, know very well of how a single act of sacrifice at the critical point can prevent multiple casualties and make all the difference between victory and failure.

Those familiar with the Indian army's glorious traditions know very well that its officers are brought up in an environment where selfless service and sacrifice remain an enduring and non-negotiable article of faith enshrined in the 'Chetwode credo' enunciated by Gen Philip Wal-

house Chetwode in 1932, when he was Commander-in-Chief, India and which states:

"The safety, honour and welfare of your country come first, always and every time."

The honour, welfare and comfort of the men you command come next.

Your own ease, comfort and safety come last, always and every time."

Capt Mahajan led his troops from the front and put his life in danger twice to ensure safety of the men under his command—once when he extricated a wounded comrade and thereafter when his squad came under devastating fire. For displaying exemplary valour Capt Mahajan was awarded Shaurya Chakra, India's third highest peacetime gallantry award.

Last month, the Government of India named the railway station in Udhampur [J&K] as 'Captain Tushar Mahajan Railway Station'—a befitting and very appropriate tribute to honour the supreme sacrifice made by Capt Mahajan, who belonged to this city and has made Udhampur proud!

## Natural disasters occur due to our apathy towards environment

KIRTI WADHWAN

The climate situation in the 21st century is turning more fragile than ever before. Coined in the 1970s, the term Adam Tooze, today proved every meaning of itself. The root cause of the Polycrisis is the anthropogenic reasons in the greater proportion; with some natural causes, which no one of us could ever deny. Unfortunately, man has increased his greed to such a level beyond that, today multiple crises have been created altogether due to the changing climatic conditions.

The most recent Glacier Lake outburst flood tragedy and outflow of South Lhonak Lake water towards Teesta Bank had created flood havoc for vast areas of Sikkim, is an alarm for the whole of mankind that we are crossing our limits of exploitation. Today river based flooding is becoming

very common in three major Indian states such as Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and now Sikkim. So many people are missing there, tourists got stuck due to an unprecedented avalanche, and flood water took away the entire Chungthang Dam with it. After the Tapovan Hydel Power Project of Uttarakhand, this will be another big dam from the Himalayan region to be affected. Repeated incidences of Cloud bursting, Land subsidence and sinking, cracks development and landslides have been reported. This would be the recent proportion of the entire Polycrisis story.

Let's focus on the other perspective too, most of us are living in a scenario of poor air quality. The quality of the air we breathe sometimes switches to a very poor or severe category depending upon the extent of air pollution in our surrounding areas. Developed and develop-



ing countries are rushing towards making deadlines to accomplish Net Zero. Regrettably, we are only extending the deadlines on paper, and no real improvement is made from a larger perspective.

Net zero emission, carbon neutrality, Carbon accounting, and carbon sink creation are only the tall talk by leaders today for meeting their climate change-related obliga-

tions. But the point of consideration is that we are not taking any concrete action for a larger cause.

Look at the condition of South America's largest Freshwater Lake Titicaca, it is dying today. The indigenous communities living alongside are facing extreme drought conditions there, which is making their survival difficult. Coming back to the Asian continent once

again, the shrinking Aral Sea also presents a concerning story for all of us. Disappearing and shrinking water bodies and lakes are a common story for most countries across the whole world. Just a few days back, Nepal faced earthquake shocks and tremors. Which creates tremors in areas of UP as well.

The vicious cycle of Polycrisis which is creating simultaneous and overlapping crises is creating troubles on a larger scale. The climate is changing very rapidly, glaciers are melting which is increasing water levels and water is causing floods and then loss of life & property and infrastructure. The cycle of crisis keeps on rotating in one or another face. But we can't keep rushing to manage all the crises constantly coming to us in one way or the other. Yes, all these disasters are created by us and now it's the responsibility of we the

humans to put an effort to come out of this menace of polycrisis. We need to be pro-environmental and have to study the cause of this very problem. If the very beginning point of the crisis is fixed, many of our troubles will be cured automatically.

We need to enhance our responsibility and responsiveness towards climate cure and healing.

We all need to enhance our investment in making climate-pro solutions. Enhance cooperation for mitigation efforts, and develop sustainable and viable ecosystems for a crisis-free society. Let's help nature to go back to its original status of peace and natural flow. Let's adhere to the eco behaviour in us, and pledge to never harm the climate for our mean cause.

(The writer is assistant professor, Management Department, Dr VSICS, Kanpur; view are personal)



## High sugar, chronic ailments – you could be prone to suicide

AGENCIES  
LUCKNOW, OCT 10

Patients with chronic ailments such as diabetes, or who have undergone major surgery recently, have 40 per cent chance of dying by suicide as compared to people who are not ill.

These are the findings of various research papers.

The sudden death of patients suffering from chronic ailments or recuperating after major surgery, has a possible mental illness connection, and such patients give signals before they die, say experts.

“If you acknowledge the signals, deaths can be averted,” said Dr Adarsh Tripathi, senior faculty member at department of psychiatry, at the KGMU.

He said, “Such patients coming to our OPD are referred by their treating doctors and even brought by their family, in equal



proportion, when they are able to sense a mental issue. These patients can be anywhere, around us and even in our houses.”

Dr Devashish Shukla, medical superintendent at the Kalyan Singh Super Speciality Cancer Institute and Hospital (KSSSCIH), said, “A majority of those diagnosed with chronic ailments initially ask what the outcome of treatment will be and whether they will survive the treatment or not.”

Dr Shukla, who is a qualified psychiatrist from KGMU, and had been senior consultant at psy-

chiatry department of the Balrampur Hospital, said, “At least one or two such patients came to the hospital OPD in a week, and I can say that with early intervention, over 90 per cent respond well. Even at KSSSCIH, patients ask about the outcome of the treatment. We identify the reason behind their fear and motivate them for treatment.”

Chronic ailments make the person apprehensive about life and finances ahead. There are biological reasons too for depression. Medically, with high sugar, the body releases a cellular toxin and that, in the long run, adversely affects the brain along with other vital organs. These toxins cause mental illness, said Dr Tripathi. Mental disorders have mostly been associated with illnesses causing pain or illnesses that have reported high mortality, for example cancer. People think now it is the end, despite advances in medical sciences. Early detection and treatment increase survival rate but in many cases, the toxin used as medicine affects the cells. Patients might also suffer memory loss, he said.

“Among chronic ailments is arthritis. When a patient ignores the disease for long and they lose their ability to move even inside their room due to excessive pain, they often think negatively about life,” said Dr Sandeep Kapoor, director Healthcity hospital and an eminent joint replacement surgeon.

## Young adults, teenagers more susceptible to early-onset of arthritis: Experts

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, OCT 10

Traditionally associated with older individuals, arthritis is now increasingly affecting young adults as well as teenagers, said health experts on Tuesday, ahead of World Arthritis Day.

World Arthritis Day is celebrated on October 12 every year to raise global awareness about arthritis.

Sedentary lifestyles, obesity, dietary choices, genetic predisposition, joint injuries from sports, and inadequate workplace ergonomics are to be blamed for the alarming surge seen among the youths, the doctors said.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), worldwide approximately 9.6 per cent of men and 18 per cent of women aged over 60 suffer from osteoarthritis – typically caused by wear and tear, injury, infection, age, and genet-



The orthopaedic experts noted that until a decade back, most arthritis patients were above the age of 45. Now, a patient can even be even 16 years old. In addition, a lot of working professionals around the age of 30 are also presenting with pain and stiffness in their joints.

“Inactive routines and a growing obesity epidemic are significant contributors. A lethargic and laid-back approach and excess body weight place undue stress on joints, accelerating wear and tear,” Bansal said.

Rheumatoid arthritis – an autoimmune disease where the body's immune system attacks the joint lining, leading to cartilage and bone damage – is also more common in younger individuals, and poses a greater threat. Arthritis is rapidly becoming the fourth most common cause of disability in India, the doctors said.

In India, osteoarthritis is the second most common rheumatologic problem, with a prevalence ranging from 22 per cent to 39 per cent.

Common symptoms include joint pain, restricted movement, swelling, and a painful grating sensation.

“In recent years, an alarming and consistent rise in arthritis cases among young adults is being seen. Out of total orthopaedic patients, 15-20 per cent are 35 years old or younger,” Vivek Mahajan, Senior

Consultant, Orthopaedic and Joint Replacement Surgeon, Indian Spinal Injuries Centre, New Delhi, said.

“Young adults, particularly those between 25 and 45, are more susceptible to early-onset arthritis. Regular physical activity to maintain joint flexibility, weight management, and a balanced diet rich in anti-inflammatory foods can reduce the risk,” added Hemant Bansal, Consultant - Orthopaedics, Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Gurugram.

## Statins may cause muscle weakness: Report

AGENCIES  
NEW YORK, OCT 10

Statins, commonly used to lower cholesterol levels, may cause a rare long-term condition which causes muscle weakness, according to a report by the UK's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

Statins – atorvastatin, pravastatin, lovastatin, fluvastatin, simvastatin, rosuvastatin and pitavastatin (single-ingredient and fixed-dose combination products) – are important medicines to lower a person's risk of having cardiovascular events such as angina, heart attacks, and stroke.

The medications are an acceptably safe and effective group that help lower the level of low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol in the blood.

Statins also play an important role in the treatment of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (narrowing and hardening of arteries).

## India among countries with highest stroke risk in young age: Lancet

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, OCT 10

India is among countries in Asia, along with some in Africa, with the highest risk of stroke among the younger population, according to a global burden of stroke report published in the Lancet Neurology journal.

The report showed that stroke could cause nearly 10 million deaths annually by 2050, mostly in low-middle income countries (LMICs), and cost up to \$2 trillion per year.

Taking into account population growth and ageing between 2020 and 2050 in high income countries (HICs) and LMICs, the analysis indicates the number of people who die annually from stroke globally will increase by 50 per cent, rising from 6.6 million in 2020 to 9.7 million in 2050.

The number of stroke deaths in LMICs is projected to rise sharply – widening the gap with HICs – by increasing from 5.7 million in 2020 to 8.8 million in 2050.



In contrast, stroke deaths in HICs are estimated to remain largely unchanged at around 900,000 between 2020 and 2050. This indicates that the proportion of global stroke deaths that occur in LMICs will increase from 86 per cent in 2020 to 91 per cent in 2050.

“Asia accounted for by far the greatest share of global stroke deaths in 2020 (61 per cent), around 4.1 million deaths) and this is forecast to rise to around 69 per cent by 2050 (around 6.6 million deaths),” said Professor Jeyaraj Pandian, President-Elect of the World Stroke Organization, one of the lead authors of the

Lancet Commission.

“Though smaller relative to Asia, the number of annual global stroke deaths occurring in Sub-Saharan African countries will rise from 6 per cent in 2020 (403,000) to 8 per cent (765,000) in 2050.

“We have to closely examine what is causing this increase, including the growing burden of uncontrolled risk factors – especially high blood pressure, and lack of stroke prevention and care services in these regions. Without urgent action, stroke deaths in Southeast Asia, East Asia, and Oceania could increase by almost 2 million deaths, from 3.1 million in 2020 to potentially

4.9 million in 2050,” Pandian added.

Importantly, the economic forecast indicates the combined cost of stroke, including direct costs and loss of income, will rise from \$891 billion per year in 2017 to up to \$2.31 trillion in 2050.

The bulk of these economic impacts are forecast to be felt in Asia, including India and Africa.

Major risk factors of stroke were identified as high blood pressure, diabetes mellitus, high cholesterol, obesity, unhealthy diet, sedentary lifestyle, and smoking. This was coupled with limited surveillance data on stroke risk factors, events, management, and outcomes of stroke.

The report recommended establishing low-cost surveillance systems to provide accurate epidemiological stroke data, raising public awareness and action to improve healthy lifestyles and prevent stroke, prioritising effective planning of acute stroke care services.

## Maintain mental wellbeing with these new features on Apple devices

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, OCT 10

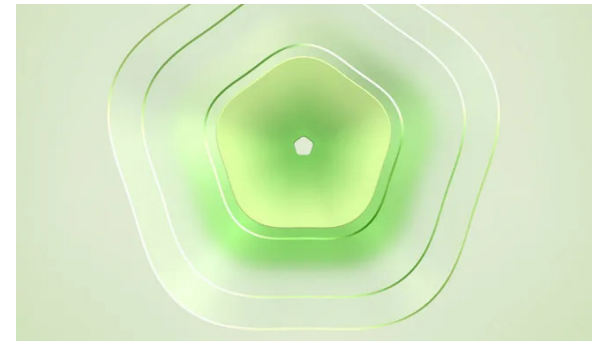
As people the world over continue to raise awareness about mental health issues with mental health being a “universal right”, here are some new features to maintain your mental wellbeing in Apple devices that are supporting millions of iPhone, iPad and Apple Watch users around the world.

Research shows that reflecting on one's own mental state can help build emotional awareness and resistance.

The new ‘State of Mind’ feature on iPhone, iPad and Apple Watch allows you to log your momentary emotions and daily moods, seeing valuable insights on what might be contributing to your state of mind – whether it's associations or lifestyle factors, such as sleep or exercise.

On iPhone and iPad, you can access the same depression and anxiety assessments often used in clinics to understand your risk level.

You can share these



results with your care team for more informed conversations, according to Apple.

The Mindfulness app on your Apple Watch encourages you to set aside a few minutes a day to focus, centre and connect as you breathe. You can even create a Breathe watch face that encourages you to relax and breathe mindfully through the day.

Fitness+ offers meditations to help users develop a regular meditation routine and improve their overall sense of well-being. Users can choose from 10 themes including Kindness, Gratitude, Awareness, Calm and Sleep.

Sleep plays an impor-

tant role in both physical and mental health. Tracking is a good start, but the Sleep experience on Apple Watch and iPhone goes further.

It helps you create a schedule and a bedtime routine so you can meet your sleep goals, even during the busiest of times.

Research shows the connection between physical activity and mental wellbeing, along with spending time outdoors.

You can use your Apple Watch to take walks or hikes, and see your data in the Health app, along with how much time you're spending in daylight with our new feature.

## Rising air pollution may cause inflammation in the brain, warn health experts

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, OCT 10

As the air around Delhi-NCR begins to deteriorate ahead of Diwali, health experts on Monday warned that the pollutants in the air may cause inflammation in the brain that can lead to anxiety, depression, and memory issues.

Ahead of the World Mental Health Day which falls on October 10, doctors emphasised that pollution in any form is damaging to human well-being.

Dr Nand Kumar, Professor, Department of Psychiatry, All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), said that apart from air pollution, “environment changes marked by frequent and extreme weather events such as floods and storms affects mental health”.

“People exposed to such climate changes may develop more serious mental health problems, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, or

substance use disorders,” he emphasised.

Air pollution is shortening lives in the National Capital Territory of Delhi, the most polluted city in the world, by 11.9 years, according to a new study.

As per the Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) report for 2023 by the University of Chicago's Energy Policy Institute, India is the world's second most polluted country and Delhi is the most polluted city in the world. The findings based on PM2.5 data for 2021 derived from satellites showed that pollution in India has increased from 56.2 micrograms per cubic metre air in 2020 to 58.7 micrograms per cubic metre air in 2021. This exceeds the World Health Organisation's (WHO) guideline of 5 micrograms per cubic metre air by more than 10 times.

Air pollution, a global issue that affects the health of millions of people globally, has long been associated with a range of physical health issues, from respira-

tory illnesses to cardiovascular diseases, however, the impact of air pollution on mental health is a less explored but equally significant concern.

A study released in March by Harvard University researchers adds to the evidence linking air pollution (small particulate matter (PM2.5), nitrogen oxide, and nitrogen dioxide) to an increased risk of dementia. Several earlier studies have linked air pollution to increased stress, psychological distress, an increased risk of Alzheimer's disease, and depression.

Dr Vipul Rastogi, Senior Consultant Neuropsychiatrist at Medanta Hospital, said: “We have come across people who have had to leave their fulfilling jobs and Delhi/NCR because of breathing problems that their children have. This causes a lot of discontentment in people as their lives are turned upside down.”

The latest data from the System of Air Quality and

Weather Forecasting And Research (SAFAR) showed that the air quality in the national capital is now in the “poor” quality zone, and days ahead are worrisome.

According to Dr Mrinmay Kumar Das, Senior Consultant, Department of Behavioural Sciences, Jaypee Hospital, “long-term exposure to air pollution can lead to neuroinflammation, which can affect the brain's functioning and has been associated with cognitive decline and an increased risk of neurodegenerative diseases”.

He mentioned that the high levels of air pollution can cause psychological stress which can lead to anxiety and depression over time. To deal with this, health experts suggested that maintaining a healthy lifestyle with a balanced diet, regular exercise, and stress-reduction techniques like mindfulness or yoga, can help support mental resilience.

## American Heart Association proposes adding kidney disease to heart risk

AGENCIES  
NEW YORK, OCT 10

The American Heart Association (AHA) on Monday for the first time proposed adding kidney disease as a risk factor for Cardiovascular Disease (CVD).

Various aspects of CVD that overlap with kidney disease, Type 2 diabetes and obesity support the new approach.

The AHA in a presidential advisory, published in the journal Circulation, defined the overlap in these conditions as cardiovascular-kidney-metabolic (CKM) syndrome. People who have or are at risk for cardiovascular disease may have CKM syndrome.

The scientific statement brings together evidence from current guidelines and large research studies and describes where gaps remain in knowledge needed to further improve CKM health.

CKM affects nearly every major organ in



the body, including the heart, brain, kidney and liver. However, the biggest impact is on the cardiovascular system, affecting blood vessels and heart muscle function, the rate of fatty buildup in arteries, electrical impulses in the heart and more.

“The advisory addresses the connections among these conditions with a particular focus on identifying people at early stages of CKM syndrome,” said Chiadi E. Ndumele, writing committee chair and an associate professor of medicine and director of obesity and cardiovascular research in the

division of cardiology at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

“Screening for kidney and metabolic disease will help us start protective therapies earlier to most effectively prevent heart disease and best manage existing heart disease,” Ndumele said.

CKM syndrome is a consequence of the historically high prevalence of obesity and Type 2 diabetes in both adults and youth, according to the advisory.

Type 2 diabetes and obesity are metabolic conditions – the “M” in CKM – that are also risk factors for cardiovascular dis-

ease. Moreover, the most common cause of death for people with Type 2 diabetes and chronic kidney disease is cardiovascular disease.

“We now have several therapies that prevent both worsening kidney disease and heart disease,” Ndumele said.

“The advisory provides guidance for health care professionals about how and when to use those therapies, and for the medical community and general public about the best ways to prevent and manage CKM syndrome.”

With multiple conditions to manage, Ndumele noted fragmented care is a concern in treating patients with CKM syndrome, particularly for those with barriers to care. “The advisory suggests ways that professionals from different specialties can better work together as part of one unified team to treat the whole patient.”



## Block level Kalash Yatras being held in memory of Martyrs by NYKS across J&K-Ladakh

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

The Mega National event Meri Mati Mera Desh program has now entered next stage in which the Amrit Kalash collected at Village Level shall be poured into a larger Block Level Kalash as NYKS J&K Ladakh is organising numerous programs across all the blocks of the UTs. The nation is organising Meri Maati, Mera Desh on theme "Mitti Ko Naman, Veeron Ka Vandan" Campaign as a culminating program of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahostav".

In Jammu District, Sh. Gurjeet Singh BDO, Arnia in coordination with District Administration, BSF, NYK Jammu organized the MMD Kalash Yatra programme at Govt Higher Secondary School Allah in which Shri Ashwani Kumar Sharma (Ex MLA), Ms Surekha Bhagat DDC member were pres-

ent as chief guest. Other Guests Sh. Kuldeep Raj BDC member, Sushma Kumari, Principal, Sh. R K Mistri Assistant commandant of BSF battalion, Ms. Balbir kour, Sarpanch Panchayat Trewa, Smt Anu Radha Sarpanch Panchayat at Kathar were present in programme. In Block Dansal, programme was organized in coordination with education department, Distt Admn in which Smt Renu Thapa was the Chief Guest whereas Sh. Akash Koli SDPO Nagrota was the Guest of Honour. Sarpanchs and PRI Members also attended the programme such as Ms Kanta Devi pyt Kathar, Jasmeen Akhtar pyt Badsoo, Pyare Lal pyt Dansal. In Block Akhnoor, Sharda Bhu DDC was the Chief Guest where as Akhil Salhotra was the Guest of Honour. During the programme of each block, the family members of martyrs were honored by the Chief Guests. Soil collected



from each Panchayat in the Kalash was placed at BDO office. Patriotic Songs, Dance and plays were performed by the participants. A large no. of peoples took the Panch Pran pledge and witnessed the programme in each block of Jammu district. Ms Poonam NYV Arnia, Shri Chander Bhushan

President, MARG, Ms. Priyanka NYV Maira Mandarim, Mr Sahil Sharma, NYV Akhnoor, Mr Majeed and Ms Radha Kumari NYVs Dansal also attended the programme in their respective blocks.

In Rajouri district, Block Level Kalash Yatras were held at Blocks Manjakote, Panj Grian and Doongi in

which Chairperson BDC Manjakote, Sahila Mir BDO Panj Grian and Khalid Hussain DDC Member Doongi were the Chief Guest respectively. Among others present in the programs were Mohd Rayaz BDC Chairperson Doongi, Mohd Nawaz BDO Doongi, Extension Officers from Agriculture Department, Personnel from CRPF, PRI Members. large number of youth club members and NYVs Whaida Kouser, Rashid Latif, Rubiya Kosser, Irfan Mukhtar. Panch Pran pledge was also administered during the programs. In district Doda, Block level Kalash Yatras were held in block Kahara at GHS Kahara in presence of Fatma Farooq BDC Chairperson, Ashfaq Choudhary CEO Doda, BDO Kahara, NYVs, Youth Club members and large number of people. Similar program was held at Bock Chiralla in presence of Assistant Commissioner Panchayats Sh

Ashfaq Khan and large number of people including youth club members. Kalash Yatras were also held in Kathua district where various programs were held in Block Mandli in which DDC member Neeru Rajput was the Chief Guest. Among others present were BDC Chairperson Reeta Devi, Sarpanches, Panches, NYVs, Youth Club members and large number of people.

In Kashmir division, under the banner of Meri Maati Mera Desh campaign, Block level Kalash Yatras were organised in different blocks. In Anantnag, Kalash Yatra was held at Municipal Committee Achhabal which witnessed the participation of more than 200 people. The Chief Guest of the event was BDC Chairperson Achhabal. Among others present were BDO Achhabal, Executive Officer, EO Achhabal, President MC Achhabal, Youth Club members etc. A grand Kalash

Yatra was also taken out in Block Khonmoh of Srinagar District which was led by Shameema Bano DDC Member Khonmoh A, Er Aijaz Ahmed DDC Member Balhama, A K Singh CO 75th Bn CRPF, Rakib Ahmed Tehsildar Pattan, Shivam Chandra BDO Khonmoh among others.

It is important to note that plantation drives have been held in all the Panchayats of the nation from 9th to 15th August after which Mitti Kalash has been collected from Panchayats. Now this soil collected shall be sent to Block till 13th of October 2023 and then to National Capital subsequently. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and Ministry of Culture are the nodal ministries responsible for ensuring success of the Mega National Program. All States and UTs are actively working to make this program of Janbhagidari a grand success.

## 140 psychotropic capsules recovered by Police Post Pounichak Jammu

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Jammu Police achieved major success by recovering 140 psychotropic capsules was recovered from an accused person in the jurisdiction of PP Pounichak.

A police team of PP Pounichak led by SDPO Domana Vishal Shoor assisted by SHO PS Domana Inspr Kunal Singh Jamwal and I/C PP Pounichak PSI Nitish Khajuria while on naka duty rounded up a suspected person Sachin kumar S/o Ashok Kumar R/o Sari Rakwalan, Pounichak. During search 140 psychotropic capsules (70 Diazepam and 70 phenaragan) recovered from the possession of accused.

In this regard, Case FIR No. under relevant sections of NDPS Act got registered at PS Domana Jammu and accused got arrested.

Further investigation of the case is going on.

Jammu police is working intensively to uproot the chains of drug supply in the region and thorough questioning of the accused is going on to know the origin of the drugs supply chain.

Jammu Police is striving hard and taking every possible step to make people especially youth aware to eradicate drug menace. We request people of the area to come forward and share information about drug peddling or consumption on 9086100100 or 100 with Police for the cause. Your identity will be kept confidential.

## Girls Volleyball Tournament inaugurated in Lolab

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, OCT 10

Nurturing sports talent in girls, especially in the sport of volleyball, is essential for promoting gender equality in sports and fostering a healthy, active lifestyle. Providing young girls with access to volleyball training programs, facilities, and coaching is the first step in identifying and developing their potential. By creating a supportive and inclusive environment, we can encourage more girls to participate in volleyball and unlock their hidden talents.

This is for the second time the Volleyball Tournament for Girls is being organized prelude to LOLAB MELA at such a huge level in Lolab, Kupwara. In this Girls Volleyball Championship, A total of 17 teams and 180 girls from Lolab, Kupwara District will be participating in the event. The event will be conducted for more than a week. The participation in the event has been overwhelming as teams participating in the event are from various educational institutes of Lolab valley.

The event's aim is to identify sporting talents and provide the girls and women of Kashmir the immense opportunities to excel in sports. The event is highly appreciated by the Civil Administration, PRIs, Locals and the participants.

## NC, PDP, Congress responsible for 'truncated' democracy in J&K: Kavinder

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta on Tuesday lambasted NC, PDP, Congress and other parties for again hoodwinking people on J&K by staging meaningless protests against government, which is leaving no stone unturned to restore normalcy and help democracy to thrive in J&K.

In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP stalwart leader categorically said that it was not BJP in power in J&K in the last many decades rather NC, Congress and PDP played a spoilsport in creating unrest and turmoil by doing all those things which were not in the interest of people and the democracy. He said that if democracy is under siege in J&K, the BJP is not responsible for this imbroglio because it is doing its best to bail out J&K from quagmire under PM Modi's leadership as the people are witness to this endeavour since 2014 and especially after 2019. He said that opposition parties' leadership is fooling the masses as Dr Farooq Abdullah and Mehbooba, the main leaders of NC and PDP respectively skipped the demonstration showing the level of their seriousness towards the Dharna. He said that these leaders and their ilk are the main contributors of the turbulence in the Valley as their hearts beat not for India or Indians but for the neighbouring nation Pakistan and that is the reason behind the trouble in Kashmir. It is cruel joke that those who diminished democracy to the hilt are accusing BJP for the 'truncation' of people's rights, which in actuality is not the fact because democracy is thriving as never before in PM Narendra Modi's regime and one can say that Hindi Proverb '900 Chuhe Khake Billi.....' best suits the leadership of these parties because after devastating democracy in J&K they have decided to become crusaders of people's rights and people's rule.

## Sunil Prajapati calls on Dr K. Laxman, apprised him about grievances of OBC's of J&K

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Sunil Prajapati (State President BJP OBC Morcha) calls on Dr K. Laxman (National President BJP OBC Morcha) in New Delhi and apprised him about Grievances of the OBC's of Jammu Kashmir UT.

Sunil Prajapati said the J&K Govt has grant reservation under to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) "Weaker and under Privileged Classes (Social Castes)" Category to 27 OBC castes mentioned at Annexure 'D' to J&K Reservation Rules 2005 and two other OBC castes ie. "Sheer Gojree" included in 2012 and "Bhowarias & Yogies/Jogies" included in 2019 vide SRO No 408 dated 18 June 2019. However, only 24 Castes have been updated for Centre OBC List as has not been updated as per State OBC List, as such people of some castes are facing difficulties in getting Centre

OBC Certificate.

In this regard it is stated that earlier all people of all the 27 OBC Caste were being issued OBC Certificate offline for Centre Govt Jobs. However, with the start of online issuance of OBC certificate, the anomaly occurred as few Tehsildars started denying OBC Certificates to the people of four castes residing in urban areas i.e. Barbers, Kumhars, Teli and Wasermen, stating that the people of these castes residing in Rural Areas are entitled to OBC Certificate only as the condition of Rural Only has been mentioned in the Centre OBC List. As such people of these castes residing in Urban Areas are not entitled to OBC Certificates, whereas as per J&K Reservation Rules 2005 under which OBCs are granted reservation, no such condition has been prescribed for the OBC Castes in J&K Reservation Rule 2005 as well as in the list of OBCs



castes as per Mandal Commission Report. Further as per Circular No 32/GAD of 1998 dated 12-02-1998, the World Rural has been

removed from the SRO 126 of 1994. However, the same has still not been updated in the Centre List as uploaded on NCBC web-

site. As such these people residing in areas other than Rural are suffering badly.

Therefore it is requested that issue may kindly be examined appropriately and Word rural may be removed from the Centre OBC List, so that people of four castes are not made to suffer any more. Further only 25 castes have been updated in the Centre OBC List. Sunil Prajapati said earlier the funds for Scholarship to OBCs were being provided regularly. However, funds for scholarship for OBC category are not being allotted by J&K Govt for last three years. In the absence of the funds, no scholarship is being provided to the aspirant candidates belonging to the OBC category. As such, many students from poor families are facing hardships and difficulties in continuing with their studies, in absence of the Scholarship, which is great injustice and discrimina-

tion with OBCs in J&K.

Sunil Prajapati also demanded that the construction work of OBC Hostel Building at Kot Bhalwal Jammu was started during 2017. About 60%, construction work has been completed and the construction work was stopped during 2018-19 due to lack of funds as no further funds were allocated by J&K Govt for construction of Hostel Building. As such, the further construction of the Hostel Building could not be completed even after 4-years from commencement of the construction work.

Therefore, it is requested that necessary directions may kindly be issued at appropriate level for allocation of requisite funds, so that construction of OBC Hostel Building is completed at the earliest and the needy aspirant Students from OBC Community can avail the Hostel Facilities.

## Bharat's remarkable performance at Asian Games 2023; A historical tally of 107 medals: Arun Prabhat

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

With its stellar achievements at the Asian Games 2023, Bharat has scripted history. Clinching a total of 107 medals - 28 gold, 38 silver, and 41 bronze medals, the nation marked a remarkable milestone, recording its best-ever tally in the history of the Asian Games. On this special moment, taking to X, Hon. PM Modi said, "What a historic achievement for India at the Asian Games! The entire nation is overjoyed that our incredible athletes have brought home the highest ever total of 107 medals, the best ever performance in the last 60 years."

"The unwavering determination, relentless spirit and hard work of our players have made the nation



proud. Their victories have given us moments to remember, inspired us all and have reaffirmed our commitment to excellence," the prime minister added. BJYM Jammu Kashmir President Shri Arun Prabhat also congratulated the winners of Asian Games 2023 and stated that the "Nation is proud of our sports person. With rightful sup-

port, our athletes, possess immense soft power through sports, which can enhance Bharat's identity on the global stage.

Bharat's medal count in global championships is consistently on the rise. With 7 medals at the

Tokyo Olympics which is more than double of the dismal total of 3 pre-2014, 61 medals at the Commonwealth Games 2022 (47 of the victorious athletes were covered under TOPS) and record medals in 2016 Paralympics, we have set new records. These statistics testimonies the transforming sporting culture in the country.

The government, under the leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, introduced several game-changer initiatives that are leading Bharat to become a sporting superpower.

## 2 Gold Snatchers arrested by PS Janipur Jammu

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

On 09/10/23 a written complaint was lodged at PS Janipur by one person namely Darshan kumar (Krishna Jewellers) S/o sh. Shrivath R/o H.no.146/5 Channi himmat stating that some unknown person snatched 02 no's of

Gold set (wt about 9 Tolla) from him at Janipur area when he was there for delivery of ornaments to customers. On this case FIR No. 110/2023 U/s 382 IPC got registered at PS Janipur and investigation started. After this special police teams of PS Janipur led by SDPO West Vikram Singh assisted by SHO PS

Janipur Inspr Sikander Singh did strenuous efforts and with the help of CCTV footages of the area finally rounded up the two suspected persons later identified as 1. Deepak Bagga S/o om parkash R/o Janipur colony jammu and 2. Vishal kumar S/o It. Surinder kumar R/o Janipur Colony jammu.

## Kargil Vijay Diwas Rajat Jayanti Women Cricket Friendlies matches from Oct 08 to 12



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, OCT 10

As part of Kargil Vijay Diwas Rajat Jayanti Mahotsav, Women Cricket Friendly matches are being organised by Indian Army alongwith Aseem Foundation, Pune from 08 to 12 October 2023 at Sopore, Chandigarh and Hajin. These matches are receiving overwhelming response across Kashmir. The first match was played between Aseem Eleven and Sopore Thunder Strikers at Subhana Stadium, Sopore.

In a keenly contested match Aseem XI were put to bat first & they set up a target of 99 runs. Sopore Thunder Strikers emerged victorious by Five wickets. In the second match of the thrilling cricket tournament on 10 Oct 2023, Aseem Eleven won the toss and elected to

field first, putting Lolab Strikers to bat. The Lolab Strikers displayed a formidable performance, setting a challenging target of 65 runs for Aseem XI to chase. However, it was the Aseem XI's exceptional teamwork and strong performance that ultimately led them to victory, as they successfully fought their total to emerge triumphant in a closely contested match. The sporting spirit and support displayed by the spectators is testimony to the rich culture and encouragement to women in sports across Kashmir.

This unique endeavour has sent a strong signal of 'Women Empowerment' for women cricketers of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir who showcased their talent and standards to all. Players and locals hailed the efforts of the Indian Army and Aseem

Foundation, Pune and urged them to organise similar tournaments in future as well, as such tournaments would encourage the local players and help them to compete at National level.

The Chief Guest for the event was Commanding Officer, 28 Rashtriya Battalion Col Anupam Hajela witnessed and motivated cricket teams, fostering their excellence at both local and national levels, thanks to the collaborative support of the Indian Army. The organisers, participating teams & spectators paid their heartfelt tribute to the bravehearts of the Kargil War.

The event was attended by Civil dignitaries, Government officials and large number of PRIs, youth, and students and locals from the adjoining areas of Lolab.



## NC, allies of Gupkar Gang betrayed people of Jammu Region: Yudhvir

### Calls for support for PM Modi's devp agenda

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President today strongly criticized the National Conference and other political parties of Gupkar Gang for misleading the people of the region concerning the Assembly elections.

In a statement issued today, Yudhvir Sethi recalled the troubled history of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, pointing out that it was the National Conference that won the 1983 Assembly elections through rigging, which ultimately led to the rise of terrorism in Kashmir and the exodus of Kashmiri Hindus from the Valley. He questioned Farooq Abdullah's motivations behind boycotting the 1996 Lok Sabha elections and the need to discuss Greater Autonomy.

Sethi questioned the National Conference for its failure to conduct Urban Local Body (ULB) elections for 23 years and



their decision to boycott the 2018 District Development Council (DDC) elections, which were organized by the Modi Government with the aim of strengthening grassroots democracy. He accused the National Conference of consistently betraying the people for personal gain and discriminating against the Jammu region in terms of government jobs, funds, medical and engineering seats, and overall development. He asked the National Conference's credibility in talking about the interests of Jammu people, especially when it comes to tourism development in the region.

Expressing concern over LAHDC Kargil elec-

tion, Yudhvir Sethi clarified that the Bharatiya Janata Party has accepted the people's verdict and on ground BJP has gained in the election. He asserted that the Party has secured 2 Council seats and garnered more than 11,000 which are much better than 2500 votes in the previous LAHDC polls.

The senior BJP leader emphasized that the responsibility for conducting elections lies with the Election Commission of India, not the BJP, and that the Election Commission will decide when the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is conducive for Assembly elections.

Yudhvir Sethi urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir to remain cautious of divisive policies promoted by such political parties like the National Conference, Congress, and PDP. He called on them to unite and support Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his efforts to drive overall development in the region.

## Translation Day celebrations held at CUJ

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Department of English, Central University of Jammu celebrated Translation Day by holding a series of activities in the university campus on 9-10 October, 2023. Echoing the contribution of translators in bringing various cultures together, the department organized a series of events event centred on the theme "Translation Unveils the Many Faces of Humanity". The event kick started with an inaugural lecture by Prof. Raj Kumar from Delhi University who spoke on Indian Literatures in Translation.

In his address, Prof. Kumar examined the problematic of the process of translation and its relevance in nation building in multilingual, multi-cultural and multi-ethnic country like India. Further, Prof. Kumar also highlighted how translation is a phenomenon of discovery and recovery with notable translations in India.

Earlier, speaking on the occasion, Prof. Vandana Sharma, Head, Depart-



ment of English and Dean, School of Languages underscored the relevance to raise awareness about language and translation among students. She further shared that Central University of Jammu with its pan-India ethos is the most appropriate institution to hold deliberations on translation which acts as a bridge across cultures and nations and the department has initiated the process of translation at the student level as part of students' project work.

On day Two, Sh. Mohan Singh, Padma Shree awardee and highly acclaimed dogri writer deliberated over the nuances of the process of translation and richness and profundity of dogri literature. Fur-

ther, Sh. Singh motivated the young students to stay connected to their roots and culture so as to uphold their identity. Sh. Singh expressed satisfaction that the Department of English has taken an initiative to introduce students to Indian literature, particularly Dogri.

The Interactive session was charged with a volley of curious queries by young students and scholars of the department.

Dr. Neena Gupta delivered the formal vote of thanks. On this occasion, students of the department, Hiteshi, Parvez, Shubham and Radhika presented a skit on the importance of translation which was well-appreciated.

## PIB Jammu bids farewell to M&CO, Mudasar Amin



J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Press Information Bureau, Jammu, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India today bid farewell to Sheikh Mudasar Amin, Officer at a function held at Conference Hall, Media Centre, PIB upon his transfer to Regional News Unit, Doordarshan Kendra Srinagar.

Speaking during the

occasion, Sh. Ghulam Abbas, Joint Director, PIB & CBC J&K Ladakh and Ms. Ayushi Puri, Deputy Director CBC J&K, Ladakh extended their best wishes to the outgoing officer for his future endeavours.

Besides staff of Press Information Bureau, Jammu & Central Bureau of Communication, Jammu, the farewell was attended by Sh. Zakir Nazir Malik, who also joined today as Media & Communications Officer at PIB Jammu.

## IGP Jammu holds introductory meeting with Police officers of Jammu Zone

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Inspector General of Police, Jammu Zone, Jammu, Shri. Anand Jain-IPS after taking over the charge of Jammu Zone, chaired an introductory meeting with Range DisG/ District SSSP of Jammu Zone in order to have an overall functioning of the Zone at ZPHQ Jammu this afternoon.

During an introductory meeting, IGP Jammu reviewed crime patterns and issued directions to district heads to improve Police working and better public relations. Besides, IGP Jammu also emphasized to adopt measures to deal drug menace stringently and directed them to infuse extraordinary efforts to put kungpins of the drug smuggling in their area of responsibility.

Moreover, IGP Jammu stressed upon the district SSSP to reach out to the common people particularly in the remote and border areas and seek



their valuable cooperation and assistance in curbing the menace of infiltration and checking the movement of terrorists and maintenance of communal harmony and brotherhood. He also asked the officers to remain extra vigilant against any threat from terrorists and other anti-social elements. Range DisG also gave a detailed introduction regarding the day-to-day policing in their respective Ranges.

All the Police Officers assured IGP Jammu Zone for wholehearted efforts to achieve the targets.

## Only Azad can save future of Youth: Manik Sharma

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Manik Sharma, Vice President of Democratic Azad Students' Union, the student wing of Democratic Progressive Azad Party issued a statement claiming that the future of Youth of J&K can be saved if Ghulam Nabi Azad will be elected to power.

He said, 'People of J&K trusts Ghulam Nabi Azad, specially the youth because they have seen the work of Azad in his tenure as CM of J&K. So many developmental works were done during Azad's tenure as CM of J&K like the districts, medical colleges and many more.'

He added, 'At present the youth of J&K is depressed due to the policies of LG govt. Different rules were passed and amendments were



done which were not in the favour of students. Recently the addition of Bed as mandatory qualification for 10+2 lecturers post is one of the anti students amendments. There are many more issues faced by the student fraternity of J&K.'

He also added, 'Elected Govt in J&K is the need of hour. Youth is fed up with these policies of J&K Administration.'

## RTMAA students shine in district Wushu Championship held at Jammu

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

R.T.M.A.A Students shine in district wushu championship held at indoor stadium bagwati nagar on oct 2023-24.600+ students participate in championship. This championship organised by Wushu association of Jammu supported by Jammu Sports Council.

Association appreciated all the medal winner and other team member. Rohit thakyal got gold medal, Ranjeet singh got gold medal, Amit kumar got gold medal, Veer vikram sainsi got silver medal, Pratiksha slathia got gold medal, Madhu sharma got gold medal, Ritish pansotra



got bronze medal in 52 kg, Prashant rattan got bronze medal in 70kg, Ayant gupta got bronze medal under 7 yr, Aum gupta got gold medal under 10 yr, Aman kumar got silver medal in 52kg, Mehul sharma got gold medal in 52 kg.

Under the supervision

coach and national, international medalist Rohit thakyal. Mr. Kuldeep handu first dronacharya awardi j&k India chif coach congratulation to R.T.M.A.A students. Special thanks to jammu district wushu association and j&k sports council.

## NC stages protest against prevailing situation of Jammu and Kashmir



### Javed Rana calls for urgent restoration of democratic process in J&K

J I NEWS SERVICE  
MENDHAR, OCT 10

In a strong display of dissent, J&K National Conference (JKNC) staged a protest today against the central government's approach to the current situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Led by Javed Ahmed Rana, President of JKNC Pir Panjal Zone and former Legislator, along with fervent party supporters, a massive protest rally was organized in Mendhar.

Talking to media persons, Javed Rana voiced his deep concern over the prevailing conditions

in Jammu and Kashmir. He highlighted that the suspension of the Constitution in J&K and the ongoing assault on democratic rights have become alarming issues. He further emphasized that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have been deprived of their democratic voice for the past five years, which is a matter of grave concern.

He asserted that the protest rallies and demonstrations across the Jammu and Kashmir serves as a testament to the growing concerns and demands of the people of Jammu and Kashmir for the restoration of their democratic rights and the initiation of the electoral process.

Javed Rana expressed his gratitude to the people of Kargil for their unwavering support to the National Conference.

He also noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had promised Assembly elections following the completion of constituency delimitation, but to date, no substantial progress has been made in this regard.

Javed Rana questioned the repeated assertions by Lieutenant Governor, Home Minister, and Prime Minister Modi that everything is normal in Jammu and Kashmir, while elections have not been conducted despite the completion of delimitation and the preparation of fresh voter lists.

He appealed to the Prime Minister Modi to reinstate the democratic process in Jammu and Kashmir as a means to combat corruption, unemployment, and the ongoing hardships faced by the region's people.

## Students' delegation meets BJP leaders



J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

A delegation of enthusiastic school-going students from Government Higher Secondary School Channi Himmat recently had the privilege of interacting with prominent BJP leaders, including Rajeev Charak, a Senior Leader of BJP Jammu & Kashmir; Adv. Ishant Gupta, State IT Head of BJP Jammu & Kashmir; and Hardesh Khokher, representing the "Prince Group Youth Union" and led by Chairman Rooh ullah Farooq, Senior President Prince Shah, and President Manthan Singh Chib, engaged in a constructive dialogue with the leaders.

During the interaction, Rajeev Charak demonstrated genuine interest in the students' future aspirations, urging them

to identify their fields of interest and channel their efforts towards academic excellence. He emphasized the significance of utilizing their potential for the betterment of the nation and making their parents proud. Charak encouraged the youth union to ensure that their endeavors remain result-oriented and free from any involvement in illegal activities or misconduct, emphasizing that such actions could jeopardize their futures and also bring undue financial and mental distress to their families.

Advocate Ishant Gupta, during his address, enlightened the students about the various welfare schemes initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the youth of the country. He particularly highlighted the "Prime Minister Special Scholarship Scheme"

(PMSSS) designed to benefit students from Jammu & Kashmir. Gupta urged the students to wholeheartedly focus on their studies, emphasizing that academic success would render them eligible for this beneficial scheme. The Delegation of Student said that this inspiring interaction between us served as a platform for motivation, guidance, and awareness, encouraging us to aspire for a brighter and more promising future.

Incharges Babar Sohail, Rasiq Mushtaq, Vice Presidents Akhil Sharma, Abhay Raina, Nasir Khan, Mehfooz, General Secretaries Inderpal Singh, Rashid Malik, Secretaries Vishal Kumar, Suman, Someshwar Charak, Anshu Kumar, Lakshya Charak, Tanveer and other were the prominent who were present on this occasion.

## Dr. Manyal, Sham Sharma review Jan Sampark Abhiyan in Jammu North

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led by its senior leaders today reviewed the programmes under Jan Sampark Abhiyan in Jammu North District at Mishriwala.

Dr. Devinder Manyal, J&K BJP General Secretary & convener for "Maha Jana Sampark Abhiyaan" along with J&K BJP Vice-President & former minister Sham Lal Sharma chiefly addressed the meeting.

Bharat Bhushan DDC Chairman Jammu, Omi Khajuria, Ajay Sharma, Surinder Bhagat, Vinay Gupta, Shiv Dev Manhas and JD Singh were on the stage.

Office bearers of District Jammu North, all District Morcha Presidents along with their general secretaries, and all Mandal Presidents along with their general secretaries,



Councillors, DDC and BDC members were present in the meeting.

Dr. Manyal while addressing the meeting, discussed the respective work of every team especially related to 'Meri Mati, Mera Desh' campaign and also sought suggestions to work for effective implementation of the programmes under Jan Sampark Abhiyan. He led the lengthy discussions to gear up the cadre to ensure their full contribution for the massive exercise under the Abhiyan. He stressed upon the party leaders to devote more time for the planning and successful conduct of all the programmes under Jan Sampark Abhiyan. He asked the party workers to make

Abhiyan a big Success and every leader of the party must ensure their active Participation during the Mass Contact Campaign.

Sham Lal Sharma, said that for every programme and event like Amrit Kalash Yatra; the participation of the party activists and working of various teams need to work in unison. He said that while celebrating the 9 years of Modi government, the party is going to organize different programmes at different levels. He said that under the Leadership of PM Modi lot of work has been done for the common person. During these 9 yrs, people have seen numerous structural transformations, which cover every section of the Society.



# Modi govt nurturing tourism potential: BJP

Kavinder, Pathania, Munish, Ranjod listen to public grievances at BJP HQs



JINews SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Modi Government has effectively taken many steps to develop and promote the tourism sector in whole of Jammu & Kashmir and especially in the region of Jammu, where "Religious Tourism" remains the priority along with other circuits in the nation, said Kavinder Gupta, former Deputy Chief Minister and added that the Modi government is committed for nurturing tourism potential in J&K and very Bharatiya Janata Party worker remains committed to the mission.

Kavinder Gupta, former Dy. CM accompanied by RS Pathania, former MLA & BJP Spokesperson and Munish Sharma, Prabhari BJYM at grievances to the public grievances at BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

BJP Minority Morcha President Ranjodh Nalwa was also present on the occasion.

Kavinder Gupta said that the Modi government is giving top priority to boost the religious tourism in the nation and providing massive funds for this. He expressed satisfaction over the way the major development tasks are being taken to promote tourism circuits in the Jammu region at the behest of the Modi government but at the same time emphasized on the need for more concentrated efforts on behalf of Department of Tourism, while he was attending to a deputation of tourism related professionals.

RS Pathania said that people from all walks of life have their substantial issues and need an appropriate platform for their redressal. He said that while BJP leaders

listen to these issues in a comprehensive manner, the administration should also make efforts for a responsive and a proactive grievance redressal mechanism.

Munish Sharma stressed on the need to address the major issues of public especially related to electricity and water supply, while coordinating the grievances camp. Numerous individuals and deputations from different parts of Jammu & Kashmir visited the party office to represent the issues of their respective areas as well as their individual concerns before the senior party leaders.

Listening patiently to the various issues represented by the deputations, BJP leaders telephonically talked to the concerned departmental officials for resolving the issues and also issued letters to many of them.

# Khatana asks NHAI to ensure employment to JK youth

JINews SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana directed National Highway Authority of India officials to ensure employment to skilled and unskilled unemployed youth of Jammu and Kashmir. He also asked the NHAI officials to resolve Sarore toll plaza issue as per the wishes of the people of Jammu region.

MP Gulam Ali Khatana in a meeting with the officials of NHAI led by its regional Director P Siva Sankar and attended by Project Directors Yashpal Singh Jadoan, Er. Purshotam Kumar Phonsa stressed the need for quality works and job opportunities to the local youth. He said that during past 70 years of Cong, NC, PDP rule people have suffered due to bad governance and trust deficit. The PM Narendra Modi led government has taken various steps to restore the faith of the people in democratic process, initi-



ated path breaking developmental projects so that youth of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are involved in gainful employment.

MP Khatana further said that NHAI has been executing various projects which have a vast potential of creating employment opportunities with the companies executing these projects besides compensation for acquiring their lands etc. He further directed that NHAI officials must look into the complaints of corrupt practices by officials of these companies executing the projects who are indulging in corrupt practices and promoting mafia. He said that some com-

plaints of sub-standard work are also being made by the local representatives, PRIs, DDC members etc.

Earlier, P Siva Sankar, Regional Director, NHAI, Jammu informed about various projects undertaken by the NHAI including Circular road, Jammu-Udhampur, Udhampur-Ramban and Ramban-Banihal and NH44. He further said that work on Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Highway is more than 20 per cent complete and progressing fast. He said that NHAI would ensure employment to local unskilled and skilled youth in the ongoing projects besides looking into the complaints against them.

# BJP lacks courage to face voters in J&K: Shiv Sena



JINews SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

The recent results of Kargil election, held for the first time after the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, have exposed the dissatisfaction of the people of Jammu and Kashmir with the decisions of the Modi government, contrary to the promises made to the nation.

This statement was stated by Manish Sahni, President Shiv Sena (UBT), Jammu and Kashmir while talking to media persons here today.

Shiv Sena (UBT) activists today joined a joint protest organized by opposition parties in Jammu, emphasizing the need to restore the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir, revive democratic processes, and address the people's grievances. In his address, Sahni criticized the apathy of the government towards the restoration of statehood, the revival of democratic processes, and the general concerns of the

public. He stated that 80% of Jammu and Kashmir's population is disillusioned with the decisions of both the state administration and the central government.

To prove their confidence in their rule, Sahni challenged the government to hold elections at any level as part of a referendum, claiming that the BJP's fate in Kargil is a telling sign. He noted that every segment of Jammu and Kashmir society is uniting to teach BJP a lesson. He emphasized that winds of change are sweeping through the region. Sahni further criticized the BJP for exploiting Article 370 for electoral gains across the country while shying away from facing voters in Jammu and Kashmir.

It is evident that the BJP is avoiding elections in Jammu and Kashmir, including the Jammu region, he added. On this occasion Meenakshi Chibber, Vikas Bakshi, Sanjeev Kohli, Raj Singh, Shashipal, Geeta, Rajesh Handa, Dimple and many others shiv saniks were present.

# CGES conducts 'Tree Plantation Drive' at Shankarpur Gaushala, Selaqui, Dehradun

JINews SERVICE  
DEHRADUN, OCT 10

Massive tree plantation drive was conducted at Shankarpur Gaushala, Selaqui, Dehradun being run by Doon Animal Welfare and Dehradun Municipal Corporation by Clean and Green Environment Society. More than 150 fruit, shady and different types of flowering trees of different species were planted on the occasion. The trees planted included mango, pilkhan, banyan, tejpat, cassia samiya, jackfruit, neem, guava, bamboo, jaggery etc.

This is the 13th tree plantation drive undertaken by the Clean and Green Environment Committee in 2023 and the last tree plantation drive of this monsoon season. Doon Animal Welfare (Shankarpur Gaushala) requested Ram Kapoor, president and founder of Clean and Green Environment Society, that there is an urgent need for trees for bovine animals in his Shankarpur Gaushala, Selaqui, so that cows and small calves present in the cow shed sit and rest in the shade of trees. On his request, a massive tree plantation drive was carried out by the committee at Shankarpur Gaushala.

More than 1000 bovine animals reside in Shankarpur Gaushala which includes injured, sick, people evacuated from homes, such animals. Doon Animal Welfare



Committee and Municipal Corporation Dehradun have provided all the facilities for accommodation, food and treatment of all these animals in the gaushala. More than 1300 trees have been planted by the Clean and Green Environment Committee this monsoon season.

The tree plantation drive was organized to pay tribute to late Shri Amit Khanna ji, elder brother of our committee member Shri Sumit Khanna, who passed away suddenly on September 26. The committee paid homage by planting a tree in his name and observed a two-min-

ute silence.

In This Tree Plantation Campaign, Society President Ram Kapoor, Vice President Randeep Ahluwalia, Treasurer Shambhu Shukla, Secretary JP Kimothi, Convenor Nitin Kumar, Amit Chaudhary, Tika Bahadur Thapa, Deepak Vasudeva, Vishwas Dutt, Sumit Khanna, Manjula Rawat, Sonia, Jyoti Chaudhary, Rajesh Bali, Ravinder Raina, Praveen, Hriday, Sunder, Amulya, Namit, Reyansh, Harshil, Prakhar, and Mrs. Mili Kaur of Doon Animal Welfare and Dehradun Municipal Corporation were present.

# Under 14yrs girls Kho-Kho competition held on sixth day of Inter-District Provincial Level Tournament



JINews SERVICE  
KATHUA, OCT 10

The competition was conducted from 03/10/2023 to 12/10/2023 at JK Tourism, Khrote More.

The competition is conducted with the direction of Director YSS UT of Jammu and Kashmir & Joint Director Suram Chand. Deputy Director Jitender Mishra under the overall supervision of DYSSO Kathua Sunil Kumar. On the sixth consentive day of Inter District Provincial level kho-kho under 14 yrs girls kho-kho. The competition was inaugurated by Tabusham Seikh

JKAS cooperative society Kathua along with DYSSO Kathua. The Chief Guest interacts with participating girls players and advised them to do your best for the betterment of district as well as UT J&K. In the morning session 6 matches were played and the rest of the matches were played in the evening session. The result is as under. Match No.1.: District Kathua defeated District Ramban by one innings and two points. Match No.2: District Samba defeated District Rajouri by six points.

Match No.3: District Jammu defeated District Doda by an innings and one point.

Match No.4: District Udhampur defeated District Poonch by an innings and three points.

Match No. 5: District Kathua won his 2nd match by beating District Kishtwar by an innings and 8 points.

Match No.6.: District Jammu also won his 2nd match by beating District Reasi by an innings and one point.

All the matches were officiate by experts officials nominated by District office Kathua.

# NSS SMVDU organized Art of Happiness workshop



JINews SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of SMVDU Katra organized the "Art of Happiness" workshop. The workshop was conducted by renowned motivational speaker Shri Raj Kumar Dogra from Swarangan Meditation Charitable Trust (NGO), Jammu. The event started with a

welcome address by NSS coordinator Dr. Rajiv Kumar. The speaker Shri Raj Kumar Dogra emphasized not comparing oneself, complaining about anything, and criticizing others. The first priority of everyone should be one's mental health. NSS volunteers Suhani Rajput and Suhani Sharma anchored the event. More than 100 students enthusiastically took part

in this workshop, which proved to be a profound and enjoyable learning experience for all participants. Dean of Academic Affairs, Dr. Balbir Singh, Dr. Manoj Gupta, and NSS co-coordinator Dr. Kamaldeep were also present during the workshop. Vice-chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar congratulated NSS volunteers for organizing the event.

# Set 'Emergency Cell' to monitor Dengue cases: Aseem

JINews SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

With each passing day, there is rise in number of fresh cases of 'Dengue' in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and it is indeed of serious matter, said Aseem Gupta, Vice-President Jammu and Kashmir BJP.

Expressing grave concern over the latest report that the positive cases of Dengue in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory has jumped by 93, taking the total count so far this year to 2765, he said that situation is very alarming and need to be controlled through war footing measures at the earliest.

Aseem Gupta said that the UT government should direct the health department as well as municipal corporations, committees and councils across Jammu and Kashmir to take all the measures to ensure recovery of the patients and check the spread of this dangerous mosquito born viral disease, which is posing threat to the precious human lives.

Assem Gupta said that all the hospitals, dispen-



saries in districts, sub-districts, panchayats and blocks, should be well equipped with adequate infrastructure and health staff to provide immediate treatment in cases of Dengue. There should be proper fogging by municipalities in their areas. Public should also be made aware about the symptoms, precautions related to Dengue through all the available means of effective advertisement, he said.

The BJP leader also made an appeal to the Lieutenant Governor to direct the health department to set up an 'Emergency Cell' under a team of senior doctors and govt. officials to monitor the situation round the clock.



## People eagerly waiting for polls to teach lesson to BJP: Narinder



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Social Activist and PDP District Jammu Media Coordinator Narinder Sharma today said that J&K people are waiting eagerly to teach a lesson to the BJP for allegedly failing to fulfill the promises made before coming to power at the Centre and in J&K. This was stated by Sharma after attending all party Dharna at Maharaja Hari Singh Park in Jammu. He said that people should elect those who will ensure that their voice is heard. "People of J&K want a credible voice to represent their aspirations and PDP has proved credible voice of all the regions of J&K," he added. Sharma said people of J&K remember BJP for unleashing countless miseries on the State and its people. People still

recount the numerous instances of BJP and its leaders committed from time to time. The treacherous role played by the BJP and its leadership is an open secret," he said, adding, now the responsibility rests on people to choose between forces inimical to State's integrity and those who have lent immense sacrifices for the protection of the State's communal harmony and brotherhood. "Now, it is up to people to discern between the ones who stand for their rights and who trampled them. However, people have made it a point to show such forces as are inimical to State they're the right to place. In the end, it is the people whose resolve will prevail," he said.

Claiming that people were "disturbed over the change in BJP's attitude after getting a clear man-

date," Sharma said that the public would teach a lesson to the BJP in J&K Assembly elections whenever they are held. He said farmers, labourers, poor, employees, traders all are fed up. All sections are fed up during the BJP regime, Sharma hit out at BJP leadership and likened them to conjurer who "talks big, but fails to deliver".

Sharma slammed BJP Govt for acting as a mute spectator to the sufferings of the people from Jammu and Kashmir. BJP's tall claims of creating job and employment for the youths has turned mere hoax. He said that women folk are bearing maximum brunt of the anti-people policies being propagated by the NDA Government headed by Narendra Modi. He said except tall promises, nothing concrete has been done on the ground.

## Indian Army promotes Intellectual Brilliance through Spirited Debate Competition

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, OCT 10

In a remarkable display of commitment to education and fostering critical thinking, the Uplona Rashtriya Rifles under the aegis of Kilo Force organized a spirited Debate Competition at Higher Secondary School, Authoora.

The event, which took place on October 9, 2023, centered around the thought-provoking topic, "Should Children Use Smartphones, its Pros, and Cons."

The stage at Higher Secondary School, Authoora, served as an intellectual exploration, as these young debaters dived deep into the heart of the technological age that defines our times.

Their spirited engagement with the topic not only showcased their zeal but also highlighted their commitment to intellectual excellence.

In a world increasingly shaped by technology, the event allowed participants to share diverse



viewpoints on the role and impact of smartphones and other devices in shaping human intelligence and behaviour. It encouraged the students to articulate their thoughts and opinions coherently, thus contributing to the development of confident and well-informed future leaders.

The Indian Army, by spearheading such initiatives, continues to play a pivotal role in nation-

building. Beyond their primary responsibilities of safeguarding the nation's borders, they are actively investing in the intellectual and moral development of our youth.

The debate competition in Authoora serves as a testament to their commitment to nurturing the next generation of leaders, who will undoubtedly contribute significantly to the progress and prosperity of our great nation.

## SMVDU in top 2% scientists from India by Elsevier and Stanford University



Dr. V. V. Tyagi Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq Dr. B. B. Jindal

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Three faculty members of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Dr. Vineet V. Tyagi, Dean (R&D) and faculty in the School of Energy Management, Dr. Bharat Bhushan Jindal, Associate Dean (Academics) and faculty in the School of Civil Engineering and Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq, faculty in the School of Mechanical Engineering figure in the list of top 2% worldwide scientists, published by Elsevier Database and Stanford University in the month of October 2023.

Dr. Vineet V. Tyagi is actively working in the research area of Solar Thermal Energy Storage, Phase Change Materials and its Applications, PV/Thermal System, Solar Wastewater Treatment and Desalination System. He has published 230 research papers in SCI/Scopus data base and has more than 15000 citations and 51 H-Index to his credit. Dr. Bharat Bhushan Jindal working in Geopolymer Concrete in the field of Civil Engi-

neering and Ecofriendly construction materials, has published more than 50 research papers in various peer reviewed and SCI and Scopus indexed journals. He also has expertise in the field of 3D printing concrete as well as waste material utilization in construction materials. Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq is working in the area of Materials Tribology, 3D Printing, Green Lubricants and Cutting Fluids. Dr. Mir Irfan having more than 60 publications in Scopus data based to his credit is currently working in the field of Development of New Light weight and Sustainable Metal Matrix Composites for different applications. These faculty members have been ranked in this list for their research publications of repute, citations and their lifetime contribution to their fields of research work. Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University congratulated the faculty members for their achievement of recognition in the list of top scientists globally and conveyed his best wishes for future endeavors.

## Philosophical research is expanding through Adhyetha Samagam: Prof Mishra

Trika Tattva Mimamsa is a journey of spiritual practice to attain Shivatva: Dr. Upadhyay

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCT 10

In the technical session of the three-day Fellows Meet (Fellows Meet-2023) organized by the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, Ministry of Education, Government of India, New Delhi, Trika Metaphysics: Nature and Specialities (in the context of the metaphysics of Indian philosophies) this important Presenting the review of his research work on the subject, Dr. Abhishek Kumar Upadhyay, researcher at the Center for Sanskrit and Oriental Studies, Jawahar Lal Nehru University, New Delhi and Chief Trustee of Sri Sri 1008 Sri Mouni Baba Charitable Trust Trust, said that Indian philosophies Trika metaphysics has its own important contribution in metaphysics. Because Kashmiri Trika Darshan is the divine fruit of the Kalpavriksha of Nandanvan of Indian philosophies. This is a journey of spiritual practice to attain Shivatva. Which starts with Chaitanyamatma and ends with Bhooya Syat Pratimlanam. With the eagerness to realize the true form of the conscious self, by performing Shri Ganesh, one attains Shivatva. Vice Chancellor of Central Sanskrit University, New Delhi, Prof. was the chief guest in the inaugural session of the program.

Srinivas Barkhedhi has said that Western philosophy is influenced by science whereas science is moving towards its higher research under the influence of Indian philosophy. Presiding over this occasion was renowned scholar of Indian literature and philosophy, Prof. Radha Ballabh Tripathi seriously



propounded the essence of Indian philosophy.

While delivering his address as the keynote speaker, Prof. By focusing on the present status and future of Indian philosophy, Ambikadutt Sharma inspired the scholars from various universities across the country to study from a philosophical point of view and do relevant research work in the current perspective of high order. On this occasion, Member Secretary of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, Prof. Sachchidanand Mishra said that with the special support of the Ministry of Education, Government of India, fellowship is given to three types of scholars for special research work in the field of philosophy. The first National Fellowship is given to the famous philosophical scholar of the country who is a retired teacher or is engaged in service work for updated learning in the subject of philosophy. The second fellowship,

known as the General Fellowship (Post Doctoral Fellowship, PDF), is awarded for excellent work in the field of philosophy after a doctorate (PhD). The third fellowship is given to the researchers doing PhD in the form of Junior Fellowship i.e. General Fellowship (JRF). To ensure that this glorious tradition of Indian philosophical research continues, such efforts have been taking place again and again and are also going on. During the program, Council Director Dr. Pooja Vyas expressed her gratitude to all the visiting guests, subject experts and philosophical researchers coming from various universities across the country. On this occasion Prof. Rajendra Prasad Sharma, Prof. K Rajni, Prof. Onam Bhagat, Dr. Jai Shankar Singh, Dr. Sanjay Singh, Dr. Vinay Kumar, Sandeep Kumar and scholars of philosophy from all over the country, along with officers and workers were present.

## NDS holds interaction with eminent music composer Pt Prithvi Raj Sharma



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Nami Dogri Sanstha (NDS) in a programme titled "Ikk Malatti" held an interactive session with Pt Prithvi Raaj Sharma a Vetran and Eminent Music Composer of Jammu and Kashmir. His Music Compositions were also sung on the occasion by eminent singers Prof. Suraj Singh and Prof. Anupama Sharma along with Amit Anand and Vijay Anand on Dholak and Tabla respectively.

Padam Shree Jatinder Udhamपुरi former Director AIR and Sahitya Academy Awardee Presided over the function whereas Nidhi Dogra Sharma Patron Dogra Samaaj Trust Mumbai and Younger Daughter of an eminent Politician of Jammu and Kashmir Girdhari Lal Dogra Ji was Chief Guest. Prof. Nirmal Vinod and Singer Kanish Sharma who is giving Music in Bollywood Films and has done more than hundred commercial Advertisements of Major Companies like Reliance also attended and performed.

The Programme was conceived, planned and monitored by Prof. Anupama Sharma Patron NDS, Dogra Harish Kaila President NDS and Pandit Prithvi Raaj Sharma Ji shared the dias along with dignitaries.

Yash Pal Yash General Secretary NDS conducted the programme. Large Number of Literary Persons, Artists, Art Lovers, Prominent Music Artists and Prominent Citizens attended the Programme.

Capt. Lalit Sharma read a paper on the life and works of Pt. Prithvi Raaj Sharma and earlier in his opening address said that Pandit Prithvi Raaj Sharma is tall Music Composer of Jammu and Kashmir who has acumen and talent befitting Bollywood standards.

Son of eminent singer of Jammu Pt. Mansa Ram Sharma Ji and Younger

Brother of O P Sharma "Sarathi" Pt. Prithvi Raj Sharma has worked under the guidance of famous Music Composers of Bollywood Ravi Ji and Madan Mohan. B Plus Artist of AIR and Doordarshan has contributed a lot in Dogri Music as well.

The Music of famous Dogri Album of Environmental Songs "Mein Ga Karna" was Composed by him. Vetran of Eighty Six Years is still Vibrant and Energetic and contributing in the field of Music. He has many disciples and admirers.

He was Conferred with Sanstha Sammaan "Sahitya Shree" by NDS by way of a Shawl, Memento and a Citation.

A Young Jammu Music Composer and Singer Kanish Sharma who is giving Music in Bollywood Films and has done more than hundred commercial Advertisements of Major Companies like Reliance also attended and performed.

The Programme was conceived, planned and monitored by Prof. Anupama Sharma Patron NDS. The Programme was kindly sponsored by Mohan Diagnostics 15/1 Trikuta Nagar Jammu.

Dr. Jatinder Udhamपुरi in his Presidential address while lauding Pt. Prithvi Raj Sharma said that Music Unites the Society and Makes it Vibrant.

He said that Music has an element of divinity as well and plays a significant role in creating a refined and civilised society. Nidhi Dogra Sharma in her address looked forward for joint ventures between NDS and DST for promotion of Dogri Language and Duggar Culture.

She emphasised upon broader unity among Dogra Samaaj for Duggar and National Interest.

Prof. Nirmal Vinod called for reading and appreciating the Dogri Literature.

He said Critical Appreciation of every literary and art venture is must for the new writers, Dogri Language and the society.

Pt. Prithvi Raj Sharma in his remarks demanded a separate "Duggar Channel" for promotion of Local Language, Art and Culture and the local writers and artists which was seconded by all the participants.

It was also decided unanimously in the Meeting that soon a Press Conference shall be convened by NDS to high light the important issues and demands pertaining to languages and local culture. Advocate Arjun Mohan General Secretary Youth Wing Extended Vote of thanks.

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 10

Jammu Warriors Front (JWF) Chairman Rajesh Gupta on Tuesday demanded census/survey of OBCs at national level.

In a statement issued by the JWF, Gupta said, "The party demands that census/survey of OBC (Other Backward Castes) at the national level be conducted. The anti-reservationists who deny this are the same caste-minded people who continuously conspire to make the reservation of SC and ST categories inactive and ineffective and do not even fill the backlog of their reservation."

"Due to this reason, there is no role of the people of the 'SC/ST' community in policy framing. It is necessary to change this extremely saddening and worrisome situation," he said.

"But how can the destiny of the 'OBCS' community be formed and improved by relying on casteist, communal and narrow-minded people for such a change? It is not possible to trust them anymore," the JWF chief said. Rajesh Gupta on Tuesday said in view of the Lok Sabha elections, casteist and anti-reservation parties/elements, especially the BJP and the Congress are in a race these days to project themselves as the new well-wishers of the OBC community for votes of the bahujans.

"But the struggle for welfare of Dalits and tribals as well as OBCs and religious minorities, who are a special part of the 'bahujan' community, and their constitutional rights, was more than anyone else after Baba Saheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar," he said.

**Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir**  
**Office of the Executive Engineer,**  
**Mechanical & Hospital Division, Doda.**

Email: [medkhellani@gmail.com](mailto:medkhellani@gmail.com)

**GIST OF e-TENDER NOTICE No. - MHDD/TS/2023-24/ 16 & 17 Dated: 07-10-2023**  
**Due on: 18-10-2023**

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, e-tenders are invited from the Government Contractors for the below mentioned job:-

S. No.	Name of Work	Cost of Tender Document	Due Date	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Estimate d Cost (in lacs)	Time of Completion	Tender Receiving Authority
1.	Repairs and Replacement of parts to the Hydraulic Excavator JS205 2239843	Rs. 1000 /-	18.10.2023	2800/-	1.389	10 days	Executive Engineer, Mechanical & Hospital Division, Doda
2.	Repairs and Replacement of parts to the Departmental Inspection Vehicle Tata Xenon JK06 7749	Rs. 500 /-	18.10.2023	1300/-	0.642	10 days	Executive Engineer, Mechanical & Hospital Division, Doda

For details of work, terms and conditions and any other clarifications, kindly contact the Office of the undersigned on any working day up to 17.10.2023.

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Mechanical & Hospital Division  
Doda.

**DIP/J-9345/23**  
**Date: 11-10-23**



## Public Outreach Program

# Union MoS visits religious sites, inspects development scenario

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SAMBA, OCTOBER 10

The second day of public outreach program of Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Meenakshi Lekhi, today began with her visit to the ancient Buddhist site, Ambaran.

She inspected the Buddhist stupa, Akhnoor fort and the Jio-Pota Ghat, situated on the banks of river Chenab signifying the rich historical and cultural heritage of the region.

Afterwards, Meenakshi Lekhi visited ancient Narsingh Dham Temple, Ghawal in Samba and offered prayers there.

Later, Union Minister inaugurated an exhibition of women Self Help Groups (SHGs) stalls in Nakshatra Gardens of Narsingh Dham. She inspected the stalls and interacted with the officials of handloom and handicrafts Department stall. She witnessed a live demonstration of Calico Block printing on fabric and even printed a fabric herself. She appreciated the unique talent of calico printers and provided valuable suggestions on contemporary fabrics and styles. She also commended the work done by NRLM UMEED.

In a heartwarming gesture, she prepared traditional Bajra rotis on a chulha, demonstrating her respect for local traditions and culinary practices.

On the occasion, Meenakshi Lekhi interacted with a large gathering of PRIs and SHG members at the Nakshatra Yoga center, speaking highly of the NRLM's role in empowering women and providing them with a platform and identity.

Addressing the gather-



ing, Union Minister stated that various government initiatives, such as the Ujjwala Yojana, creation of toilets and Ayushman cards have played an instrumental role in empowering the women. She passionately urged upon women to reduce plastic use, emphasizing the importance of environmental sustainability. She also highlighted the significance of promoting the use of millets due to their nutritional and cost-effective benefits. She recommended the use of bamboo cultivation and products in the district.

Union Minister, SHG members, along with prominent figures, also took a pledge to serve the nation wholeheartedly.

The event was attended by several prominent figures, including MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, DDC

Chairman Keshav Dutt Sharma, DDC Vice Chairman Balwan Singh, as well as members of BDC, PRIs (Panchayati Raj Institutions), local residents, and officers from the District Administration.

Later, Meenakshi Lekhi proceeded to Purmandal, where she visited the ancient Shiv Temple. She offered prayers at the temple and inspected the temple site.

While inspecting the old temple, Union Minister directed for implementation of the already approved DPR for development of the temple complex. She also instructed for effective utilization of state land for development and the rejuvenation of Sarais. Additionally, she called for creation of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for restoration of old buildings.

Meenakshi Lekhi interacted with a delegation of PRI members and listened to their issues. She emphasized the importance of converting Purmandal into a plastic-free area through PRIs' engagement, awareness campaigns, installation of waste trolleys at all main sites.

She also stressed on the promotion and involvement of local SHGs in preparing Pooja materials like chunnis. She instructed that a pledge for cleanliness be taken, involving locals and pandits of Purmandal not to pollute Devika, the holy river.

Director Archives Pardeep Kumar, Deputy Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma, Joint Director Tourism Sunaina Mehta and other senior officers of district administration Samba were present on the occasion.

## Board of Apprenticeship Training to hold "Industry Meet", "Job Fair for Apprenticeship Training" on Oct 14

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 10

The Board of Apprenticeship Training (Northern Region) under Department of Higher Education, Union Ministry of Education, is going to organize a mega event comprising an "Industry Meet" and a "Job Fair for Apprenticeship Training" on Saturday, 14th October 2023, (9 am) at Government Polytechnic for Women, Bemina, Srinagar for the students who have completed their graduation or diploma in last 5 years..

According to a communication received here today in this regard, the

categories of the students eligible to participate would be Graduate in Engineering/Technology (B.E./B.Tech.), graduate in general streams such as B.Sc., B.Com, BA, BHM, BCA, BPT, B.Pharm, B.Sc. Nursing, B.Lib. Sc. and diploma (10+3)

The event will be organized in collaboration with Directorate of Skill Development, Directorate of Industries and Commerce Kashmir and Higher Education Department, Government of J&K besides Industries from different areas like Manufacturing, Tourism, Service, Automobile, Textile, Food Processing Power, Cement,

IT/ITeS, Software etc. More than 100 establishments and over 1000 students are expected to participate in this gala event.

The industries from different sectors will participate in job fair to select suitable candidates as apprentices to facilitate on-the-job training. At the same time, industries can fill their skilled manpower gap and also get financial benefit from Government of India by claiming 50% reimbursement of minimum stipend rate through National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS).

The students selected as apprentice will be

benefited by upskilling themselves along with financial support in the form of stipend from the establishments through Apprenticeship Training (On-the-job training).

For additional information, the interested candidates can visit website www.boatnr.org. Sunil Kumar, Assistant Director and Assistant Central Apprenticeship Advisor, Board of Apprenticeship Training (Northern Region) would be available in Srinagar for local coordination. The officer can be contacted at 93550 77752 and 93049 29845 besides email id: sunil.kumar@boatnr.org.

# J&K ranks first in Tele Manas for receiving maximum daily calls

JINNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 10

Jammu & Kashmir achieved top rank in the Union Territories category by achieving the highest number of calls in the National Tele Mental Health Programme.

Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department, Bhupinder Kumar and his team received the award at Mental Health Conclave on Mental Health Day, 2023 at New Delhi.

The award was presented by Dr V K Paul, member NITI AYOJ in presence of Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya who joined virtually.

Other dignitaries present during the event included Rajesh Aggarwal, Union Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disability, Sanjay Kumar, Union Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Dr. Bharat Lal, Secretary General, National Human Rights Commission of India, Dr B N Gangadhar, Chairman NMC, Lt Gen Daljit Singh, DG AFMS, Dr. Rodrico H Ofrin, WHO Representative to India, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chairperson, M S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) and Former Chief Scientist, WHO, Dr Prathima Murthi Director NIMHANS, LS Changsan AS&MD MOHFW GOI, Dr. Pratima Murthy, Director, NIMHANS, Prof (Dr.) R.K



Dhamija, Director IHBAS.

Pertinently, the National Tele Mental Health Programme of India, envisages to work as a comprehensive, integrated and inclusive 24x7 tele-mental health facility in each State and UT in India with the aim to provide universal access to equitable, accessible, affordable and quality mental health care through 24x7 tele-mental health counselling services. Bhupinder Kumar, while giving details regarding the programme, informed that since its launch on 4th November, 2022, the centre has received 26477 calls.

Major reasons for calling included anxiety 2854 calls, sadness of mood 2790 calls, palpitations 2428 calls, reduced inter-

est 1931 calls, stress 1869 calls, sleep disturbances 1601 calls, suicidal ideation/attempt 799 calls. Also, there have been calls related to substance use and addiction. The Toll Free number for Tele Manas helpline is 14416/1-800-891-4416.

He also informed that NHM J&K conceptualized the first of its kind Chatbot for Tele-MANAS in the country to improve the accessibility to Mental Health Services. Tele MANAS CHATBOT was launched in J&K on 5th July 2023 by the LG, UT of J&K. The objective of his concept was to reach out to the youth of the UT. The Whatsapp number 9797600601 can be assessed and two away Chat can be initiated with

the Mental health Councilor. As the youth of today is more tech savvy and prone to chatting, the chatbot was developed so that anyone can consult the counselors using this chat bot.

Secretary, Health also gave detailed Power Point Presentation about other new initiatives being taken by the department of Health and Medical Education Jammu and Kashmir for improving mental health across the UT of J&K which included increase in the number of seats for both MD/DNB Courses in Psychiatry, Capacity Building of both Doctors and supportive Staff and start of Diploma Course for Medical Officers with the support of NIMHANS Bengaluru.

## 4 day NCERT capacity building programme concludes at JKBOSE

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 10

The four day Capacity Building programme for Master Trainers of School Health and Wellness Programme (SHWP), under Ayushman Bharat scheme of Government of India concluded here at Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) campus Srinagar.

Organised under the aegis of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), New Delhi, this workshop focused on successful implementation of the School Health and Wellness Programme in Jammu and Kashmir by imparting orientation and training to the UT level Master Trainers who shall further train two teachers in each school designated as Health and Wellness Ambassadors to reach every student. About 50 Master Trainers drawn from School Education Department, SCERT, DIETs and Health Department of JKUT representing all the 10 districts of Kashmir Division were trained during this programme.

Professor Dinesh Prasad Saklani, Director, NCERT was the chief guest on the occasion while Pratyanshu Kumar Mandal, Secretary NCERT, was the guest of honour.

In his address, Professor Saklani underscored the importance of cultural and ethical rootedness in upbringing of children, especially the benefits of exercising mindfulness and Ayurveda. "Connect to the home environment of children to get a fuller view of their mindset and of the challenges that trouble their smooth growth as



adults. NEP 2020 emphasizes cross-linkages and coming together of Health and Education departments shall go a long way in ensuring robust physical and mental health of the learners," he added.

Professor Mandal emphasized the crucial importance of mental health, interventions and techniques required to assess the mental well being of students in the present times.

Professor Parikshat Singh Manhas, Chairperson, JKBOSE, hoped that it would be a watershed moment in implementing SHWP in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

Manisha Sarin, Secretary, JKBOSE, in her message, lauded the efforts of the Academic Division, JKBOSE for organising this event in which all the senior functionaries of NCERT interacted with the participants.

Professor Gauri Srivastava, Project Coordinator, National Population Education Programme, NCERT, Professor Varda M. Nikalje, Dr. Bijaya Kumar Malik, Dr Jitendra Nagpal, Dr Satya Bhushan, Dr Harish Kumar Meena.

Others who were prominently present on this occasion included Professor Aijaz Ahmed Hakak, Joint Secretary Secrecy and Administration KD, Dr. Harish Kumar Meena, Programme Coordinator, NPEP, NCERT and Assistant Directors Academics.

Earlier, the workshop was inaugurated by Professor Sudhir Singh, Director Academics, JKBOSE, who underscored the crucial role of teachers in a student's life. "Attitude of a teacher can make or mar students' experiences in their school life. It takes a special effort to understand a student's psychology," he added.

In her keynote address, Professor Gauri Srivastava, Project Coordinator, National Population Education Programme, NCERT, provided the participants a bird's-eye view of the health scenario in the country and enlightened them about various strategies adopted under SHWP to leave no school-going child behind in

terms of health and wellness.

Hem Raj Pakhroo, Joint Director, JKSCERT and Dr. Yasir Hamid Sirwal, Deputy Director, Academics, JKBOSE, highlighted the achievements made by the UT of Jammu and Kashmir in the School Health and Wellness campaign.

The components of the workshop included brainstorming participatory sessions, discussion, activities, on key areas of school health and wellness like implementation and monitoring of SHWP in light of NEP 2020, gender equality, nutrition, health and sanitation, value and responsible citizenship, promotion of healthy lifestyle, safe use of internet and social media, reproductive health and HIV prevention, etc.

The ceremony concluded with distribution of certificates among the participants.

As schools play a critical role in helping students establish lifelong healthy behaviours, school-based health promotion activities have been incorporated as a part of the Health and Wellness component of the Ayushman Bharat Programme.

## DGP sanctions over Rs.1.38 Crore Welfare Relief for NoK of deceased police personnel

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 10

Continuing with its endeavour to provide financial assistance to the families of the deceased police personnel the Director General of Police J&K Shri Dilbag Singh has sanctioned rupees 1.38 crore as Special Welfare Relief in favour of NoK of 06 deceased Police personnel & one SPO.

The special welfare relief of rupees 22 lakh each has been sanctioned in favour of dependents/legal heirs of deceased police personnel ASI Narider Singh, ASI Rajesh Kumar, HC Mushtaq Ahmad, HC Ashok Kumar, HC Sajad Ahmad and SgCt. Avinash Kumar, who passed away while in service.

Similarly Special Welfare Relief of rupees six lakh has been sanc-

tioned in favour of dependents/ legal heirs of deceased SPO Narbat Singh who died due to illness during the course of his engagement with the department.

Out of this amount rupees one lakh each was already paid to the families/NoKs for performing the last rites as immediate relief by the PHQ through their concerned units/Districts. The financial assistance

has been given out of Contributory Police Welfare Fund/ Contributory Welfare Fund of SPOs.

Police Headquarters is running many schemes for the welfare of its personnel and their families. There are also schemes for the wards of Police personnel and SPOs. Besides, there are schemes for the NoK of the retired Police personnel and their families.