



# JINDRAH IMAGES

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## J&K Police has always displayed undaunted courage: LG Sinha



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BARAMULLA, OCTOBER 18

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha attended the Attestation cum Passing Out Parade of 16th Basic Recruitment Training Course (BRTC) held at Subsidiary Training School (STC), Sheeri, Baramulla. A total of 510 recruit constables have completed their rigorous training at the Training School. In his address, the Lt Governor congratulated the cadets and encouraged them to discharge their responsibility with highest degree of profes-

sionalism and commitment. "J&K Police has always displayed undaunted courage. I bow to the brave hearts of J&K Police who laid down their lives in the line of duty. The nation is grateful for their selfless spirit and sacrifices," the Lt Governor said. The Lt Governor lauded the J&K Police for combating terrorism and maintaining the Rule of Law in the Union Territory. The rule of law is the foundation for equitable socio-economic development and the empowerment of all sections

of society. J&K Police is playing a crucial role of combating terrorism and maintaining the rule of law. Zero tolerance policy against subversive forces and strict enforcement of rule of law has realized the dream of fear-free J&K, the Lt Governor said. "Terrorism poses the biggest threat to humanity. J&K Police's prime goal is to eradicate terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations to ensure peace, stability and security," he said. At the Passing out Parade, the Lt Governor

## Lt Governor hands over land allotment letters to landless beneficiaries of PMAY-G



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BARAMULLA, OCTOBER 18

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha inaugurated and laid foundation stone of various infrastructure projects worth more than Rs 43 Crore at Baramulla, today. "Baramulla has undergone a historic transformation over the past few years, with new infrastructure, boost in local economy, reform in agriculture, tourism and trade. Better opportunities for youth, women and farmers have redefined

its identity and turned it into a hub of prosperity and strength," the Lt Governor said. He said the J&K Administration is working round the clock to build social and economic infrastructure for a better tomorrow. Effective, transparent and accountable governance system is our commitment to generate growth and bring far greater prosperity for people across the Union Territory, he added. "Empowerment

## Hybrid war will be part of future conventional wars: Rajnath Singh

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, OCT 18

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday complimented the synergy among Army, central armed police forces and Jammu and Kashmir police in tackling the menace of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, stating that the situation along the Western borders (along Pakistan) is far much better as Indian Army's response to cross border terrorism is very effective. He, however, said that the proxy war by the adversary continues but the excellent synergy between forces with the army is capable of tackling the menace of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. "The synergised operations in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir have been contributing to increased stability and peace in the region and the same should continue," the minister said addressing the army com-



manders' conference in New Delhi, as per news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO). The defence minister commended the Army for the high standard of operational preparedness and capabilities. Commenting on the current situation along the Northern borders (Ladakh sector) the Minister expressed full confidence in the Army for any contingency though the ongoing talks for peaceful resolution will continue at all levels. He also complimented

the efforts of BRO, which has led to the incomparable improvement of road borders both Western and Northern, while working under difficult conditions. The minister was addressing the second Army Commanders' Conference of the year 2023, which commenced in a hybrid format on 16 Oct 2023. During the event, Indian Army's apex leadership comprehensively deliberated upon all aspects of existing

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## Over 40 police stations in J&K being provided with latest gadgets, weaponry to root out remaining terrorism: DGP Dilbagh

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BARAMULLA, OCT 18

Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbagh Singh Wednesday said that at least 43 police stations in J&K are being provided with latest gadgets and other facilities to root out remaining terrorism in their areas under Operation Capacity Building. "We have started Operation Capacity Building and under this, we have covered 21 police stations that have been strengthened and provided with latest gadgets and other facilities to deal with the remaining terrorism," DGP Singh said addressing the passing out cum attestation parade in Sheeri area of northern district of Baramulla, as per news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO). He said that 22 more police



stations will be covered under the OCB to ensure remaining terrorism is eliminated from their areas. Paying rich tributes to 1601 policemen who have laid down their lives since the past three decades, the DGP said that this year, 14000 new policemen were trained of which 1800 were trained in commando training school.

"These commandos have been deployed in various parts of the UT," he said. The DGP said that similarly, 2500 new cops have completed Cyber Crime Training and are contributing towards building a better society. He said that despite the peaceful situation in Kashmir, challenges remain and J&K police are committed

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## Benefits of social welfare schemes must reach the people without any delay: LG to officials

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BARAMULLA, OCTOBER 18

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today chaired a meeting with District Administration Baramulla and reviewed the progress of development projects and welfare schemes in the district. The meeting was attended by Ms Safina Baig, DDC Chairperson, Baramulla; Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Dr Mandep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Sh Vijay Kumar Bidhuri,



Divisional Commissioner Asgar, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Heads of various departments and senior officers of Civil

and Police administration. The Lt Governor directed the officials to focus on education, capacity building, healthcare, tourism sector and implementation of Holistic Agriculture Development programme to enhance the urban-rural growth. Benefits of social welfare schemes must reach the people without any delay, he added. Greater availability of educational opportunities to all marginalized and weaker sections of society is the key to improve

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## J&K sets-up panel to identify foreigners illegally staying in J&K

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCT 18

The Jammu & Kashmir Government has set-up a high-level panel to identify foreign nationals illegally/ overstaying in the Union Territory since January 01, 2011. The J&K's Home department has constituted a committee headed by the financial commissioner/ additional chief secretary Home department to identify foreign nationals illegally/ overstaying in the Union Territory since January 01, 2011. The panel, as per news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), comprises Regional Registration Officer (FRRO), Bureau of Immigration, Amritsar (Punjab); Senior Superintendent

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## India stands for international space collaborations for benefit of mankind: Dr Jitendra Singh

**AGENCIES**  
NEW DELHI, OCT 18

India stands for international Space collaborations for the larger benefit of mankind. It is our solemn commitment that the Outer Space is used only for peaceful purposes and kept free of conflict. This was stated today by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh while delivering the keynote address at the 2-day Conference on 'Space - The final frontier for China in its quest for global leadership', organised by the Centre for Contemporary China Studies, MEA, at Sushma Swaraj Bhavan here. The Minister said,



"We have consistently adhered to the principles of transparency, accountability and peaceful uses of Space. And therefore we urge upon every other nation including China to engage in open dialogue with others so that we share each other's missions, ventures without being secretive or suspicious and also ensure that we preserve a secure, safe and stable environment," he said.

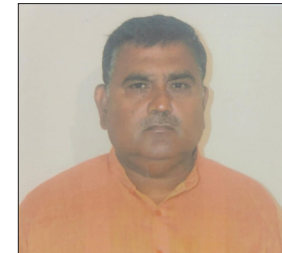
Underlining that India's Space programme is not only globally competitive but also excelling, Dr Jitendra Singh reiterated that India's Space programme is entirely peaceful and that ISRO is collaborating with world's leading Space agencies to bring ease of living for the common citizen. "Even though the USA and the then Soviet Union had started their

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## 3 Fraudsters affiliated with Nexus Realcon (P) Ltd charge-sheeted for Rs 22 Lakh Fraud: CB Jammu

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, OCT 18

Economic Offences Wing - Crime Branch Jammu produced 940 page charge-sheet in case FIR No. 25/2019 U/S 420, 120-B RPC P/S Crime Branch Jammu in the Court of law against 03 fraudster affiliates of NEXUS REALCON (P) LTD. VIZ (1) Ashok Shukla R/O Z-11, Upper Ground A-1, Z-Block Dayalsar Road Uttam Nagar New Delhi-59, Permanent Address- Pratapgarh, UP -23012 (2) Sunil Vyas S/O Late Bhagwati Lal Vayas R/O LU 105, Pitampura Nagar, District Park New Delhi-110088, Permanent Address- 45, Extn. Opposite UIT, Subhash Nagar, Bhillwara, Rajasthan - 311001 (Now DEAD) (3) Pankaj Sharma S/O Des Raj R/O Upper Harsath, Teh Ghagwal District Samba for hatching



criminal conspiracy and cheating complainant and other gullible people by duping them of their hard earned money amounting to Rs. 22 Lakhs after they were induced to invest in Nexus Realcon (P) Ltd. - a Jaipur based Company. The case owes its origin to a written complaint lodged by Sanjeev Singh S/O Faiqr Singh R/O Village Suchani, District Samba and others in Crime Branch, Jammu, wherein the complainants have alleged that accused Ashok Shukla along with Sunil Vyas Prop. NEXUS REALCON (P) LTD. Regd. Office 45 Ext, Opp-UIT,

Subash Nagar, Bhillwara 31 1001( Rajasthan), Corp Office-G-57, Shayam Nagar, Ajmer Road Jaipur (Rajasthan) cheated the complainants in the name of investment of their hard earned money/savings. The accused had arranged several seminars at Jammu alluring the complainants and other individuals to make investment into the above named private Ltd firm for multiple returns but on maturity of some of the investments made by the complainants they approached the accused inquiring about their returns and were shocked to know that the aforesaid

firm was closed and they lost their hard earned money. On receipt of the complaint, a preliminary verification was initiated and the allegations were prima-facie established and subsequently, the instant case was registered for in-depth investigation. During investigation - oral, documentary and circumstantial evidence was gathered and it was found that accused person's namely Ashok Shukla and Pankaj Sharma along with accused Sunil Vyas proprietor NEXUS REALCON (P) LIMITED had entered into criminal conspiracy, allured and duped applicants/investors of their hard earned money. The offences u/s 420/120-B/ RPC have been established and proved against the accused and charge-sheet has been produced in the Court of law for judicial determination.



## JKTPO participates in 45th India Carpet Expo at Bhadohi

JI NEWS SERVICE  
UTTAR PRADESH, OCTOBER 15

Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO) participated in 45th edition of India Carpet Expo, at Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh, a flagship B2B event organized by Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC).

The expo was inaugurated by Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath.

During the inaugural ceremony, Chief Minister interacted with the exhibitors from Jammu Kashmir and appreciated the hand-woven silk and woollen carpets. He emphasized the pivotal role of UT's carpet industry, over the years, in promotion of exports. He highlighted the evolving industrial eco-system and importance of promoting GI tagged products of Jammu Kashmir at National and international markets.

The exquisite hand-



crafted carpets from Jammu and Kashmir were one of the biggest attractions at India Carpet Expo, showcasing the state's culture, heritage and unique craft.

India Carpet Expo brings together national and international traders, industry leaders and craftsmen, to drive economic growth and promote handicraft in the country. The carpets from Jammu and Kashmir showcased uniqueness in

design and skilled craftsmanship of carpet industry of the UT to more than 2000 national and 150 international visitors/investors.

The exhibitors from the UT showcased a variety of unique range of GI tagged silk carpets and woollen carpet at the event.

Special media interaction with carpet exporters from J&K was organized to understand the current advancements in the hand-weave carpet

industry empowerment and their success stories to encourage more entrepreneurs from the UT of J&K.

Exhibitors received excellent response and numerous B2B meets were conducted with national and international visitors/buyers. Ample business leads, approximately more than 150, were generated by the exhibitors, which, in turn, are expected to generate good business for them.

## DLSA Ganderbal holds 3rd UTRC meeting

JI NEWS SERVICE  
GANDERBAL, OCTOBER 18

District Legal Services Authority Ganderbal convened its third Under Trial Review Committee (UTRC) meeting at District Court Ganderbal today and was conducted in strict adherence to the directives issued by the National Legal Services Authority (NLSA) and J&K Legal Services Authority (J&K LSA).

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Principal District and Sessions Judge Ganderbal / Chairman DLSA Ganderbal, and under the guidance of the Civil Judge (Sr. Division) / Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal.

The primary objective of the 3rd UTRC meeting was to streamline and expedite the judicial process, aiming for timely resolution of cases and alleviating the burden on the litigants.

The meeting witnessed fruitful discussions on implementing innovative strategies and best practices to further enhance the efficiency of the judiciary in District Ganderbal.

The meeting was headed by Pr. District & Sessions Judge and Chairman District Legal Services Authority, Ritesh Kumar Dubey, and attended by Civil Judge (Sr. Division) / Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal, Ms. Nusrat Ali Hakak, Addl. District Development Commissioner of Ganderbal, Mushtaq



Ahmad, Additional Superintendent of Police, Aijaz Ahmad Malik, Chief Prosecuting Officer, Shafat Ahmad, and Incharge Officer of Subsidiary Jail Dignibal, Mushtaq Ahmad (S.I).

Their distinguished presence at the meeting underscored the commitment and dedication of all stakeholders towards the effective functioning of the UTRC.

With their diverse expertise and experience, these esteemed officials contributed valuable insights and recommendations that will shape the future of the under-trial system in Ganderbal.

During the meeting, the committee reviewed the progress and status of the cases that were recommended to be considered for release in the first and second UTRC meetings.

In addition, the participants engaged in fruitful deliberations on various issues pertaining to under trial cases including case pendency, legal aid, bail, and other relevant matters.

The discussions primarily focused on the importance of formulating effective strategies to streamline the legal system and facilitate the timely resolution of pending cases.

The participants emphasized the need to ensure the speedy trial of under trial cases while upholding the principles of justice and fairness.

The committee also recognized the significance of providing adequate legal aid to under trial prisoners, especially those who cannot afford legal representation.

The participants dis-

cussed various measures to enhance the availability of legal aid services, aiming to bridge the gap between the underprivileged and the justice system.

Another crucial topic tackled during the meeting was the consideration of bail applications.

The committee deliberated on the criteria for granting bail, taking into account the nature of the offense, the likelihood of the accused absconding, and the potential dangers posed to society.

The Principal District and Sessions Judge expressed gratitude towards the participants for their active involvement in the meeting, and highlighted the commitment of the judiciary in providing speedy justice to all.

Additionally, Secretary DLSA Ganderbal, extended guidance and support, emphasizing the need for collaboration and coordination among all stakeholders for a more effective functioning of the judicial system.

DLSA Ganderbal remains committed to ensuring the administration of justice in a fair and efficient manner. Through initiatives like UTRC meetings, it strives to address the challenges faced by the under trial inmates and work towards achieving a more effective and expedited legal system.

## District Level Mock Exercise on Flood Water Rescue conducted in District Samba

JI NEWS SERVICE  
SAMBA, OCTOBER 18

A comprehensive District Level Mock Exercise on Flood Water Rescue was successfully conducted in the Budhwani Mohalla of District Samba, Jammu and Kashmir.

The exercise was led by a dedicated team consisting of the 13A TPL Kotbhalwal, Jammu and the 13 I (C Coy) Team of the 13th National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), under the leadership of Javed Iqbal, Assistant Commandant. The exercise took place from 1425 hrs to 1315 hrs, aimed at testing the preparedness and responsiveness of the teams in case of a flood emergency.

The mock exercise revolved around a Flood Water Rescue situation in District Samba, Jammu & Kashmir, triggered by heavy rainfall leading to the reduction of water levels in the Basantar river. As a consequence, water inundated several villages in the district, posing a significant risk to the local population. In the wake of this crisis, various phases of rescue and relief operations were initiated. Communication services were disrupted, and the Samba District administration, along with other agencies, swung into action. An Emergency Operation



Center was activated to coordinate and oversee the rescue and relief efforts. Local police, civil defense, and NGOs stepped in to evacuate affected individuals, while medical services were deployed on the ground. The 13th BN NDRF played a pivotal role in search and rescue operations, with A Coy of NDRF deployed in Kotbhalwal, Jammu, actively participating in this comprehensive exercise. The objectives of this exercise

were to rescue trapped victims, provide pre-hospital treatment, raise public awareness about appropriate responses to such situations, and instill a sense of hope among the affected population. The exercise showcased several critical actions, including launching boats, safely rescuing people using boats, indirect and direct flood rescues, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), drowning victim rescues, and demonstra-

tions of improvised floating devices.

The sequence of action during the exercise conducted were Time of incident: 1040 hrs, Information received: 1055 hrs, Mobilization of teams: 1110 hrs, Arrival at the site: 1120 hrs (approximately 1 km distance), Operations started: 1135 hrs, Number of victims rescued alive: 13, Number of retrieved dead bodies: None. Operations closed: 1340 hrs

The exercise saw active participation from various stakeholders, including the DC Samba, Police Administration, officers from District Administration, students of HSS Boys schools Samba, Aapda Mitras, SDRF and NDRF members. In total, 143 participants took part in this comprehensive mock drill.

A debriefing session was conducted by Javed Iqbal, Assistant Commandant, providing valuable insights and feedback for further improvement in disaster response strategies. This successful mock exercise exemplifies the dedication and readiness of the District Samba administration and various agencies to respond effectively to flood-related emergencies, ensuring the safety and well-being of the local population.

## Block Diwas: Cooperation, coordination to foster seamless development: DC Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 18

Deputy Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya chaired the weekly Block Diwas at Panjgrain panchayat of Nagrota block today.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasised the significance of Block Diwas as a platform for collaboration and problem-solving. Cooperation of the public and coordination with the departments is vital for developmental works, he said.

He called upon the public to cooperate with the administration consistently and facilitate the removal of all hindrances to the execution of developmental projects. He assured the public that all valid grievances would be reported and escalated whenever necessary.

"All valid issues would be addressed on priority, considering rules and



budgetary constraints. The ones not addressed immediately will be taken up subsequently in the next financial year", the DC explained.

Moreover, he stressed the need for balancing environmental preservation and development, stating that "Development and preservation of the environment and ecology must go together hand in hand."

In a positive development, the Deputy Commissioner revealed that many schools across the district have been listed

for upgradation and renovation. He also congratulated the beneficiaries of the government's ambitious mission to provide housing to the landless.

The issues raised during the meeting included concerns related to Ration Cards, the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana housing scheme, traffic management in Nagrota town and near IIT and IIM campuses, the upgradation of government schools, improvement in infrastructure, approach roads in the block, construction of a bridge over a local

nallah, transport facilities, routes towards the graveyard, mobile connectivity and drinking water supply and pipelines.

Prominent attendees at the gathering included BDC Chairman Nagrota, Rahmat Ali; DDC Member from block Dansal, Shamim Akhtar; Sarpanches, Thoru Ram, Kishore, Raman Wazir, Mohd Iqbal, Abha Jamwal besides various other PRI representatives.

The district officers present on the occasion included Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Piyush Dhotra; ACD Preeti Sharma; Tehsildar Nagrota, Babu Ram; Chief Planning Officer, Yoginder Katoch; Chief Medical Officer, Dr Harbaksh Singh besides Chief Education Officer and others.

## Doda Admin hosts Weekly Block Diwas at multiple locations to address public grievances

JI NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, OCTOBER 18

District Administration Doda led by Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan, is actively working to address public grievances and meet the expectations of the people effectively.

To achieve this, regular Block Diwas programmes have been organized in various locations, particularly in remote areas, following the directives of the LG administration.

During this week, Block Diwas events were conducted in several crucial locations across the district, such as Panchayat Ghar Mukhsyas, Block Chilly, Sub Division Gandoh; Block Headquarter Bhalla, Sub District Bhaderwah; Panchayat Ghar Ganhotra, Sub Division Assar; Panchayat



Tanta, Tehsil Kahara, and Sub Division Thathri.

These locations served as focal points for the weekly Block Diwas program today, where the officers visited to listen to public demands, issues, and grievances. These initiatives aim to assess and resolve public concerns

effectively with the help of the district administration.

The objective of organising such a public outreach program was to reach out to the public and resolve and dispose off issues, demands and grievances on the spot and at the earliest.

During these events, government officers actively engaged with the local community, attentively listening to their grievances and demands. Many issues were promptly resolved on the spot by the respective line departments present at the scene. Additionally, certain issues were marked for immediate resolution, demonstrating the administration's commitment to addressing public concerns quickly.

Weekly block diwas was also held at block Headquarter Bhalla, Sub District Bhaderwah which was chaired by ADC Bhadarwah Dil Mir Choudhary along with Tehsildar Bhalla Manjeet Singh Katal, and BDO Bhalla.

During the long day proceedings locals raised their issues, demands, and grievances before the

concerned officers and officials

In another location, the Block Diwas program held at Panchayat Ghar Ganhotra was presided over by SDM Lekh Raj. He patiently listened to the public and directed concerned officers to resolve issues on the spot. Tehsildar Assar also attended the program and addressed various issues.

The block diwas program held at panchayat Tanta was attended by the SDM Thathri and Tehsildar Kahara. The SDM Gandoh, Ashraf Parvaz chaired the public meeting at Panchayat Ghar Mukhsyas, Block Chilly, and listened to the public and directed the concerned officers and officials to dispose off the raised issues and grievances.

## Div Com flags off J&K contingent to participate in 37th National Games to be held at Goa

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 18

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar today flagged off the J&K UT contingent for participation in 37th National Games scheduled to be held at Goa from 26th October to 9th November 2023 in which 189 athletes and coaches of 18 different sports disciplines from Jammu and Kashmir will be participating.

The Divisional Commissioner remarked that the National Games is one of the prestigious and major event of our National sports calendar and is a core platform for sportspersons to prove their talent for international events. "Hard work, dedication and discipline are the qualities of



a great sports person and I am sure our athletes will inculcate these qualities in themselves and bring laurels to the UT J&K", he added.

Member Sports Council and ex- BCCI Member, Ranjeet Kalra and Member Sports Council, Bhanu Pratap Singh along with Chief Sports Officer, J&K Sports Council Mohammad Hanief, Divisional Sports Offi-

cer Jammu, Baljinder Pal Singh and Managers, Incharges, Coaches, Mentors of Jammu district were present on the flag-off ceremony.

Ranjeet Kalra while speaking on the occasion said that the J&K Sports Council is committed to provide the best infrastructure and coaching to the youth of J&K in order to excel in the field of sports.



## DIG IRP Range Jammu visits Hqrs, interacts with officials

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 18

DIG IRP Range Jammu, Sarah Rizvi today visited this Hqrs and interacted with officers/officials, apart from organizing the inaugural function of Bakery Shop and ATM installed at this Unit. The DIG IRP Range Jammu was received by Pawan Parihar, SSP

Commandant IRP 16th Bn, Rayaz Iqbal Tantray, SP Dy. Commandant, Rakesh Kumar Parihar, SP Supervisory Officer, Banihal Segment and other officers of the unit.

A warm welcome was given to the DIG IRP Range Jammu from the officers/officials of this unit by presenting a guard of honour at Unit Quarter Guard. The DIG inaugurated a Bakery Shop and ATM installed at the main gate of this Unit.

She conducted inspection of Jawans residential



barracks Barrack, Dry canteen, recreation Hall, Gym center, Ration store and MT fleet of this unit. In addition, the DIG also inspected the Bakery Shop, wet canteen and main office of this unit.

DIG was presented a Powerpoint presentation displaying a map of

the whole campus, all the works executed and deployments of manpower of this unit. Thereafter, DIG conducted Darbar of police personnel comprising about 200 Police personnel including GOs of this unit. She interacted with the Jawans/Officers present in the Darbar.

## ADDC Bandipora inaugurates awareness programme on Bee-Keeping

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
BANDIPORA, OCTOBER 18

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Bandipora, Ali Afsar Khan on Wednesday inaugurated a two days Seminar on Bee-keeping at Town Hall Bandipora.

The programme was organized by Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare department Bandipora under National Bee and Honey Mission (NBHM) and was attended by President Municipal Council Bandipora Basharat Hussain Najar, Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) Javid Iqbal Samoon, District Subject Matter Specialist Abdul Majeed Lone besides beekeepers and progressive farmers.

Speaking at the inaugural session, the ADDC marked the importance of beekeeping as a source of income for the farmers. He said that it is encour-



aging that a large number of youth in Bandipora district are taking beekeeping as a main venture to earn income and livelihood.

Encouraging youth to come forward and establish beekeeping units of their own, the ADDC urged them to take benefit from the programme and schemes being run by the department for the promotion of beekeeping and other allied activities.

Experts from SKUAST-K were also present on the occasion and highlighted the importance and proper management in

bee keeping.

On the occasion, Javid Iqbal Samoon said that objectives of the 2-day's event are to create awareness about the importance of beekeeping in enhancing crop yields and promoting biodiversity. He said that the farmers will gain valuable knowledge into the symbiotic relationship between agriculture and apiculture.

He further stated that beekeeping as an enterprise can be a significant step for boosting the income and livelihood opportunities for the youth including landless farmers.

He said that the government has kept available different schemes for the welfare of farmers community. He urged farmers to come forward and reap the benefits of available schemes for overall socio-economic development.

## DC Ganderbal presides over grievance redressal camp at Wakura

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
GANDERBAL, OCTOBER 18

Continuing with its endeavor to redress the grievances of the people at their doorsteps, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyambir today convened a Grievance Redressal Camp as a part of weekly Block Diwas programme here at Tehsil building Wakura.

The program was attended by prominent citizens and PRI of block Wakura who apprised the DC about grievances and developmental needs in their respective areas.

Locals put forth their issues relating to problems particularly development of existing roads, up gradation of PHC, up gradation of infrastructure of Govt. High School, facilities at Tehsil Office Wakura, early commissioning of water supply scheme for Wakura,



dredging of Dub Canal, up gradation of drainage system and other issues of public importance.

While replying to the demand for dredging of Dub Canal, the DC said that district administration has taken several steps including dredging and repair works of the canal and appealed to the people to refrain

from throwing waste into the water bodies to keep them neat and clean.

The DC maintained that the door to door waste collection process has already started in all the blocks of the district and appealed to the locals to use dustbins for waste collection and ensure cleanliness around their surround-

ings. He appealed to all households and business establishments to timely pay monthly payment for waste collection.

The District Administration also maintained that district administration is organizing a mega Job fair under Berozgar Mukht Ganderbal, on 20 October, 2023 at Manasbal in which over 20 compa-

nies are participating and urged local unemployed youth to participate actively in the job fair. He also sought cooperation from locals in establishing various government programs successfully on the ground including Nasha Mukht, Swachta Hi Sewa, Berozgar Mukht and other flagship programs.

On the occasion, BDC

Chairperson Wakura highlighted the developmental works registered in the last five years due to which the landscape of the Block has changed and appreciated several departments for their commendable job especially R&B, PDD, RDD and others. He also appreciated the Social Welfare Department, Agriculture and other allied Departments for the saturation of various beneficiary oriented schemes in block Wakura which are aimed at providing socio-economic support to the downtrodden people.

Additional District Development Commissioner, Muhstaq Ahmad Simnani, Chief Planning Officer, Irfan Giri; Assistant Commissioner Development, Dr Bashir Ahmad, DSWO, DSHO, and officials of other line departments also attended the Block Diwas.

## Weekly Block Diwas: DC Rajouri presides over public outreach camp at Panchayat Lower Dodaj-A of Block Darhal

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, OCTOBER 18

With an aim to redress the public grievances at their doorsteps, the Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal led a successful public outreach event in Panchayat Lower Dodaj A of block Darhal as part of the Weekly Block Diwas initiative.

The event provided a crucial platform for residents and their representatives to articulate a range of concerns, encompassing road maintenance, staffing enhancements in government institutions, water scarcity, and healthcare infrastructure improvement. Specific issues which were raised during the event were requirement of JK Bank Branch, upgradation of HS Dodaj, issue related to primary school at Dodaj, setting up an agriculture centre, requirement of poles and transformers in all panchayats, ATM service etc.

Amid the proceedings, government officials also seized the opportunity to raise awareness about ongoing schemes, fostering public participation and urging residents to take advantage of available initiatives.

The Deputy Commissioner underscored the dedication of the administration to delivering essential services directly to the



community. He reassured the public that earnest efforts were underway to realize this objective. Extending appreciation to all stakeholders for their contributions to various government endeavors, he lauded their diligence and encouraged their continued commitment to public welfare.

Morever, the Deputy Commissioner ensured that grievances of the citizens have been noted and

that concerned departments would take stepwise actions to address genuine concerns.

During the event, immediate directives were issued to prioritize and resolve the issues raised by the public in a time-bound manner, resulting in the on-the-spot resolution of several matters.

In reference to the matter concerning the Primary School (PS) at Dodaj, the Deputy Com-

missioner has taken decisive action by instructing the concerned officer to expeditiously resolve this issue. Simultaneously, a similar directive has been issued to the Chief Medical Officer, who has been tasked with a comprehensive examination of the concerns surrounding the health and wellness center in Dodaj, with an emphasis on achieving a swift resolution.

Furthermore, the press-

ing matter of establishing an Animal Husbandry Sub-centre in Dodaj has also been looked into as the DC has proactively urged the concerned officer from the Animal Husbandry Department to meticulously prepare a proposal to address this requirement.

During the event, a pertinent concern emerged regarding the establishment of an agriculture center, with the primary objective of ensuring easy accessibility to essential seeds and fertilizers. This proposal reflects a proactive approach towards enhancing agricultural practices in the region and facilitating the agricultural community in Dodaj.

In the context of the imperative upgradation of HS Dodaj to the HSS level, the Deputy Commissioner has issued a resolute directive to the Chief Education Officer. The CEO Education has been tasked with the crucial responsibility of thoroughly looking into this matter and presenting a comprehensive report detailing the necessary steps and considerations required for the successful transition.

Addressing the need for a Kendriya Vidyalaya school, the DC called upon the local residents to donate a suitable piece of land for this educational institution, emphasizing

the benefits it would bring to the area. The Deputy Commissioner also urged the public to take advantage of the Ayushman Bharat scheme, a program aimed at providing comprehensive health benefits to all. This initiative is vital for the well-being of the community.

In a bid to promote sustainable agriculture, the DC stressed the significance of participating in the Holistic Agriculture Development Program. This initiative promises to bring about positive changes in the agricultural sector.

The Deputy Commissioner informed the public about the Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Scheme and encouraged them to avail its benefits. This visionary scheme is set to empower traditional artisans with crucial financial support, marking a significant stride in preserving and nurturing India's rich cultural heritage of traditional craftsmanship.

Among the others, DDC Member Darhal, Iqbal Malik; BDC Darhal, Aslam Malik; CPO, Mohammad Khurshid ACP, Sheraz Chowdhury; DPO, Auqil Nuvaaid; CMO, Dr Rajinder Sharma; Executive Engineers besides district and sectoral officers attended the event.

## District Grievance Redressal Committee formed for AB-PMJAY/SEHAT (Golden Card) Beneficiaries of District Kishtwar

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 18

In a proactive measure to address grievances related to AB-PMJAY/SEHAT (Golden Card) beneficiaries, a District Grievance Redressal Committee has been established at the district level.

Chaired by the District Development Commissioner, the committee includes the C.M.O (Convener), A.C.P (Member), District Coordinator Insurer (Member), DISM CMO Office (Member), Experts (Medi-

cal Superintendent & BMO Kishtwar), Experts (Special Invites).

Beneficiaries with concerns about AB-PMJAY/SEHAT are encouraged to connect with the committee through the "HELLO KISHTWAR" program on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They can call the IVRS number 8470800900 and press 8 to speak to CMO Kishtwar between 11 am to 12 noon on the mentioned days.

This initiative aims to promptly address and resolve grievances for the welfare of the beneficiaries.

## DC Kulgam hears public issues in Block Diwas

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
KULGAM, OCTOBER 18

District Administration Kulgam today organized public outreach programmes in Devsar, Kulgam and D.H Pora blocks to address common public issues of the district.

Deputy Commissioner Kulgam Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat chaired the Weekly Block Diwas t Kulgam during which he took the appraisal of various issues pertaining to the people and public interest.

The programme saw participation of people from different areas including Ashthal, Gund Kilam, Rahaman, Kakran, Ladgoo, Chambagund and put up developmental and welfare demands including construction of footpath at Gund Kilam, development of playfield at Chambagund, deployment of full time math teacher to High School Chambagund, construction of flood protection bunds etc.

Other than the public, PRI members from various areas also projected developmental issues of their respective areas. Concerned district offi-



cers responded to the queries and grievances of the people. They also educated them about various welfare schemes and ongoing developmental projects. The DC after giving patient hearing to the public issues raised during the camp, addressed some grievances of the immediate nature on the spot.

ACR, Imtiaz Ul Aziz; JDP Zahid Sajjad; ACD Mohammad Imran and other district officers and officials were also present in grievances redressal camp. At Devsar and DH Pora, Block Diwas was presided by ADDC Showkat Ahmad Rather and SDM Noorabab Bashir Ul Hassan respectively.

## Special pensions camp at DC office Jammu

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 18

In an effort to provide an opportunity to left out and previously uncovered eligible applicants of various Government pension schemes, a special camp has been stationed at the Deputy Commissioner's Office in Jammu. This one-of-a-kind camp serves as a one-stop destination for citizens seeking government pension benefits.

The initiative of Deputy Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, the camp has been set up in response to the directives of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, following a public event in Jammu.

The camp has officers deployed from concerned departments, stationed within the DC office complex, fully prepared to receive and process applications from eligible applicants.

The camp has been operational since Monday, offering invaluable assistance to applicants in navigating the intricate world of form-filling and necessary formalities.

As the camp continues its operations, all residents and pension scheme applicants are cordially invited to partake in this groundbreaking opportunity. The camp starts at 10 am, and the public is assured of maximum facilitation with respect to their applications.

NORTHERN RAILWAY	
TENDER NOTICE	
By Chief Elect. Engineer/Const. Northern Railway, Jammu Tawi for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tender under Single Packet System for the under noted work:	
Tender No	01-ELECT-C/JAT-Qtrs Dated 17.10.2023
Name of work	Internal/External electrification works of 254 Nos staff quarters, Distribution Panels, lighting arrangements for streets by erecting tubular poles with fittings and associated electrical works such as laying of cables, earthing arrangements at Katra Railway Station in connection with USBRL Project."
Approx Cost.	Rs. 6,61,43,947.00
Earnest Money.	Rs. 4,80,700.00
Completion period.	18 (Eighteen) Months.
Validity of offer	60 days from the date of opening of tender.
Date and time of submission of e-tender and opening of tender.	Tender may be uploaded upto 15.00 hrs on date 09.11.2023 on IREPS website i.e www.ireps.gov.in. The tender will be opened soon after at 15.00 hrs on 09.11.2023.
Detailed Tender Notice & Tender document: Tender Notice is available on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in and the tender document will be available for uploading of offers on IREPS website from 26.10.2023 to 09.11.2023. The bidders who desires to participate against e-tendering, are advised to electronically register themselves on website www.ireps.gov.in for which they would require to obtain class III digital Signature Certificate (if already not obtained) issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tender are given in the tender document. Only e-tenders will be accepted and tenders submitted in any other form will be summarily rejected. The detailed notice also can be seen on Notice Board of the above office.	
Tender Notice No.17-Elect/C/JAT/W/254Qtrs/Katra/2023 Dated 17.10.2023	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3237/2023	



# Kashmir's Rukhsar Saeed makes it to final 16 in Master Chef India

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCT 18

Next time you see Kashmiri Wazwan becoming a household cuisine across India, don't be surprised.

A Kashmiri food technologist is taking the local cuisines of the valley to the India's top cooking reality show Master Chef India.

As per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Dr Rukhsar Saeed, a food technologist from Pampore has made it among the final 16 contestants of Master Chef India, which is being broadcasted on Sony Liv.

In June, she auditioned

for the show and after clearing several stages, she made it to the final 16.

Rukhsar said that throughout the show will present the Kashmiri cuisines before the judges in order to promote the local food of the valley.

"In Kashmiri, there are thousands of indigenous vegetables and spices. My cooking style is based on innovation with the veggies and spices. My aim to participate in the shows is to promote the Kashmiri cuisines throughout the world," she can be heard saying in one of the episodes.

Saeed begins her journey in the Master Chef

India with Shab Deg, which is a traditional Kashmiri Kofta Curry dish cooked with Turnips in a heavy-bottomed deg/handi/vessel on charcoal fire.

Chef Vikas Khanna who is a jury member in the show termed it one of the best cuisines he had so far.

In the promo, Dr Rukhsar was seen saying that she wants people to know about Kashmir's traditional dishes.

"When someone eats my food with closed eyes, I want to take him or her to the valleys of Kashmir," she can be seen saying in the promo.

Prominent celebrity

chefs including Vikas Khanna, Ranveer Brar, and Pooja Dhingra are the jury members who will judge the cooking skills of 16 contestants.

Dr. Rukhsar Saeed is also an entrepreneur who started the valley's first 'Frozen Food' venture in 2019.

She started this venture soon after she completed her PhD in Food Technology.

Kashmiri traditional food, particularly Wazwan, is famous across the world. Scores of the foodies across the world relish this multi-course meal during their stay in the valley. KNO

# For affected students of class 10, 12, JKBOSE decides to mention 'previous academic year' on marks sheets

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCT 18

The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) has decided to mention 'previous' academic year on marks sheets of those formerly 10th and 12th standard students who were affected by adoption of Uniform Academic Calendar (UAC).

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Director Academics of the board has said that it has issued a clarification regarding session gap of academic year 2022 in case of students of Kashmir division, winter

zone areas of Jammu division of UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh.

JKBOSE in a communique has said, "In year 2022, administration adopted a Uniform Academic Calendar across UTs of J&K and Ladakh which was implemented by the JKBOSE due to which the practice of conducting separate examinations for different divisions of erstwhile state of J&K was abandoned and all the examinations were conducted uniformly by JKBOSE from Academic Session 2023."

The official said that owing to this fact that no

annual regular examination of classes 10th, 11th and 12th were conducted for the Session 2022 which were otherwise to be held in months of October-November 2022, in Kashmir Division, Winter Zone Areas of Jammu Division and UT of Ladakh Division.

"The examinations were uniformly conducted across the UTs of J&K and Ladakh in the month of March-April 2023," it reads.

JKBOSE accordingly informed all the concerned that in order to address the issue, the clarification shall be printed

on the diplomas of such students of classes 10th & 12th of annual regular, Session 2022-23, who have been affected by adoption of Uniform Academic Calendar in case of Kashmir Division, Winter Zone Areas of Jammu Division, and UT of Ladakh only.

"Session shall be shown as Annual Regular 2021-22/23 and a sentence 'Academic Session Annual Regular 2021-22 shifted to Academic Session 2022-23 due to adoption of Uniform Academic Calendar' shall be mentioned at the bottom part of the diplomas qualification certificates," it reads. KNO

# Gurez residents prepare for annual migration as winter approaches

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
GURUZ, OCT 18

With the onset of winter, many residents of the remote Gurez Valley in north Kashmir's Bandipora district are preparing for their annual migration, a necessity due to the valley's harsh winter conditions that can isolate them for more than six months.

Situated along the Line of Control (LoC), Gurez Valley experiences heavy snowfall during the winter, which effectively cuts it off from the rest of the region. The primary reason for this isolation is the closure of the Bandipora-Gurez road, often blocked by heavy snow at the Razdan Pass.

Abdul Hameed, a local resident, told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), that they have started preparing for migra-

tion to Bandipora as the harsh winter is about to start. He said the area will become cut off from the rest of the valley during winter.

"We lack basic amenities during this season," he said, adding, "For many residents, migration is a matter of necessity due to the challenging winter conditions and the scarcity of essential supplies, especially during medical emergencies."

Noor Mohammed, another local, recalled the difficulties faced in previous winters, particularly during medical emergencies. "During medical emergencies, especially pregnancy cases, we witness huge difficulties here," he said.

Many upper-class residents in Gurez have already started migrating, seeking a more comfortable and safer place to spend the winter in other parts of

the Kashmir Valley.

"As we are about to leave our homes in Gurez ahead of the harsh winter, we entrust our livestock to our neighbours who will oversee them during the season," said Tasleema, an elderly lady. She said most of the villagers these days are preparing to migrate from here.

Farooq Ahmad also shared his experience, "I remember last year there was a pregnant lady here who was about to give birth to a child, but we couldn't take her to the hospital as the area was covered with a thick white blanket of snow."

My family also stays in Bandipora during the winter months, he added.

Mohammad Amin, another resident of Gurez, said even though the region has seen substantial development over the years, the migration continues,

especially among those who also own homes in other parts of Kashmir. "A decade ago, the Gurez region lacked basic facilities, and the residents endured significant hardships, which compelled them to migrate during the harsh winter months," he said.

An official told KNO that Gurez residents have been migrating during the winters for the past decade due to the lack of basic facilities in the area during that time.

He said the administration is committed to ensuring Gurez residents receive essential services during the winter, including health-care, essential supplies, and fuel.

"Helicopter services are also arranged for residents during the winter months to address the medical emergencies," he added. KNO

# Kashmir faces triple threat of RSV, influenza, Covid, say doctors

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCT 18

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is affecting both young and elderly populations in Kashmir, leading many to seek medical attention in hospitals.

RSV, a common cause of respiratory tract infections in infants and young children, often comes with symptoms similar to those of a common cold.

Dr Nisar Ul Hassan, an influenza expert and President of the Doctors Association of Kashmir (DAK), informed the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the respiratory flu season in Kashmir typically begins in October. He said this year, there is a triple virus threat consisting of RSV, influenza, and Covid-19, with Covid-19 having become a seasonal virus.

"Symptoms of RSV include a stuffy or runny nose, persistent coughing for up to three weeks, and noisy breathing, sometimes accompanied by a low-grade fever. While it usually results in mild respiratory infections in young children, in some cases, it can lead to more severe compli-

cations," he said.

Comparing this year's situation to the previous year, Dr Nisar said that RSV cases are emerging earlier than usual, and primarily affects the younger population. He said some patients have developed severe pneumonia, which requires intensive care and ventilator support.

Elderly individuals are also contracting RSV, leading to pneumonia, although their symptoms tend to be milder, he added.

The DAK president further said that RSV is common during this season, and there is a concurrent threat of influenza viruses such as H1N1 and H3N2, alongside the possibility of another wave of COVID-19.

He urged people to get vaccinated and take precautions, such as consulting a doctor if experiencing breathing difficulties, staying home when sick, avoiding gatherings, and maintaining personal hygiene.

"Winter provides a favourable environment for respiratory viruses due to the cold weather," Dr Hassan added.

A doctor from Children's Hospital Bemina told KNO

that the number of patients with respiratory viruses has been increasing since October. Although there is no need to panic, he advised people to remain cautious.

"This year, there have also been more reported cases of mumps among children compared to previous years," he added.

The doctor also mentioned mumps saying it is a highly contagious viral illness which causes swelling in the throat and jaw.

He said Respiratory Syncytial Virus can exacerbate respiratory conditions in patients already suffering from respiratory ailments. They must take extra precautions, especially in the cold morning hours, to avoid exposure, he said.

While vaccines for RSV are available in certain areas, people are advised to continue taking precautions until a widely accessible vaccine becomes available here, the doctor said.

According to medical professionals, influenza vaccines and updated COVID-19 vaccines are already available and can significantly reduce hospitalisations and deaths caused by these viruses. KNO

# Frequent power cuts irks Bandipora residents

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
BANDIPORA, OCT 18

Unscheduled power cuts in Bandipora town and its adjacent areas are giving a tough time to the residents, while authorities are unmoving over the grave issue, resulting in a lot of inconveniences to the general public.

Locals expressed strong resentment against the power department for failing to provide uninterrupted and scheduled power supply to their localities.

"There are unscheduled power cuts in both metered and non-metered areas and the consumers have been left to lurch, while authorities are unmoved even after being intimated several times," the locals told the news agency.

The residents of various localities of town including main market, Nowpora, Gamroo, Arin, Gundpora, Lowdara, Papan, Kaloosa, Muslim Abad, Naz Colony, Panzigan and other areas said that they have to face frequent and unscheduled power cuts on a daily basis.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

### J&K Police has always...

also talked about the prevailing peace and transformation in Jammu Kashmir.

Industrial investment, holistic development, prosperity is a byproduct of peace and harmony in the society. Peace shapes the new future, promotes the principle of inclusiveness and provides the necessary means to fulfill the aspirations of the young generations, he said.

I am confident that the new recruits will carry forward the glorious legacy of country's most courageous Police Force and give a befitting reply to enemies of the peace, the Lt Governor said.

New security challenges require modern-day policing. Strict & Sensitive, Modern & Mobility, Alert & Accountable, Reliable & Responsive, Techno savvy & Trained - SMART Policing envisioned by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji is the need of the hour to effectively deal with conventional and non-conventional threats, he said.

With our collective will and hard work, we must protect our civilizational heritage and build a strong and progressive J&K, the Lt Governor added.

Sh Dilbag Singh, DGP congratulated the passing out constables for becoming an integral part of Jammu Kashmir Police Force.

Sh Mohammad Majid Malik, Principal STC Sheeri gave an overview of the training program and various activities conducted during the Training course.

The Lt Governor took the ceremonial salute and witnessed the impressive parade and demonstrations by the police personnel. He also felicitated the recruit constables who excelled during their training.

An oath was administered to the passing out constables for performing their duties with honesty and utmost sensitivity.

Ms Safina Baig, Chairperson District Development Council, Baramulla; Sh R.K Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department; senior serving and retired police & army personnel, PRI representatives, and family members of the passing out cadets were present.

### Lt Governor hands...

of socially disadvantaged community is a top priority on the agenda of administration. With the focus on overall economic growth we are ensuring that no section of society is left behind," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor handed over the land allotment orders to the landless beneficiaries of PMAY-G, at Dak Bungalow.

Sanction letters under various schemes were also distributed among the beneficiaries on the occasion.

The Lt Governor laid foundation stone for multiple road projects costing Rs 31.7 crore under NABARD RIDF- XXVIII including Up-gradation of Inner Links at Krankshivan Panzipora & Wagub road; Tarzoo Haritar Nangli Road Including Tarzoo Hospital Link road & Allied Links, and Hygam Trumbgund Rangi road including Inner Links Hygam Wetlands Reserve Rakh Hygam.

The projects inaugurated by Lt Governor today are Pavilion/Podium at District Police Line Baramulla; NTPHC Zehanpora; Water Supply Schemes at Migrant Colony Veerwan and Transit Accommodation Fatehpore and Renovated Gulmarg Club.

The Lt Governor also released publications of Tourism and Sheep Husbandry Departments.

Ms Safina Baig, DDC Chairperson, Baramulla; Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Sh Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Heads of various departments and senior officers of Civil and Police administration were present.

### Benefits of social welfare...

literacy rate and to create a better future for our children. Administration at all level should work in a cohesive manner to ensure that every child has access to quality education, the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor directed the District Administration to tap the tourism potential of border areas, wetlands, and places of heritage and religious importance in the district.

He directed the officials to intensify the efforts to uproot the evil of drugs from the society. He said the districts should compete in a healthy manner for beautification of towns and maintaining cleanliness in and around public places and water bodies.

The Lt Governor also reviewed the winter preparedness of the district administration, concerned departments and directed for execution of coordinated action plans for uninterrupted supply of basic amenities during winter.

Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla presented a comprehensive overview of the developmental scenario in the district. She also briefed the Lt Governor on the progress of Srinagar-Baramulla-Uri NHW Expressway and other key projects.

Later, several delegations comprising of PRI representatives; Fruit Growers Association Sopore; PM Package employees and Civil Society members called on the Lt Governor and projected their concerning issues and demands.

### Hybrid war will...

security scenarios, situation along the borders and in the hinterland and challenges for the present security apparatus. In addition, the conference is also focusing on issues pertaining to organisational restructuring, logistics, administration, and human resource management.

The minister reasserted the faith of the entire Nation in the Indian Army as one of the most trusted and inspiring organisations in the country.

He highlighted the significant role being played by the Army in guarding our borders and fighting terrorism apart from providing assistance to the civil administration in every need of hour.

He expressed his elation to be present in the Army Commander's conference and applauded the Army leadership for successfully taking ahead the 'Defence and Security' vision of the Nation and the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

He commented that these higher leadership conferences are not only beneficial for the Armed Forces but also for the nation as a whole. KNO

### Over 40 police stations...

to face all challenges bravely and ensure peace is made a permanent feature," he said.

He said a few days ago, 27 Kashmir Police Service (KPS) officers were inducted into Indian Police Service. "This is for the time that a record number of KPS officers were inducted into IPS," he said, adding that Promotions in police department

The DGP said that promotions in the police department have been smoothed and thanked LG for fast-track disposal of files. The J&K police chief congratulated the new pass outs and wished them all the best. He said two women battalions are being raised while as border grid will be further strengthened in the coming months. KNO

### J&K sets-up panel...

of Police, CID, Special Branch, Jammu; Senior Superintendent of Police, CID, Special Branch, Srinagar; all district SSPs/SPs(FROs) and State Coordinator, IVRFT, NIC, J&K. As per its terms of reference, the panel shall prepare a monthly report of missing foreigners in Jammu & Kashmir and submit the same to the Ministry of Home Affairs by 7th of every month. KNO



# Demand side management prerequisite for ensuring quality power supply during winters: CS



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 18

Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today emphasized that quality power supply during winter months can be ensured only if there is a proper demand side management and proper plan should be formulated by the Department for the purpose. He made these remarks while holding reviewing functioning of Power Development Department.

The meeting was attended by the Principal Secretary, PDD; MD, KPDC/L/JPDCL; Chief Engineers of all the Corporations besides other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary impressed upon the officers to ensure that the availability of power during winter months is as per schedule. He maintained that there is additional demand during the extreme cold weather and the Department needs to

brace itself to meet the challenge.

Dr Mehta enjoined upon them to enhance the enforcement mechanism by constituting feeder wise surveillance teams. He advised them to start media campaign to raise awareness about the judicious use of electricity and government's efforts to provide them subsidized power. He asked for involving district administration for strict enforcement of ban on use and sale of crude gadgets in their respective areas.

He asked them to publish the Do's & Don'ts for general public to sensitize them about the harmful effects of using crude heating or cooking gadgets. He called for prioritizing the supply of electricity as per the feeder wise AT&C losses. He told them to saturate the feeders with smart meters having mixed gadgets currently.

Dr Mehta also stressed on giving feeder wise

energy and revenue targets to the field functionaries for improved demand side management. He directed for bringing down the overall AT&C losses especially in smart metered areas to 10% as per the established norms.

While taking review of the financial health of the associated corporations, the Chief Secretary urged the Department to carryout study of the power purchase mechanism of all the States/UTs of the country. He directed for making a comparison chart about the purchase and supply of energy in each State so that the UT too could think about bringing more efficiency into the system.

In his presentation the Principal Secretary, PDD, H.Rajesh Prasad informed the meeting that the Department has huge gap between total cost of purchase of power and revenue realization.

He further added that the Department has taken several reforms to reduce

its losses besides making efforts to increase the revenue realization. These include installation of smart meters, cabling of LT network and taking up other loss reduction works. It was said that till date more than 5 lakh smart meters have been installed in the UT with 15 lakh to be installed more.

Moreover it was given out that to meet the demand of consumers the government is taking both short and long term measures. These include bilateral arrangement/banking with Government of UP for 500 MW energy and additional allocation of 1000 MW firm power is also being explored.

As for taking the long term measures it was informed that Power Purchase Agreements for 1600 MW solar power and 1245 MW hydro power has been done with different generation companies across the country for providing quality power to our consumers in the UT.

# State Taxes Department undertakes cleanliness drive in its headquarters, offices across J&K

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 18

The State Taxes Department carried out a massive cleanliness drive under 'Swachta Hi Sewa' at its Headquarters situated here in Jammu, along with various other field offices located in other districts across Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory.

At Jammu headquarters, the drive was led by Commissioner, State Taxes, Dr Rashmi Singh, along with other senior officers of the department.

Reiterating the significance of Swachta Hi Sewa, the officers and officials of different sections vehemently participated in cleanliness drive in the premises and vicinity of the complex.

Accompanied by Additional Commissioner State Taxes Jammu, Namrita Dogra and other senior officers, the Commissioner State Taxes also inspected different sections of the



office and took stock of all ongoing facelifting and renovations works, which have been carried out to provide better office ambience to the visitors.

The Commissioner also visited the basement area, department's stores and corridor area.

Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner said the work to clean and

beautify office space will continue under Swachta Hi Sewa campaign. She emphasized upon the role of all the officers and officials of the department in spreading awareness about the need of hygienic and clean society in overall development of everyone.

During the drive, the staff took up cleaning of

stores, basement, compound premises including park area.

Similar exercise was undertaken by field offices of the department in various parts of the union territory. The officers voluntarily cleaned the surroundings and their office premises from within and outside under the campaign. The departmental teams were constituted to participate in the campaign mainly at place of public importance, roads, parks and areas in and around the premises of State Taxes Offices where officer and officials collected and disposed of the garbage.

Additionally, awareness sessions were also conducted by the officers to spread information regarding harmful effects of plastic and other non-biodegradable garbage. The officers emphasized the importance of cleanliness in day-to-day life and pledged to maintain cleanliness in and around their surroundings.

# DC Shopian chairs BLO's and BLO supervisors meeting at Shopian



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SHOPIAN, OCTOBER 18

Keeping in view the ongoing Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls, a training/orientation programme of all BLO Supervisors and BLOs was held today at Mini Secretariat Shopian to enthuse and inspire the election machinery regarding the revision Process.

The meeting was chaired by the District Election Officer/ Deputy Commissioner, Faz Lul Haseeb, who urged the participants to expedite the process of registrations with full efficiency and give 100% accuracy and coverage to the electorates during the revision period commencing from 27-10-2023 to 09-12-2023.

DEO further insisted to make the electoral process voter friendly and assist citizens at every stage for greater participation while addressing that the special camp dates should be made successful with

good enrolment and making voters informed and empowered.

DEO further insisted on to remove the gender gaps and to achieve the Electoral Population ratio as per the norms advised by the election authorities.

BLO Supervisors were directed to monitor the whole process of Summary Revision with zeal and zest, and ensure that no voter to be left behind during the ongoing revision process.

Dy.DEO, Jahanger Ahmad, on the occasion explained about the process and methodologies to be adopted for 100% coverage by door to door visit of the households and gave a brief explanation about the forms viz Form 6, Form 7, Form 8 to be used during the revision process. An interactive session was later held with BLO's and BLO supervisors to clear their doubts regarding enrolment process and other relevant queries.

# DC Reasi listens to people's issues at Weekly Block Diwas programme



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, OCTOBER 18

To assess the local issues and listen to the grievances of the people, the District Administration Reasi today held Block Diwas at the conference hall of the DC office complex, which was presided over by Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Babila Rakwal.

The programme witnessed scores of individuals and deputations including PRI members projecting demands and apprising DC about the problems faced by the inhabitants of their respective areas.

The Deputy Commissioner gave a patient hearing to all the grievances and demands put forth by the PRIs and concerned stakeholders. She assured that all their issues and demands shall be taken with the concerned authorities for their timely redressal. On the occa-

sion, a proactive initiative to foster skill development and empower the local community, a special awareness programme on the recently launched "PM Vishwakarma Scheme" was also held.

The programme was aimed at sensitizing the participants regarding the new Scheme. The PM Vishwakarma scheme is fully funded by the Government of India, provides recognition and holistic support to traditional artisans and craft people working with their Hands and tools.

General Manager District Industries Centre, Reasi, Mohammad Anwar Bandy briefed the participants regarding the process through Power Point Presentation. All the participants expressed gratitude and thanked the government and administration of the district for the initiatives being taken for the Vishwakarmas.

# DC Doda pays surprise visit at Premnagar, Thathri; suspends two health officials for unauthorized absence

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, OCTOBER 18

District Development Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan paid a surprise visit at Premnagar and Thathri in Doda and reviewed the functioning and services delivery in government offices along with inspection of the Doda-Kishtwar highway and newly auctioned mining blocks.

During the inspection, the DDC took strict action against two health employees at the PHC Premnagar for unauthorized absence during office hours and asked the CMO Doda to suspend both the officials and initiate enquiry.

The DDC conducted an inspection of ongoing work on the Doda-Kishtwar stretch of National Highway project and asked the executing agency NHIDCL to expedite the work, ensuring quality to provide better transport infrastructure



to the people of twin districts Doda and Kishtwar, besides to the commuters using it as alternate route for Jammu-Srinagar Highway.

DDC also visited the mining sites to ensure the minerals are extracted as

per the norms and terms and conditions laid down in the agreement. He instructed the department to keep an eye on illegal mining activities, besides ensuring the water bodies don't get polluted and natural vegetation and fauna

remain undisturbed.

DDC also visited the Tehsil Office Complex and BMO Office Complex at Thathri to check attendance and to ensure the departments are functioning properly for public services.

# DC Ganderbal finalizes arrangements for Mega Job Fair at Manasbal

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
GANDERBAL, OCTOBER 18

In a significant effort to create employment opportunities, the District administration is organizing a Mega Job Fair on October 20 here at Manasbal Ganderbal under the umbrella of "Berozgar Mukt Ganderbal," a campaign aimed at making Ganderbal unemployment-free.

In this regard the Deputy Com-

missioner Ganderbal, Shyambir today visited the Manasbal to finalize the arrangements for the successful conduct of job fair.

During visit the DC was accompanied by Additional District Development Commissioner Ganderbal, Mushtaq Ahmad Simmani, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mehraj-u-din Shah, CPO, ACD, executive engineer R&B, executive engineer Jal Shakti, CMO, AD Employment and Counseling

Centre Ganderbal and other concerned officials.

On the occasion the DC gave necessary instructions to the concerned for keeping all arrangements in place pertaining to their departments.

Pertinently a diverse range of government departments will actively participate in this event, making it a comprehensive platform for job seekers to explore various career opportunities.

# Mata ka Jagran enthalls devotees at Chichi Mata Temple in Samba

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, OCTOBER 18

The District administration Samba, in collaboration with Directorate of Tourism, Jammu organized Mata ka Jagran at the revered Chichi Mata Temple in Samba district, drawing a massive turnout of devotees.

The esteemed event was graced by the presence of District Development Council Chairman Keshav Dutt Sharma, who paid his respects at the sacred Chichi Mata Temple and inaugurated the Mata ka Jagran recital. Accompanying him were Vice Chairman Balwan Singh, DDC Member Romesh Chander and officers of District Admin-



istration Samba.

The Mata Ka Jagran was a soul-stirring experience, featuring captivating performances by renowned artists and singers, which created an atmosphere imbued with spiritual devotion and religious fervor.

The event at Chichi

Mata Temple exemplified the unity and spiritual enthusiasm of the local community, leaving a profound impact on all those who participated. The District administration Samba and Directorate of Tourism, Jammu, extend their heartfelt thanks to all attendees for making

Mata ka Jagran program a memorable and spiritually uplifting occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC Chairperson mentioned that during Navratras, people not only from J&K but from across the country come to seek the blessings of Chichi Mata at her temple.



## EDITORIAL

## New Council takes shape in Kargil

Finally, the fifth Kargil Hill Council was constituted with the unanimous selection of Dr Jaffar Akhoo as the new Chief Executive Councillor (CEC). In the whole process, National Conference, the single largest political party which secured 12 seats out of the 26 constituencies that went to polls on October 4 had the last laugh as it managed to win the first term of the two and a half years' rotational tenure out of the total five years. The National Conference and the Congress—two key political players that jointly swept the recently-held elections to LAHDC Kargil, also released the 'Agenda of Alliance' (AoA) while agreeing 'to work together for the betterment and development of the people of Kargil'. The two parties also agreed to constitute the fifth LAHDC Kargil on a 50-50 sharing basis wherein it was decided that the five-year term of the Chief Executive Councillor (CEC) or Chairman of the Council would be divided into two and a half years for both the NC and Congress respectively. Akhoo happens to be the brother of former Cabinet Minister in erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir State and senior NC leader Qamar Ali Akhoo. It has definitely left the former CEC Feroz Ahmed Khan sulking who completed his five years term successfully. No specific and solid reason has been given for denying him for the post of CEC. The AoA has been mutually agreed and signed by the members of the Coordination Committee designated by both the Congress and the NC for the formation of pre- and post-alliance for the fifth LAHDC General Elections 2023. The Congress-NC had gained absolute majority by winning 22 seats out of the 26 constituencies in the recently-held elections to Kargil Council polls. The National Conference, which is the part of the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance, emerged as the single largest party in the Hill Development Council by bagging 12 seats while Congress won 10 seats. The BJP managed to win two seats only. Two Independents also registered their victory in the close contest. As per the 'Agenda of Alliance' signed by senior leaders of two parties in the district, two parties have unanimously decided to equally share four posts of Executive Councillors, who have ranks of the Minister. There would be two Executive Councilors appointed by each party, ensuring equal representation. One of the Executive Councilor positions, as per the LAHDC Act 1995, reserved for principal religious minorities will be granted to the National Conference in the first term. In the second two and a half years, the reserved Executive Councilor position will automatically be allocated to the Indian National Congress. As far as Allocation of Departments is concerned, the departments assigned to the Chairman and the Executive Councilors would be equal, shared between both parties. This allocation is intended to facilitate the smooth and effective functioning of the Council. Amid the constitution of the new Council, the Saffron Party, which has managed to double its tally from one to two, is satisfied with its performance claiming that its vote share has increased almost five times. The past experience of NC and Congress as an alliance partner has remained quite bitter. With a common agenda of keeping BJP away from the district, the two parties are hopeful of completing the five-year-term of the Council together while the Saffron party would definitely look for the collapse of this coalition.

UTTAM GUPTA

Even as the Central government is making all-out efforts to remove the financial distress of power distribution companies or discoms (situated at the core of the power supply chain, they procure electricity from power generating companies or genscos and distribute it to the consumers) and restore them to robust health, actions of the state governments undermine these efforts.

The financial distress of discoms arises fundamentally due to their inability to generate enough revenue to pay for the electricity they buy. For over two decades, they have been incurring losses year after year. They have funded these losses by borrowings from banks and other FIs apart from keeping bills pending. At the end of FY 2021-22, their total debt was Rs 620,000 crore.

Discoms' inability to generate required revenue has to do primarily with two factors viz. aggregate technical and commercial (AT&C) losses - a jargon for power theft - and shortfall in the average revenue realisation from the sale of electricity vis-a-vis the average cost of supply (cost of purchase, wheeling and distribution), or the ACS-ARR gap. During 2020-21, AT&C losses were 22.32 percent while the ACS-ARR

gap was Rs 0.54 per kWh. Both maladies arise due to constant meddling in the running of discoms by their owners namely the state governments. Power theft on such a massive scale is unthinkable without the complicity of the political establishment. People living in slum settlements/jhuggi clusters being a big vote bank, the party in power encourages unauthorised connections to enable their access to free power.

As for the second malady, the political brass orders discoms to sell a major slice of electricity to households (HHs) and farmers, either at a fraction of the cost of supply or even free (the state electricity regulatory commissions or SERCs which are mandated to fix tariff merely act as rubber stamps). Even as the state government promises to reimburse the differential amount to discoms, most states don't reimburse or do it partially and after considerable delay.

Given nearly a quarter of the revenue lost due to power theft and a substantial amount in subsidies remaining unpaid, the financial stress of discoms is inevitable. The politics of freebies now deeply entrenched in the system has exacerbated the already grim situation. Let us look at the developments in Punjab. Last year,

amongst a host of freebies promised by AAP the most prominent was free electricity to households (HHs) for consumption up to 300 units per month.

Going by sheer common sense, the State should give help only to those HHs who can't afford to pay cost-based tariffs. The way to go is to identify households whose income is below a threshold. AAP hasn't gone by this. Could it be presumed that only low-income HHs have consumption of fewer than 300 units? So, in essence, the assistance reaches only to those who can't afford it. A closer scrutiny would reveal that the approach adopted by the AAP government is mischievous. Its real intent was to give the dole to 'all and sundry'.

If a household consumes less than 300 units a month, it doesn't necessarily follow that it is a family with low income. For instance, there would be umpteen number of well-off/high-income old-age couples living alone who consume less than 300 units a month. Even for others, who consume more than this threshold, we see a dastardly trend of consumers applying for multiple connections within the same HH. For instance, a household consuming 900 units a month, gets three meters installed to keep consumption of each under 300 units

thereby ensuring zero bill.

Reportedly, more than 100,000 meters have been bifurcated or trifurcated enabling even high-end consumers to avail of the free bonanza. As a consequence, currently almost over 95 per cent of power consumers in Punjab avail of subsidies. The swelling number of connections has increased the subsidy by Rs 125 crore per month on average. As a result, the total domestic subsidy for the current FY is now expected to be Rs 8,813 crore - Rs 1,500 crore higher than the initial estimate of Rs 7,313 crore.

In Delhi, where there is no charge for HHs consuming up to 200 units (HHs consuming between 200 and 400 units get a deduction of Rs 800 from their bill), the possibility of the majority of households availing of access to electricity - free of any charge - is not ruled out. The situation in other states won't be different. Given almost the entire population of the State - including the rich, millionaires, billionaires and so on, getting to enjoy the free bonanza, the burden of power subsidy is bound to gallop. Faced with budget constraints, the states will take increasing recourse to underpayment and delayed reimbursement of subsidy dues to discoms.

Meanwhile, the Centre is dealing with discoms

under a two-pronged strategy (i) forcing them to make timely payments and (ii) helping them cut AT&C losses and reduce the ACS-ARR gap. Under (i), it implemented late payment surcharge (LPS) and related matters Rules, in 2022. The LPS rules made it mandatory for discoms to clear their legacy dues as existing on June 3, 2022, in a time-bound manner in 12 equal monthly instalments (EMI) with the benefit of non-applicability of the LPS after its implementation date. The same rules are also provided for time-bound clearance of current dues failing, which will attract a power supply cut.

The pressure tactics have worked. The legacy dues of all stakeholders in the electricity supply chain viz. power generating companies (genscos) and transmission companies (transcos) from discoms decreased from Rs 1,39,747 crore in June 2022 to Rs 69,957 crore in July 2023. Faced with the threat of LPS, the latter could have used loans taken from PFC and REC (out of Rs 130,000 crore sanctioned under 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan') to make payments to the former.

As for (ii), under the 'Reforms-Linked, Result-Based Scheme for Distribution' (RLRBS) launched in July 2021, the Centre has undertaken a massive investment of Rs 300,000

crore to improve the reliability and quality of the power supply and enhance the efficiency of discoms. It has compulsory pre-paid and smart metering components to be implemented across the power supply chain, including in about 250 million households. The Scheme has yielded results.

The AT&C losses of discoms have gone down from 22.32 per cent during 2020-21 to 13.5 per cent during 2022-23. The ACS-ARR gap has also reduced from Rs 0.54 per kWh during 2020-21 to Rs 0.15 per kWh in 2022-23. A 9 per cent cut in AT&C losses is a stupendous achievement. It seems that pre-paid and smart meters have been installed, and power theft is almost eliminated. The Centre is keen that the ACS-ARR gap should be reduced to 'zero' by March 2025. This will require making power theft 'nil' and timely recovery of all subsidy dues from the States. But, this won't be possible if states continue with business as usual; it could even lead to erosion of the gains made in 2022-23. Modi's efforts would deliver only when (a) discoms are unshackled from state controls; (b) States give subsidies directly to the beneficiaries and (c) electricity distribution is deregulated.

(The writer is a policy analyst, views are personal)

## Hamas's resolve may survive IDF onslaught

ASHOK K MEHTA

On this page last week, a colleague expressed misgivings about the Israeli Defence Forces' (IDF) resilience and wondered if the steel was blunted. No one has ever doubted the will, fighting prowess and potential of Israelis given their history of conflict, survival and incredible prosperity. Israel has almost similar experience in its conflicted history as our own: war on creation in 1948, a second bigger round in 1956 and full-fledged regional wars in 1967 and 1973.

IDF, like now, was caught with its pants down when Egyptians executed a cross-Suez offensive that hesitated allowing the counter-Canal riposte led by Ariel Sharon's Centurion Tank division and Squadron and Troop leaders like Chaim Erez and Benny Taran. In the 1973 war on the Syrian front, the hero was Avigdor Kahalani who later became Mayor of Tel Aviv and Minister of National Security. His book *Heights of Courage* is a prescribed reading for

the Israeli military. He was worshipped by Armoured Corps officers who used to take a second oath near Mount Hermon on Golan Heights where a UN Indian Mechanised force is currently located.

And who will not remember Moshe Dayan, the toast of the 1948 Arab-Israeli war and Commander of Jerusalem Front? He became a legend: his eyepatch was replaced with the Jaffa orange in an ad proclaiming The Best. I was privileged to know Kahalani, Erez and Taran, all Armoured Corps, the sword in desert terrain. With the last two, we spent year-long training and friendship at Fort Leavenworth, US and Belgravia, UK. I visited Israel before India formally recognized it in January 1992. That travel is etched as the journey that commenced in Cairo where the Yom Kippur War was conceived. The taxi was driven by a retired Artillery Lieutenant Colonel from the Egyptian Army. We crossed the Suez and drove through Sinai still littered with debris from the

1967 and 1973 wars. The drive was punctuated with a vanquished Veteran's narration of victory turned into defeat. In 1991, Israel had a string of pearls of UN/EU Peacekeeping Forces. Most are still there - Lebanon, Syria and Jerusalem. Before entering Israel on the border with Egypt, we were welcomed by Lt Gen Johannes Van Ginkle, the Dutch Force Commander of the EU Peacekeepers. He like I was an Erez admirer who we were going to meet after nearly 20 years since Fort Leavenworth. Since then, I have been in Israel more than a dozen times including attending uninterrupted since 2010, the annual International Institute of Counter Terrorism conference in Herzilya till COVID paused it. So, I think I know the IDF pretty well. For anyone doubting its combat strength is a strategic error.

Israel has signed peace treaties with Jordan and Egypt and the Oslo Accord in 1993. The most recent is the Abrams Accord which hopes to improve Israel's relations

with Arab states. Except with Iran, Syria and Lebanon, there is peace including efforts to mend ties with Saudi Arabia. Since 1973, no Arab country has challenged de facto nuclear Israel. Tel Aviv is fighting internal wars against non-state actors Hezbollah in Lebanon, Islamic Jihad and Hamas which has been misgoverned since 2007 Gaza is the periodic source of Hamas rocketry against Israel.

The West Bank, which was infiltrated by Islamic State last year, has opened a third front for the IDF where more than 300 Palestinians and 50 Israelis have been killed this year. But Hezbollah appears to be only shadowboxing. Iran is external enemy no 1. Both Iran and Israel have vowed to destroy each other and do not recognize the other's right to exist. Iran backs Syria, Lebanon and Gaza. Hamas has a stockpile of 130,000 rockets and missiles. It was only in 2012 that their accuracy improved and Israel devised the Iron Dome whose launch I witnessed. It is an expensive

antidote to missiles but can distinguish which missile will hit populated areas. Its discrimination capacity makes it valuable.

The current ground offensive against Hamas will be the fifth large-scale operation with the first launched in 2008 after Hamas took control of Gaza. Similarly, Israel has invaded Lebanon thrice - in 1978, 1982 and 2006. IDF has failed to deter Hamas and diminish Hezbollah. Its punitive strikes only degrade capability till their next rocket attack. This time IDF is tasked to permanently destroy Hamas and rescue the 199 hostages hidden in an underground web of tunnels. This cordon and search operation can take months and become an abattoir. Taran says the operation is not the reoccupation of Gaza. Israel is known to have exchanged 1,200 Palestinian prisoners for one soldier. Iran says Hamas will release hostages if air attacks cease. Ultimately the safety of hostages will constrain operations with IDF fighting on enemy terrain.

Hamas's daring incursion into Israel is a brilliant strategy but the barbarity and brutality of tactics shaming Chengis Khan. Hamas achieved total surprise and horrendous gains. This time they did 9/11 and Pearl Harbour combined, inflicting on Israel their highest losses since the Yom Kippur war.

It has already become the world's largest man-made humanitarian catastrophe that you and I watch on TV. But no one can stop the mauled Israelis from retaliation and the IDF from wreaking retribution by reducing Gaza to the stone age. Fingers crossed the Gaza Front does not spark Lebanon and the West Bank. IDF may destroy Hamas's capability to fight; but not its will to fight another day.

(The writer, a retired Major General, was Commander, IPKF South, Sri Lanka, and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the Integrated Defence Staff. The views expressed are personal)

## Spiritual literacy is a must

RAJYOGI BRAHMAKUMAR NIKUNJ

It's a proven fact today that disharmony in human relations gives rise to not only wars but to almost all other problems directly or indirectly related to us. The phenomenon of split in families, the rising number of cases of divorces, and even most of the psycho-somatic diseases which are caused by stress or mental tension are due to disharmony in human relations only and nothing else. In the past few days, we all have witnessed how extreme conflict between two countries over a border issue resulted in a mass exodus of people from their homeland as well as deaths of innocent people in massive bombings during night time. Hence one cannot deny the fact that the forces that are leading to the disintegration of nations, communities and political parties crop up

primarily from disharmony. Most problems of law & order and even the commotions and disturbances in major Legislatures also are due to disharmony in relations between political parties or various linguistic groups, religious communities, etc. It is, thus, very much essential to find a solution to eliminate this problem lest it will eliminate us. But what is the way out? How does one move ahead? Well!! It is quite clear from some of the examples that have been given of the world-events that these problems are mainly the creations of our minds, our attitudes and our negative thinking. Hence, to create harmony, we need to first of all disarm our minds to dismantle the forces of disharmony. It is estimated that world over approximately two trillion dollars are spent every year by various countries on what is called 'Defence' or 'Security' and yet it's quite



surprising that insecurity is increasing rather than decreasing. What's more saddening is that all the diversion of resources to war purposes deprives the poorer sections of society of the help that they need or deserve. In this respect, it is essential to redefine security and to break the link between security and military force. We need to

understand that our security lies not in an armed state of readiness for war but in friendliness, love and peace with others.

Our real enemies are not men and women but suspicion, fear, hatred, violence and feeling of revenge and these enemies cannot be eliminated by military means. It has, therefore, rightly been said in the

Gita: 'Arjuna, the soul is its own best friend and it is its own worst enemy'. A deep study of the history of human civilization would reveal that presently, there are prevalent certain wrong beliefs that have led us to this kind of a negative culture, negative lifestyle and negative attitudes, one of these wrong beliefs is that there has always been disharmony in the world and there was no time in the history of mankind when there was total harmony. If that were so, then why today do we have a greater number of wars that are more devastating and which result in mass killings? Why are we today inventing more and more deadly weapons? It shows that there was a time in the distant past when there were less and less wars and there was also the earliest era which was free from all kinds of disharmony.

Thus, there must have been a time when the

world population was small, the environment was clean and there were no wars and people lived in amity and peace. Such an era was known as the Golden Age. That was the time when there was Universal Harmony. It is that new world which we wish to usher in again. And, we want those attitudes and that thinking which can restore harmony in human relations. So, how can we bring about that change? It's very simple, for that we need to realize that most of our problems arise from our spiritual illiteracy which has to be eradicated. If, therefore, we can get rid of this kind of illiteracy and have a new lease of consciousness beyond war and enmity, then we can open to a new paradise, otherwise, we will end in eternal darkness.

(The writer is a spiritual educator and popular columnist; views are personal)



# SHOULD YOU TRY THE OMAD (ONE MEAL A DAY) DIET?

HIRAL PATEL

You've probably heard about intermittent fasting since it is skyrocketing in popularity as one of the many weight loss trends. However, the OMAD diet, which stands for "one meal a day", takes intermittent fasting to the extreme. The idea is to eat one large meal in a 60-minute window and fast for 23 hours straight. But there's more to this diet than eating just one meal daily. For starters, you can eat whatever you'd like for that one meal, even a double cheeseburger and fries.

Whatever you choose to eat, you don't need to worry about the calories or nutritional profile of your food. And, of course, it looks like an upside to OMAD, but there are some red flags to watch out for. Since the diet allows you to eat whatever you want, you often fall into the trap of choosing unhealthy options.

Experts say adopting the OMAD way of eating is a starvation diet. It is an extreme level of time-restricted fasting, no doubt. However, nutritionists always suggest a well-balanced meal with healthy carbs, protein, and healthy fats. And if you're still curious, here's everything you need to know about this controversial diet.

## OMAD Diet and Weight Loss

OMAD is a method of controlling how your body obtains and uses food as fuel, just like other forms of intermittent fasting. Your body makes less insulin when you go without eating for an extended period (in this case, for 23 hours). Your fat cells release energy to make up for the fact that your cells still need fuel. However, for this to occur, you must go without food for so long that your insulin levels fall. That is why there is so much gap between the eating window. It makes your body break down fat and provides energy to the body.

OMAD can help you lose weight. That's because you're not eating enough calories with just one meal as you would by eating three or four times a day. So weight loss is bound to occur, but it's neither healthy nor sustainable. So whatever weight loss you see on the OMAD diet will likely be short-lived.

Healthy weight loss is something the most sustainable over a lifetime. It is possible only through a balanced diet and regular exercise. Supported by HealthifyMe's customised diet plans and calorie counters, you can achieve sustainable and healthy weight loss.

## Should I Try the OMAD Diet?

When you deprive yourselves of food for 23 hours, it'll be



tough not to notice any downsides. Also, studies show that eating one meal a day is similar to a disordered eating practice. So, people must avoid trying such diets, particularly anyone who's pregnant, breastfeeding, recovering from past disordered eating, or has diabetes.

The following side effects can result from restricting food for nearly an entire day:

## Possibility of Falling Weak

When you start a new diet, the body needs time to adjust to the changes. The first few days will be challenging and might make you feel weak. It is usual for everyone. Although if that weakness is causing a lot of problems, then it will be advisable to quit this diet. The chances of falling weak and feeling low on energy are high when you follow an OMAD diet.

## It Makes You Underweight

It is advised not to follow this diet if you have healthy body weight. Since your body does not need to minimise food consumption at such a level, it may make you underweight if you still follow this diet. Being underweight is worse, as your body becomes weak. Your immunity might also be affected and may lead to different ailments.

## Feeling Constantly Hungry

You will constantly feel hungry as you are not giving enough food to your body. Hunger cravings and irritability will cause distractions and poor mental health. You will not be able to focus on your work or daily activities.

## Reduces the Body's Beneficial Fats

The OMAD diet makes your

insulin drop and starts to work on breaking down fat cells. However, fat is also an essential part of the body and needs to be maintained. It is important to understand that this might also lead to the breakdown of the good fat cells necessary for your system. Hence, this diet is not practically beneficial.

## Note

Most health experts suggest steering clear of the OMAD diet. The more you restrict, the higher your chances of lacking essential nutrients. Plus, not getting a regular intake of calories can cause serious health complications. If you are interested in some fasting, following a less intense form like the 16:8 diet might be your best bet. However, the healthiest way is to follow a balanced diet, with adequate exercise and proper sleep.

## OMAD Diet: The Advantages

If you still want to try the OMAD diet, it's worth noting the following advantages.

## It Helps Burn Fat

Intermittent fasting is a successful weight-loss strategy. Over ten weeks, the average weight loss is 7 to 11 pounds. Since this is an extreme form of intermittent diet, it is difficult to follow but may provide fat reduction results.

## Improves Alertness

You feel more alert when you fast during the daytime because your body releases more orexin-A hormone. It is not specific to the OMAD diet and applies to most forms of intermittent fasting. However, following the OMAD diet will lead to a lack of concentration because you starve for long hours.

## May Improve Metabolism

The OMAD diet profoundly affects your metabolism, particularly the fat-burning rate. However, you must understand that following the OMAD diet is not completely necessary for metabolism improvement.

## Creates a Discipline

Eating only one meal a day is not easy. It is a challenging task, and only a few will succeed. However, if you like a challenge, you might want to try this diet. It will teach you the discipline to maintain that willpower every single day. Some people have found this diet to be their way of life, but it might not be for your body. Other intermittent diets will also be helpful and might suit your body better.

## OMAD Diet: Important Tips to Follow Stay Hydrated

Regular hydration will help you control your hunger and stay committed to your diet. Staying hydrated is crucial if you're following this diet to lose weight. For the following 23 hours, you are not allowed to eat anything like sugar-free tea, coffee, and other calorie-free beverages. So ensure to drink plenty of water.

## Consume Food From All Food Groups

Now that you are only allowed to eat once a day, you must attend to your body's nutritional needs. Consume something from each food group to stay nourished. If you do this, you might experience more significant weight loss than average. Fill your dish accordingly with protein, fat, and carbohydrates.

## Maintain Your Everyday Exercise

Gather your commitment thoughts, put on your sportswear, and get going. Exercise and diet together are the most effective. Whatever you choose to do, make sure to keep moving throughout the day. It would help to fulfil your fitness objectives.

## If You're Not Feeling Well, Stop the Diet.

As a beginner, it is normal to feel weak or queasy. However, if this feeling persists, quit the OMAD diet immediately. Even though you face mild sickness, carrying on could make you nauseous and worsen your situation.

## Note

Though the OMAD diet doesn't restrict what you can eat during your eating window, there are rules for how to plate your meal. You can do this diet by starting a fast at night, skipping breakfast, and eating your first meal in the middle of the day. If you want to start slow, introduce fasting every other day, with small snacks after workouts.

## Conclusion

Since the OMAD diet is one type of intermittent fasting, you may experience some of the benefits of intermittent fasting diets in general. However, the disadvantages outweigh the advantages of the OMAD diet. Even if you don't experience any short-term side effects, the OMAD diet can affect your health in the long run. A well-balanced and well-portioned diet benefits your long-term well-being and gives you sustainable and healthy weight loss.

Source: Healthifyme

## HEALTH NEWS

### 5G will transform healthcare delivery in countries like India: Oracle

As India rolls out 5G in select cities, the role of the technology in delivery optimum healthcare in remote areas cannot be denied and according to Cloud major Oracle, countries like India can benefit the most basically on two fronts: super-fast and real-time delivery of telemedicine and ambulance care especially in remote areas.

According to Mike Sicilia, the Executive Vice President at Oracle, nothing is more important than saving people's lives and creating better outcomes for patients and 5G is capable of helping countries like India achieve that.

"I think that 5G has the opportunity to open up the telemedicine space in a huge way. The fact is that 5G-capable devices that are connected to the cloud goes beyond just doctor-patient video chats as we saw during the pandemic. 5G can help a healthcare provider access a patient's vital signs and diagnose the ailment faster and in an efficient way," Sicilia told IANS during an interview here.

Not just the telemedicine space, 5G can help hospitals make sense of humongous data-sets via multiple machines.

"Having low latency, high-bandwidth connections into MRI, X-ray and dialysis machines, etc will allow us to move some of the computing data into the Cloud, recalibrate and reload that machine with further instructions to detect various kinds of illnesses like Covid. It can entirely change what the machine does for us today," he elaborated.

Oracle has doubled down on its healthcare push for millions, and 5G has a key role in achieving that.

Health sciences capabilities are evolving, ushering in new ways of conducting clinical research including remote data collection, patient monitoring, and the adoption of 5G technology to support clinical trials.

The 5G network enables 24/7 monitoring of patients -- warning experts of impending episodes, whether low blood sugar, heart attack, or other vital signs -- requiring proactive intervention.

According to the company, the capabilities of 5G have empowered secure, accurate, fast data collection between trial participants and pharmaceutical companies.

In India, companies are now building 5G-ready ambulances. Bharti Airtel has a 5G-connected ambulance that can transform primary health care in emergency situations.

The state-of-the-art 5G ambulance is equipped with the latest medical equipment, patient monitoring applications, and telemetry devices that transmit the patient health data to the hospital in real-time.

In addition, it is also equipped with onboard cameras, camera-based Headgear, and 'Body Cams' for paramedic staff -- all connected to the ultra-fast and low latency Airtel 5G network.

According to Oracle, low latency 5G can enable augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) immersive training, which could even be used to help doctors explain diagnoses and surgeries to patients with impactful 360 degree reconstructions of their anatomy.

According to Sicilia, 5G will facilitate real-time communication between a doctor and a patient, without any lag which is crucial.

## Blood Sugar Imbalance: Impacts and Prevention

PARUL DUBE

Glucose is the primary energy source for the body, and the blood is the carrier of glucose to all tissues. Therefore, understanding and knowing about blood glucose levels is essential for everyone. Glucose is the energy source that powers every reaction in the body. Therefore, everyone needs to keep blood sugar levels at an optimum. Any abnormality can lead to metabolic disturbances and chronic diseases in the long run.

Blood glucose level spikes after food consumption and a constant increase may vary depending on the type of food you consume. Blood sugar levels depend on several factors. For example, it depends on your biological clock, the food you consume, and the activity levels throughout the day. Doctors usually ask diabetes patients to frequently measure their blood sugar levels as it helps them regulate their blood sugar levels. How-

ever, non-diabetics should also monitor their blood sugar levels. Also, if you are non-diabetic, chances are that you would not be aware of the significance of using a glucometer and sugar level-checking blood tests. In such a case, these tests may look like tedious tasks.

To ease out the process, HealthifyMe has introduced HealthifyMe Pro 2.0, with its 5-way approach to improving an individual's overall health. The package comes with a CGM- Constant Glucose Monitor, the inputs of pro coaches, a calorie counter, a metabolic panel test with almost 80 parameters, and a weighing scale. The constant glucose monitor tracks your real-time glucose and assesses the impact of a food, beverage or exercise on your blood glucose levels. Accordingly, the pro coaches guide you on making dietary modifications. The objective is to track, assess and change lifestyle habits. These minute changes will drastically bring improvements to your



health. Thus, HealthifyMe pro 2.0 is an appropriate one-time investment that can make you feel fit and fine.

## Understanding Dysglycemia

Dysglycemia refers to abnormalities in blood glucose levels. These abnormalities include hyperglycemia, hypoglycemia and impaired fasting glucose levels. It is vital to know about glucose metabolism to understand this further.

Glucose is the primary monosaccharide affecting blood sugar. Glucose is a simple sugar that provides energy to major organs. But, as simple as it sounds, the mechanism of

sugar breakdown in the body is complex. It depends on the insulin hormone released from the pancreas. Glucose and Insulin are antagonists of each other, where insulin resists the glucose level in the blood. For instance, if you consume more carbohydrates, the glucose level in your blood might increase. But, to fight this, more insulin is produced by the pancreas, leading to a decrease in glucose levels.

These mechanisms keep the blood glucose levels in check. However, in case of an irregular mechanism, you may experience an imbalance in glucose levels. So, if the blood sugar

level is high, it might lead to hyperglycemia in severe conditions. On the other hand, when the levels are too low, it is associated with hypoglycemia.

An increase or decrease in the blood sugar level for a prolonged period will lead to certain ill effects on the body. These may be chronic disorders that may be fatal if not treated at the right time.

## Hyperglycemia

Hyperglycemia is the increase in the blood sugar levels in the bloodstream (120-180 mg/ dl). It is due to low levels of insulin or insulin resistance, or excess glucose consumption.

## Symptoms of Hyperglycemia

Dehydration  
Frequent micturition/ urination  
Headache  
Fatigue  
Skin Infections  
Weight Loss  
Vomiting  
Confusion

Hyperventilation  
Rapid Heartbeat  
Hyperglycemia can lead to diabetes if not cured.

## Hypoglycemia

You experience hypoglycemia when the glucose level falls below 70 mg/dl.

## Symptoms of Hypoglycemia

Sweating  
Headache  
Nausea  
Fatigue  
Nightmares  
Seizures

## Role of Glucose Monitoring in Dysglycemia

Hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia come with severe consequences. To prevent these conditions, you must maintain healthy glucose and insulin levels in your body. Glucose levels depend on food, physical exercise, mental health and hormones. How the body reacts to these factors might differ from one individual to another because everyone is different. Therefore, what

might work for you might not work for another. Hence, you need to track your glucose levels to know what works for you.

## Note

Any imbalance in the body's blood glucose levels might affect your day-to-day performance. In addition, it can affect your metabolic health drastically. Therefore, it is wise to regularly test your blood sugar levels and regulate them to prevent chronic diseases by changing your diet, water intake, and activity levels.

## Normal Range of Blood Glucose Levels

Fasting Blood Glucose Level (Overnight Fasting: 10-14 hrs): 70-110 mg/ dl

Post-Prandial (After meals): Less than 140 mg/ dl  
Random Blood Glucose level: 70-140 mg/ dl

These are the three ways to assess blood glucose levels. Although the procedure for the tests might differ, the normal range is the same.



## Dheeraj Gupta chairs Wular Conservation and Management Authority's meet

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 18

The second meeting of Wular Conservation and Management Authority (WUCMA) was held today under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, Dheeraj Gupta.

During the meeting, Principal Secretary reviewed progress on various wetland conservation initiatives, including the Integrated Management Plan for Conservation of Wular Lake.

Dheeraj Gupta directed the officers of WUCMA to take all necessary measures to preserve and conserve the Wular lake. He emphasized the importance of wetlands for maintaining ecological balance. He said that wetlands play a vital role in water purification, flood control and providing habitat for biodiversity. He added that wetlands are a popular tourist destination and contribute towards the J&K's economy.

Dheeraj Gupta directed



the officials to develop a comprehensive and holistic plan for the conservation and management of Wular Lake. The plan should include measures to address the challenges faced by lake besides promoting the sustainable use of these resources.

During the meeting, work programme for an outlay of Rs 59.59 crore was approved for the year 2023-24. The major activities would include Water Management, Development of Wular Walkway Phase-II and other Eco-development initiatives. The Board advised constitution of sub-committees

for technical matters, human resources and financial management.

The Board approved commissioning of studies related to Hydrology, Fish Diversity, Bird monitoring and livelihood related interventions through reputed National and UT level institutes.

Dheeraj Gupta said that the government is committed towards working with stakeholders to conserve and manage Wular Lake. He urged upon all the stakeholders to cooperate with the Board in its efforts to protect the valuable ecosystem.

During the meeting, he

impressed upon the officers to complete the activities under the approved work plan for the conservation of lake and benefit of the local communities.

The meeting was attended by Roshan Jaggi, PCCF/HoFF; Suresh Gupta, PCCF Social Forestry; Sarvesh Rai PCCF Wildlife; Dr. Owais Ahmad, Deputy Commissioner Bandipora; Naresh Kumar, Chief Engineer I&FC Kashmir; representatives of Finance and Planning Departments, Director Planning Forest Department, Additional Deputy Commissioner Sopore and senior officers of WUCMA.

## Celebrity singers to perform on daily basis at devotional song competition

JNEWS SERVICE  
KATRA, OCT 18

All India Devotional Song Competition entered in Second day evening as a part of Navratra Festival 2023 began today at Yog Ashram Complex in the evening by lighting of a traditional lamp by the dignitaries present on the occasion.

Where as in Second day of the preliminary round of competition Sukhjinder from Punjab took 1st position & 2nd position was taken by Shubham Banerjee from Jammu whereas Nidhi Singh from Jammu and Sumit Sharma from Hoshiarpur shared 3rd position, among 10 auditioned participants in which 03 participants were from outside state and were provided with the cash prizes of 10,000/-, 5,000/- and 3,000/- respectively.

The Devotional Song Competition was adjudged by the panels of experts in music including Celebrity Dr. Surinder Kumar Sharma HOD Govt.



Degree College Sunni Shimla, Dr. Usha Bhagati Ex.HOD Music many degree colleges including P.G.M.A.M College Jammu, Dr. C.L. Verma Ex.Chairman Post Graduate University of Himachal Pradesh.

Famous celebrity renowned singer Masha Ali sang beautiful songs and every one was dancing on his tunes and likewise Former winner of All India Devotional Song Competition and now a big name of devotional songs in the Industry Naveen Punjabi enthralled the audience with his melodious songs and the total environment of the venue

became spiritual.

The proceeding of Competition was conducted by Sh. Rakesh Wazir who is also the Chairman of the said Competition who while speaking on the occasion said that famous singers who are lined up for their guest performances on the stage include Shanker Sawhney and Anusha on 22nd Oct., Amrinder Bobby, Sonali Dogra, Mool Raj, Johnny Sufi on 23rd Oct., Balraj & Anshu Sharma on 18th Oct. evening, Kiran Baba on 21st Oct., Rajan Gill on 19th Oct., and likewise the dates of some other big names are to go to be finalised

soon live telecast of the event is available on MHI from 9 PM onwards daily.

The All India Devotional Song Competition being organized by SMVD Shrine Board, Deptt. of J&K Tourism, MHI in association with J&K Bank, Nice Gems, DIVINITI, Nidheesh Builders Jammu Pvt. Ltd., Pure Roots, Vishwayatan Yog Ashram Complex with active support of District Administration and the local host Community.

It is worth while to mention here that the first position holders of daily competition will compete with the winners of the quarter final on 22nd of Oct., for their entry into final and the quarter final will be held on 21st Oct. which will be of 2nd & 3rd position holders of daily competition.

The Grand finale of the All India Devotional Song Competition will be held on 23rd of Oct. and Winners will be awarded with gold amounting to Rs. 3 Lakh and a recording contract with Venus World Wide.

## DC Srinagar holds District Level Cooperative Development Committee Meeting

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 18

With a view to further diversify the business activities of PACS to make them vibrant economic entities and review the implementation and progress of various schemes aimed to strengthen Cooperative movement and deepening its reach to the grassroots level, a meeting of District level Cooperative Development Committee (DLDC) was today held under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad here at Conference Hall of DC Office Complex.

Besides, Additional District Development Commissioner, Srinagar, Zahoor Ahmad Mir, the meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer, Chief Agriculture Officer, Deputy Registrar Cooperatives, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Assistant Director Fisheries, Assistant Directors FCS&CA, DDM NABARD, Officers from J&K State Cooperative Bank, Cooperative Department and other concerned.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner, who is also the Chairman District Cooperative Development Committee (DLDC) took a detailed appraisal of the interventions being adopted to make Primary Cooperative Societies as vibrant entities of the economy.

A threadbare deliberation on different initiatives and key components under PACS to diversify



the business activities and make them vibrant economic entities. The DC reviewed the status of the adoption of Model Bye-laws by PACS, hardware procurement, Opening of New M-PACS/ Dairy/ Fishery in District per month in all 16 uncovered Panchayats, opening up of Jan Aushadhi Kendra, LPG/ Petrol/ Diesel distribution outlets, PM Kisan Samridhi Kendras, One PACS per District for World's Largest Grain Storage Plan, Rural Piped Water Supply, Registration of Tribal Cooperatives, Verification and Certification of Data entered on National Cooperative Database, Preparation of DPR for setting up Bamboo/Willow Wicker etc. On the occasion, the DC was informed that all the 07 PACS in District Srinagar have adopted Model Bye-Laws by the concerned elected Board of Managements and Data of all 07 PACS have been uploaded and rec-

ommended for computerization. Similarly, the Committee was apprised that for establishment of One PACS per District for World's Largest Grain Storage Plan, Land has been Identified in Balhama Khonmoh area of the District and process is going on fast track basis. With regard to opening up of 5 Jan Aushadhi Kendra initial approval has been received for PACS at Palpora and Hyderpora. The PM Kisan Samridhi Kendras are also being set up by PACS at Gasoo and Palpora areas of the District.

Likewise, the DC was informed that Verification and Certification data of as many as 1655 Cooperative Societies registered in Srinagar District has been entered on the National Cooperative Database as on date.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner stressed on all the members of the Committee to work in coor-

ordinated efforts in order to achieve the targets of various initiatives of the Ministry of Cooperation to further strengthen the cooperative ecosystem. The DC also stressed the importance of the Cooperative movement and how it benefits society on a large scale for their economic empowerment and enhancing income generation avenues. The DC asked the Committee to assess the availability of the suitable land for the Cooperative School in the District and also asked for exploring possibilities to provide Mid-day meals for the school children of the School.

Earlier, the Deputy Registrar Cooperative, Mushtaq Ahmad presented an overview of the present status of Cooperative Societies in Srinagar besides deliberating upon the work being done to strengthen the Cooperative movement across the District.

## SARAS AAJEEVIKA 2.0 concludes in Srinagar

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 18

The highly anticipated second edition of SARAS AAJEEVIKA 2.0 concluded successfully in Srinagar, mesmerizing visitors with the exceptional talent and creativity of over 150 rural craftswomen associated with Self Help Groups (SHGs) of Day NRLM.

This remarkable 10-day women-led fair, held against the breathtaking backdrop of Dal Lake on Boulevard, brought together rural women artisans from 17 states, offering visitors a captivating range of exquisite handicraft and handloom products that beautifully represented rural India.

With participation from over 150 women artisans hailing from different parts of rural India, the Mela provided a platform for them to proudly display their handmade creations on 35 curated stalls, provided by Jammu Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM). These vibrant stalls were skillfully managed by Women SHG members, showcasing their expertise in various forms of artistic expression, including handicrafts, handloom textiles, home decor pieces and



organic food products. Throughout the Mela, the participants received tremendous recognition and admiration from visitors, buyers and fellow entrepreneurs. This event not only served as a platform for showcasing their products but also facilitated opportunities for expanding their market reach and forging new connections.

The Mela attracted a remarkable number of enthusiastic attendees, who were captivated by the beautifully adorned stalls, the diverse range

of products sourced from different states, and the vibrant local cultural programs held in the evenings.

Speaking on the occasion, Additional Mission Director, JKRLM Kashmir, Reyaz Beigh said, "We are highly delighted to witness the overwhelming response to the SARAS AAJEEVIKA 2.0. This event not only provided rural women with a platform to showcase their remarkable skills but also enabled them to generate income and enhance their livelihoods."

He further added that the successful conclusion of SARAS AAJEEVIKA 2.0 represents the vast potential within rural India and serves as a testament to the profound impact of initiatives like Day NRLM in empowering rural women, promoting sustainable livelihoods, and preserving cultural heritage.

He extended sincere gratitude to all the participants, visitors, and various line departments who contributed for making Saras Aajeevika Mela Kashmir a grand success.

## 2-day seminar on Life and Contribution of Iqbal Azim Choudhary for Gojri Language and Literature begins at JKAACL Jammu

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCTOBER, 18

The Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages (JKAACL) has successfully begun today with a 2-Day Seminar on Life and Contribution of Iqbal Azim Choudhary for Gojri Language and literature at JKAACL premises in Jammu.

The event was inaugurated by G.D. Tahir, Former Director Doordarshan Srinagar and Padamshree, Dr. Jitender Udhamshree, Former Director AIR, Jammu in presence of Dr. Shah Nawaz, Editor and Head Gojri wing JKAACL.

At the outset, Dr. Shah Nawaz, Editor and Head Gojri wing JKAACL welcomed the Guests on behalf of Bharat Singh, Secretary JKAACL. He said



that JKAACL under the patronage of Sh. Bharat Singh is doing commendable job for preservation and development of the Gojri Language in Jammu and Kashmir.

After this Guest of honour Padamshree, Dr. Jitender Udhamshree appreciated the efforts of JKAACL in promoting literature and culture of J&K.

In his presidential address, G .D. Tahir lauded the role of JKAACL specially the Secretary

JKAACL for promoting Gojri literature and culture in J&K.

After the inaugural ceremony paper reading session was organised in which the researchers presented papers on Life and Contribution of Late Iqbal Azim Choudhary. Mohd. Mansha Khaki presented Paper on Life and Works of Late Iqbal Azim Choudhary, Abdul Ghani Arif presented a research paper on the life of Iqbal Azim Choudhary, Dr.

Iqbal Azim Choudhary in Gojri Language. The session was conducted by Mukhtar Choudhary.

This was followed by the Light music programme in which Mohd. Rafi and Ghulam Hassan Tabassum from Kashmir presented the songs from the poetry of Iqbal Azim and mesmerized the audience with their melodious voices. Dr. Shah Nawaz, Editor and Head Gojri wing JKAACL, presented Vote of thanks.

## DC Ganderbal inspects facilities at transit camp Wandhama

JNEWS SERVICE  
GANDERBAL, OCTOBER 18

The Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyambir today visited transit camp Wandhama to have first-hand appraisal about the facilities being provided to the migrant employees there.

During this visit the DC was accompanied by Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mehraj-u-din Shah, CPO, executive engi-

neer R&B, executive engineer Jal Shakti, CMO, Naib Tehsildar Tulmulla and other concerned officials.

On the occasion the DC enquired about the facilities being available at transit Camp for the migrant employees including water, power, road, development of park, parking area, health facility and other related facilities.

The DC also interacted with the families residing there who apprised



him of several issues for which the DC gave necessary instruction to the concerned departments for timely redressal.

The DC directed the executive engineer R&B to take necessary measures for development of open areas and installation of

safety railing along the road side.

Executive Engineer Jal Shakti was directed to ensure round the clock water supply and water tanks be cleaned where ever required on urgent basis.

On the occasion the DC also assured the migrant employees that a grocery shop and Jan Aushadhi Store will be established within the camp.



## Padgotra listens to problems of people of block Purmandal: expressed regret on their condition



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYPUR, OCT 18

Today, under the chairmanship of Rajesh Paragotra Provincial Vice President Jammu, Aam Aadmi Party leaders and workers listened to the problems of the people of block Purmandal of Samba assembly constituency of Jammu-Samba-Reasi Lok Sabha constituency and expressed regret that how the administration of Samba and Jammu Kashmir UT is working as a stooge of BJP and has failed to solve the

problems of the common people. Padgotra said that the roads from the Purmandal to Padal, Taled, Dhaged, Khodhi Khad and Rajul villages have been washed away, the supply of drinking water is stopped, due to lack of road, school children and people have to travel 14 kilometers daily and if someone falls ill, gets bitten by a snake or has delivery cases, then how will he reach his destination. It is very painful that people facing these problems. The administration is unaware of all this and

the ministers of the BJP government say that India has been made a world leader. Padgotra said that in Jammu and Kashmir, it has been 75 years since the country got independence and people still collecting drinking water from drains and rain water. There are no roads, there is shortage of staff in schools, there is no treatment in government hospitals, there is no employment, A country cannot become a world leader when inflation is at its peak and corruption is going on openly.

## Dagger Gunners organizes Free Artificial Limb Fitment Camp at Baramulla

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, OCT 18

Free Artificial Limb Fitment Camp was organised by Dagger Gunners under the aegis of Dagger Division in association with Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayta Samiti (BMVSS) at Chinara Yuva, Baramulla from 16-18 Oct 2023.

This endeavour is a follow up to a similar camp started last year and organised by Indian Army at Baramulla in association with BMVSS wherein the specially abled people will get a new ray of hope. An expert panel of prosthetists from BMVSS were present to ensure best suited fitment of limbs and calipers.

The measurements were taken during the camp as per the requirements of the beneficiaries.

In addition, equipment and accessories like Auxiliary Crutches, Wheel



Chairs, Polio Calipers and Hearing Aids were also distributed free of cost.

A total of 174 patients

including children from Baramulla district were benefitted during the camp.

## Indian Army organizes Free Blood Donation Camp



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, OCT 18

With an aim to extend high quality medical support to every intended beneficiary, Ziran Coy ex Pattan Bn org a Blood Donation Camp in Tangmarg, with Coy Cdr Maj Vinay Pathania at the helm.

The event was conducted in collabora-

tion with Sub District Hospital, Tangmarg.

Medical Panel comprised of Capt Rishabh Singh RMO 6 DOGRA, Dr Sawa Wani (BMO) SDH Tangmarg and staff.

The event turned out to be a great success as the citizens appreciated the earnest efforts by armed forces to reach out people settled in valley.

## Congress shocked over brutal killing of couple in Rajouri, seeks high level probe

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 18

Congress has expressed deep shock and great concern over the barbaric killing of a couple of Koteranka in the upper reaches (Dhok) in Rajouri district, by unknown persons and demanded a high level probe into the shocking incident to know the nefarious designs of culprits. The party has also expressed great concern over the reports of threatening posters in Digwar area of Poonch, whereby minority hindus and sikhs have been asked to leave the area, which is highly condemnable.

In a joint statement, JKPC Working President Shri Raman Bhalla, Chief Spokesperson Mr Ravinder Sharma and former minister & District congress President Rajouri Mr Shabir Ahmed Khan have expressed great shock over the barbaric killing of the couple in upper reaches of Koteranka (Kandi) area of Rajouri district and conveyed heartfelt sympathies with the family and relatives including Shri Ayub Pehalwan, a prominent political leader of the area & elder brother of the deceased Mohammad Azam.

They demanded a through investigation into the shocking incident to identify the culprits and their nefarious designs, for stern action in the matter. They also demanded adequate compensation and ex gratia relief to the victim family.

The senior congress leaders also expressed great concern over the reports of display / pasting of threatening posters in Digwar area of Poonch, calling upon the minority sikhs & hindus to leave. They demanded stern action in the matter and deployment of adequate security forces in the area to ensure safety of innocent citizens, besides launching against such terror elements.

They also expressed deep concern over the rise of terror related activities in the twin border districts of Rajouri-Poonch and asked the centre government and UT administration to take timely measures to prevent further deterioration in the situation.

## 2-day 'Vibrant Verve' exhibition successfully concludes at KC Regalia

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 18

The 'Vibrant Verve' exhibition, a spectacular showcase of premier brands, organized by FICCI FLO JKL in collaboration with 'Luxuries of Kashmir', concluded on a high note at KC Regalia today. The event garnered an overwhelming response from the people of Jammu district.

Dr. Rashmi Singh, Commissioner of the State Taxes Department, J&K, Namrita Dogra, Additional Commissioner, Shenaz Akhtar, Deputy Commissioner of the State Taxes Department, Ritu Mahajan, Deputy Commissioner, Kanchan Bala, Deputy Commissioner, and Anissa Nabi, GST Officer of the State Taxes Department visited the exhibition.

Additionally, Priya Sethi, National Executive Member of the BJP and former Minister, and Rekha Mahajan, District



President, graced the occasion with their presence.

Dr. Rashmi Singh interacted with women entrepreneurs, providing them with valuable insights into GST invoicing and digital payment methods. She commended the entrepreneurs for their contri-

butions to the local economy. She also expressed her appreciation for the relentless efforts of the FICCI FLO Jammu & Kashmir team, under the leadership of Varuna Anand, Chairperson of FICCI FLO JKL in collaboration with 'Luxuries of Kashmir'.

In her address, Priya

Sethi praised the 'Vibrant Verve' exhibition as a testament to FICCI FLO JKL and Luxuries of Kashmir's dedication to bringing top-notch brands to the region. She also felicitated all the participants with a token of appreciation.

Varuna Anand, Chairperson of FICCI FLO JKL, expressed gratitude towards Dr. Rashmi Singh, other officials of the State Taxes Department, J&K, and former Minister Priya Sethi for their support and encouragement of women entrepreneurs. She also extended her thanks to the people of Jammu district for their overwhelming response to the exhibition, despite adverse weather conditions.

Highlighting the event's significance, Varuna Anand said, 'Vibrant Verve' has showcased an array of premier brands not only from the Union Territory but also from across India, adding a touch of luxury and festivity to the ongoing

festival season in Jammu and Kashmir. Shoppers had the pleasure of exploring high-end options spanning from home decor to fashion essentials.

Varuna Anand emphasized that the putting together of an exhibition like 'Vibrant Verve' was a collective team effort of both the core team members and other members of FLO JKL. She thanked all the stakeholders for their contribution towards the success of the event with special thanks to their Platinum Sponsors Fortifino & Silverlines and Gold Sponsors Astro India.

She lauded the efforts of Sr. Vice Chairperson Ruchika Gupta, Vice Chairperson Aarti Chowdhary, Treasurer Sona Mehta, Jt. Treasurer Pooja Gandotra, Secretary Mona Saraf & Jt. Secretary Chandni Kapoor.

As the event came to a close, there was a collective anticipation for the second edition of this successful exhibition.

## BJP will form next government in Rajasthan, people will get freedom from jungle raj: Kavinder

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
MAHUA (RAJASTHAN) OCT 18

The people of Rajasthan will get freedom from the jungle raj, atrocities against women, corruption and appeasement politics of the Congress government.

This was stated by Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister from J&K while interacting with members of sandstone business community in Sikandra area of district Dausa, Rajasthan. District President Prabhu Dayal and District Vice President Ram Raj accompanied the former deputy chief minister of J&K. Kavinder conveyed his assurance to the people of Rajasthan that they will experience respite from the issues that have been raised, including concerns about 'Jungle Raj,' women's safety, corruption, and appeasement politics that are perceived to be associated with the Congress-led government.

Rajasthan, known for its rich culture, heritage, and history, is a state where the people's aspirations and concerns are of paramount importance. He acknowledged the challenges that the citizens of Rajasthan have voiced, including the



lack of adequate healthcare facilities, a cry for basic amenities, irregular access to water supply, and the precarious state of small-scale industries in the region.

To address these issues comprehensively, he said Modi Govt will envision the development of an industrial area in Sikandra. This move is expected to invigorate the local economy, create job opportunities, and bolster economic growth, thereby enhancing the overall quality of life for the people of the state.

The senior BJP leader reiterated that the BJP stands as a beacon of hope for the citizens of Rajasthan. The party's vision is to liberate the people of the state from what is perceived as "Jungle Raj," characterized by concerns over law and order, governance, and

the safety and security of the people. By addressing these issues and fostering a climate of accountability and responsibility, the BJP aims to usher in an era of good governance and transparency, he added.

Furthermore, Kavinder has ensured that the Party is committed to end gender-based atrocities and make women's safety a top priority. Ensuring that women can live and move freely without fear is a fundamental principle of the BJP's vision for Rajasthan. This commitment extends to safeguarding women's rights and dignity, fostering an environment where they can flourish, and actively participating in the state's development, he added.

Kavinder said corruption erodes the trust of the people and hinders the growth and development of the state. The

BJP, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is committed to establish an administration that is transparent, efficient, and accountable, ensuring that public funds are utilized for the betterment of the people and the state as a whole, he added.

Kavinder said the upcoming assembly elections in Rajasthan present a pivotal moment for the state and its people. The BJP, with its strong track record and transformative vision, is poised to lead Rajasthan towards a brighter and more prosperous future. The party remains dedicated to delivering on its promises and to working diligently to achieve the vision for a progressive and dynamic Rajasthan, he added.

Earlier, Kavinder Gupta took out a Rath Yatra in Mahua constituency.

## BJP discusses Government Schemes for Public Welfare

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, OCT 18

An important meeting took place at S1 Church Lane in Srinagar, where key leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Jammu and Kashmir convened to deliberate on various government schemes and their impact on the local populace, especially the underprivileged.

The gathering was attended by prominent BJP figures, including Ashish Sood, BJP J&K Co-Incharge; Ashok Koul, J&K BJP General Secretary (Org.); and Sunil Prajapati, President of the J&K BJP OBC Morcha, among other senior party leaders.

The central focus of the meeting was to assess government schemes and their significance in improving the lives of the people, especially those in need.

Ashish Sood, BJP J&K Co-Incharge, highlighted the government's initiative, the "Vishwakarma Scheme." This scheme, with a financial allocation of Rs 13,000 crore, is designed to benefit artisans and craftsmen, primarily from the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in Jammu and Kashmir. It offers substantial support, from registration to financial assistance, to uplift



these traditional vocations. The Vishwakarma Scheme is planned to span five years and is expected to benefit approximately 30 lakh families of artisans and craftsmen, including weavers, goldsmiths, blacksmiths, and laundry workers.

J&K BJP General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul stated that the BJP government is dedicated to the welfare of the citizens. He highlighted initiatives such as the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, which aims to provide financial services to the economically disadvantaged, and the Ayushman Bharat Card scheme, offering free healthcare up to Rs 5 lakh per person for economically disadvantaged families. These schemes, he noted, underscore the party's commitment to the people's well-being.

Furthermore, Sunil Prajapati, President of the J&K BJP OBC Morcha,

stressed the importance of ensuring that these schemes effectively reach the intended beneficiaries. He encouraged party workers to redouble their efforts in making these programs accessible to the people. In addition, several other prominent figures from the party attended the meeting, including Sajjad Kumar Husain (General Secretary BJP OBC Morcha), Fayaz Ahmed Najar (Vice President BJP OBC Morcha), Muzaffar Ahmed Najar (Prabhari Central Kashmir BJP OBC Morcha), and G. M. Hajjam (Spokesperson BJP OBC Morcha).

Following the meeting, Ashish Sood, BJP J&K Co-Incharge, held a press conference to brief the media about the discussions. He was joined by Sunil Prajapati, President of the J&K BJP OBC Morcha and Manzoor Bhat, BJP Kashmir IT Head & Media Incharge.



# NHAI causing inconvenience to commuters on Jammu-Pathankot Highway

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
SAMBA, OCT 18

Apni Party Provincial President Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh today has criticized NHAI authorities for harassment of commuters for hours long frequent traffic jams on Jammu-Pathankot highway from Vijaypur to Bari Brahmana in Samba district.

The Former Minister gave this statement in a meeting that was organized here in Samba to discuss public issues. The meeting was also attended by District President Samba, Raman Thappa, Lovely Mangol, and others. During the meeting, Manjit Singh said that the commuters are compelled to face difficulties by the NHAI authorities because of ongoing unprofessional widening work that is posing threat to the lives of the people.



"The work on the highway has been sub-let to the contractors by the NHAI who are unprofessional and pose a threat to the commuters. The work has also caused great inconvenience to the commuters with frequent traffic jams for over 4 hours on the stretch from Vijaypur to Bari Brahmana," he added.

He said that the civil administration should seriously look into the issue

and handle the issue after speaking to the NHAI which has failed properly to work on widening work without causing harassment to the commuters and businessmen.

He said that the unprecedented traffic continues for hours together from Vijaypur to Bari Brahmana has become a problem for the people especially in the wake of Navratri festival and marriages.

He demanded intervention of the civil administration and traffic police to end the harassment of the commuters.

Meanwhile, he welcomed dozens of youth into the party fold and lauded their decision.

He said that the youth joined the party as they were impressed with the vision of the Apni Party leadership and agenda of equitable development.

# NSS units GDC Kathua organizes cleanliness drive in college premises

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 18

Under the banner of Special Swacchata campaign 3.0, NSS Units Gdc Kathua organised Cleanliness drive in the college premises. Cleanliness drive was especially conducted in the class rooms of the arts block and in the NSS park. Volunteers with the help of brooms cleaned all walls and ceilings of the class rooms as a part of this activity. Volunteers collected waste from the class rooms and NSS Park and disposed of the waste at proper



place. NSS Programme officer, Prof Manmohan Singh addressed the volunteers and encouraged their spirit of cleanliness. He added that we have to

set an visible impact on people and help them understand that cleanliness is a serious issue. We have to make every possible effort to make our sur-

roundings clean and green forever. He appealed them to become youth ambassador to carry forward this campaign in your respective localities.

He further added that it is essential to understand that Cleanliness and is not any social binding, it is rather responsibility being citizen of India.

The whole activity was conducted under the patronage of Prof Seema Mir, Principal, GDC Kathua and under the supervision of NSS Programme Officers Prof. Manmohan Singh, Dr. Neha Bandral and Dr. Suresh Sharma.

# Compensate paddy farmers for damaged crop: Bhalla

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 18

JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla today demanded special package for compensation to paddy growing farmers for damage caused to their crop due to rain and hail-storm in Jammu region. While interacting with farmers during his visit to damaged crops, Bhalla said that the farming community in RS Pura, Suchetgarh and Bishnah have to face unfavourable climatic conditions of rain and hail storm and their crop got ruined. He demanded special package for Basmati growing farmers so that their unfortunate loss is recovered.

While listening to the grievances of the people Bhalla said that BJP Government has no concern for the farmers and the same is clear from the fact that despite repeated representations and even direct talks with concerned officials, no effective steps have been ever taken to resolve the problems of the farmers. He



said BJP rule witnessed massive protests, road blockades, dharnas by the farmers in large numbers in different parts of Jammu province and but every time only hollow promises are made to pacify the agitating farmers. Whatever was committed or assured by the Government was never fulfilled, which is a cruel joke with these people.

The farmers expressed their anguish over the destruction of Basmati (Paddy crop) due to hailstorms and rains resulting into 100% loss of ready produce. They further stated that the Govt had promised to double their input costs of crops but

the rates fixed for the purchase of paddy are less than their input cost. They alleged that the Govt has not provided any purchase centre in R S Pura and no Government authority has visited to estimate the losses for compensation. There is great resentment amongst the farmers.

They appealed the Lieutenant Governor that district authorities and other officers be directed to assess the damaged crop of the farmers and they be given appropriate compensation. They also stressed for loan waiver. He said that the farmers and orchardists have suffered immense loss to

their crops and produce due to unprecedented and unseasonal rains/hail storm & snow that have lashed the region. He said that the standing paddy crops, vegetables and fruits have been totally destroyed by the incessant rains and hailstorm in several areas.

Bhalla demanded that the administration should wake up to the situation and immediately provide adequate ex-gratia relief before total estimation of the losses suffered by the farmers is made. He said that the LG's Administration must send teams of Revenue and Agriculture departments for loss assessment and recommend adequate compensation in favour of affected farmers. "As the farmers have taken huge loans under the Kissan Credit Card scheme, the Government should immediately assess the losses of farmers and fruit growers and announce compensation package", he said, adding "the Government should also waive off loans under KCC of the farmers and fruit growers".

# Sat terms skillful youth as future of modern world

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 18

Terming the skillful youth as the future of modern world, which is technologically more advanced than ever, Sat Sharma asked the administration to create an atmosphere to promote the youth in the centre of sustainable development agenda.

"Modi government has taken substantial steps to improve investment in research, policies and programmes to create an enabling environment for youth to prosper, fulfil their potential and enjoy their skillful work, and at the same time emerge as responsible human being concerned towards the nation, society and the whole world", said Sat Sharma, former Minister & former BJP State President.

Sat Sharma asked the administration to act as a promoting agency envisioning the youth as a



multi-faceted contributor in building J&K by utilizing their overwhelming energy in a constructive manner.

Sat Sharma was talking to the deputations of youth representing J&K SSB Aspirants consisting of Election Assistants and PSL. He said that the BJP firmly believes that the aspirations and the needs of the youth must be kept on priority while making the final decision, as there should be no injustice delivered to them at any cost. He also stressed that the justice delayed equals to the justice denied and pressed for the early

redressal of the issues faced by the youth.

Sat Sharma said this, while he was listening to the grievances of the public, who had visited the BJP headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. He was accompanied by SC Morcha Seh-Prabhari & JMC Councillor Jeet Angral and Maha Jana Sampark Abhiyaan Department Incharge Ankush Gupta during the camp.

Various other deputations and individuals from Ghulami Chakk, Sehora, Ward 32 & 59, Sarwal, Sainik Colony, Sahi Somi Nagar, Lower Thathar, Bantalab, Talab Tillo, Tri-

kuta Nagar, Ware house, Gole, Panj Peer, Akhnoor, Chattha Farm, Kargil and other places shared their grievances with the BJP leaders, which were related to ration supply, upgradation of lane & drain PMAY instalments, revenue Fard, choked pipes & Nallah, repair of high mast light, land compensation near ware house etc. All the grievances were taken up with the senior officials of the concerned departments for early disposal.

Jeet Angral said that large number of aggrieved people visit the party headquarters regularly to present their issues, with a strong belief on the dedication of BJP leaders to solve their issues.

Ankush Gupta stated that these grievance camps have provided the public an easy platform to share their issues and the BJP stands for dignified solutions to the presented issues.

# JJSF ends its 3 days' fast after performing Havana, Purna Ahuti

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 18

Today Jammu Joint Students' Federation (JJSF) office bearers, (Students, Staff and other prominent dignitaries paid tributes to the student martyrs of 1966, who had sacrificed their lives for the Jammu cause and performed Havana for the peace of the departed souls. A number of JJSF volunteers, led by Pushvinder Singh Manhas State President JJSF and Atul State Vice President JJSF paid floral tributes to the student martyrs of 1966 and then performed Havana at Shaheedi Sthal, GGM Science College. JJSF volunteers also distributed Halwa Prasad on the occasion. Meanwhile Vice Chancellor Cluster University Prof. Bechan Lal, Rajesh Kumar Gupta Principal GGM Science College, Dr. Surinder Kumar Principal SPMR College of Commerce, DN Mehta along with other dignitaries offered juice to Keshav Malhotra, Bharat Verma, Vishal Kumar and Ritik Verma who were fasting from 16th October in memory of 1966 student martyrs.



Further addressing the media persons Pushvinder Singh (President JJSF) said that in 1966, the then government tried to shift the Agriculture College from Jammu to Kashmir (Sopore) and the students of GGM Science College started the agitation against this move of the government. He said that during the agitation, 4 students namely S. Gurcharan Singh, Gulshan Handa, Brij Mohan and Subash Chander were martyred when police opened fire on the agitating students, he said. He said that JJSF observes 16th, 17th and 18th October as Student Martyrs' days every year and four activists of JJSF sit on fast for three days on 16th of October and end fast on 18th of October

after performing Havana at Shaheedi Sthal, GGM Science College. He said JJSF is committed to fight against the injustice and discrimination with the Jammu region. Others who were present are: - Sunil Singh Chauhan Secretary JJSF, Raghunandan, Abhishek Verma, Amit Verma, Abhishek Sharma, Raghav Singh President SPMR College of Commerce Jammu, Aryan Sharma, Tushar Verma, Vansh Johal, Rishav Choudhary, Manish Khullar, Vansh Sharma, Ansh Angral, Kavi Partap Singh, Ashmeet Singh, Dishant, Himanshu Samyals, Lakshdeep, Vasundra, Deepangi, Deepanjali, Palak Bhat, Neetali, Karan, Kaniya Sharma, Raman-deep Singh etc.

# Swacchata Hi Sewa Hi: A Cleanliness Drive

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 18

NSS unit of GCW Bhagwati Nagar organized a cleanliness drive under the able guidance of Principal of the college, Dr. Meeru Abrol. This initiative aims to uphold the values and principles of cleanliness and hygiene across the country.

The Swacchata campaign began at the adopted village Gole Gujral wherein NSS Volunteers collected Garbage, plastic and polythene waste, they also appealed the people to avoid single use plastic and keep their surroundings neat and clean. The cleanliness drive was carried out in adopted slum 'Om Nagar', this initiative aims to create a cleaner, healthier, and more dignified living environment for residents while promoting the importance of cleanliness and hygiene. Speaking on the occasion, Principal of the college Dr. Meeru Abrol delivered the speech telling us the importance of sanitation. She also honoured the sweeper of the college for the noble job. She further added that a clean and green environment is a basic ideology in sustainable development.

# Teachers' Role as a Key to Making Society: First Shiksha Shastrarth Concluded



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU OCT 18

The Department of Educational Studies, Central University of Jammu, on the auspicious fourth day of 'Navratri' initiated 'Shiksha Shastrarth', a forum created to ignite the passion for learning through lectures, interactions, dialogues and discussions on a range of contemporary educational topics. The theme of the inaugural discourse was "The Indian Tradition of Teacher Education and its Contemporary Relevance".

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu, was the chief guest on the occasion. He insisted on the role of education to give the right directions to any individual and thereby teachers' key role in constructing an ideal soci-

ety. Quoting NEP 2020, he said that education is for all and quality education should reach all. He calibrated the attention of the learned gathering to get back to the Indian tradition characterized by focusing on learners' choices and interests.

Prof. Asit Mantry Head of the Department shared his thoughts with the students and highlighted how this forum will act to productively engage young and creative minds in the endeavour of knowledge construction. He informed that the forum will also feature distinguished speakers from diverse knowledge domains offering valuable perspectives and expertise.

The event began with the lamp lighting and chanting of 'Gayatri Mantra' followed by a formal welcome address

by Dr. Kiran (Coordinator of the Co-Curricular committee). The formal curtain-raising of Shiksha Shastrarth was done by the honorable Vice Chancellor who was the Key Resource Person and the Chief Guest of the event. The address of the key resource person was followed by the inquisitive enquiry-cum-discussion from the students and scholars of the Department.

Prof. Ritu Bakshi (Dean Student Welfare), Prof. J N Baliya, Dr. Aman, Dr. Ravi, Dr. Mohan, Dr. Anil, Dr. Aarushi, Ms. Shivali along with the students and scholars had marked their active presence in the event.

The event was concluded by a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Yad Ram (member of the Co-Curricular committee).

# Tamil devotees mark their attendance in Navratra Prabhat Pheri

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 18

Today on 3rd day of prabhat pheries in its 7th edition which is being jointly organized by j&k association of prabhat pheri in association with j&k tourism dept., smvd shrine board katra and district administration reasi, the tamil devotees marked their attendance in the prabhat pheri.

Earlier chief guest Sh. Gopal Dutt BMO katra and guest of honour Sh. Durga Patsad manager central bureau of communication in presence Sh. Shiv Kumar Sharma president j&k indian style wrestling association and Sh R S Manhas retired headmaster flagged off the prabhat pheri by cutting the red ribbon and breaking the green coconut.

Enroute the devotees from ahmednagar, pune, chennai, gorakhpur also joined the prabhat pheri. The environment of the holy town got totally spiritual as the devotees who joined the prabhat pheri were chanting jai karas of maa vaishnudevai very loudly and were feeling blessed to be part of prabhat pheri.

President Raj Kumar Padha informed that maharashtriyani artists from ahmed nagar will perform in prabhat pheri in the coming next two days and also the artists from rajasthan will join the procession.



## Fairdeal Motors Kunjwani, one of leading automotive dealer, today delivered 31 all-new Nexon

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 18

Fairdeal Motors Kunjwani, J&K's one of leading automotive dealer, today delivered 31 all-new Nexon in presence of Sh. Saleem Bakshi (Managing Director), Sh. Bhagwan Dass Gandotra (executive director) Sh. Rohit Gandotra and Sh. Anil Singh Jasrotia ( Territory Sales Manager, Tata Motors). An embodiment of versatility, aspiration, and innovation, the new gen Nexon offers comprehensive upgrade across all vehicle attributes and marks a significant progressive uplift in the compact SUV market. Described as an action and an emotion, the Nexon finds its true inspiration in people who think, want



to stay ahead of curve and are willing to go the extra mile. The new Nexon finds multi-generation appeal across the J&K with its digital inspired design, segment-leading safety, contemporary technology and best-in class performance. Available in four craft-fully curated personas - Fearless, Creative, Pure and Smart, and in petrol and

diesel powertrains, with an introductory starting price of INR 8.09 Lakhs. Launching the new gen Nexon, Mr. Chander Singh Katoch, General Manager, Fairdeal Motors Passenger Business., said, "The Nexon brand has built a legacy of leadership, of being the best in its segment and setting the benchmark for others to follow.

## JKNPP pays tributes to Jammu Student Martyrs



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 18

Senior leaders of J&K National Panthers Party under the leadership of its President Vilakshan Singh paid rich tributes to the Jammu Student Martyrs who were martyred by police bullets during the Congress rule in J&K in a movement led by Prof. Bhim Singh. This happened in 1966, 57 years ago, when three students were brutally shot dead by the police right inside the premises of Gandhi Memorial Science College, Jammu. Vilakshan Singh while paying homage to student martyrs recalled that Prof Bhim Singh who was the Chief Organizer of the student movement escaped the police bullets. On 18th October, 1966 thousands of students marching through the Jammu streets led by Students Congress under the leadership of Prof. Bhim Singh in protest demanding to bring all murderers to justice were showered with bullets resulting into martyrdom of S. Gurcharan Singh. Hundreds of students and youth were injured. Some of them lost their arms or legs. There were orders by the government to catch or kill student leader, Bhim Singh. While paying tributes to the student martyrs, Vilakshan Singh praised their sacrifices, which has brought not one university but many other Institutions in Jammu Pradesh with several pro-

fessional colleges. Singh said that under the present dispensation also whatever Jammu gets is through agitations only. He said the present generation must not forget the supreme sacrifices of the student martyrs who laid down their lives while fighting against injustice meted out to Jammu province by the then ruling parties.

## GCET Jammu organizes Blood Donation Camp in Campus

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 18

Govt. College of Engineering & Technology, Jammu in collaboration with J&K Thalassemia Welfare Society today organised a blood donation camp in the campus. The Blood Donation Camp at GCET showcased the community's commitment for making a positive impact on the lives of those in need. The collaboration between the college and J&K Thalassemia Welfare Society is a testament to the power of collective efforts in promoting health and well-being.

Principal GCET Prof. Sameru Sharma inaugurated the camp and emphasized the significance of blood donation. She highlighted that donating blood is a healthy process, and the human body can replenish the donated blood in 4 to 8 weeks, with blood plasma replenishing within 48 hours. Prof. Sharma stressed that a single pint can



save the lives of three individuals in critical conditions. Er. Sudhir Sethi, President of J&K Thalassemia Welfare Society, along with executive members Mr. Puneet Gandotra and Mr. Shammii Kapoor graced the event.

The coordinators of the event, Prof. Bhawna Sharma, Prof. Sheetal Gandotra, Prof. Sanjeev Gupta congratulated the young donors for their selfless act as life savers. They encouraged a culture of regular blood donation, suggesting donations every six

months. A total of 44 students and staff members donated blood during the event, and approximately 80 individuals underwent Hb and blood group checks. The entire procedure was carried out under the guidance of Dr. Mitali, Dr. Rashmi, and their technical team from GMC Jammu. The event was successfully coordinated by student volunteers Jaanvi Sharma, Gazanfar Kazmi, and Prajwal Nagar, with the support of senior staff members present during the entire event.

## CAO, Kathua visits paddy fields damaged due sudden heavy downpours, assures support

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OCT 18

Chief Agriculture Officer, Kathua Sh. Sanjeev Rai Gupta along with his team of officers and officials visited vast affected areas of paddy fields in the Marheen, Hiranagar, Airwan and Kathua zones for on spot assessment of the scale of damage caused to standing paddy crop due to Heavy rain on late Saturday night which has added to the worries of farmers as their paddy crop is ready for harvesting. Unseasonal rain led to waterlogging in many low-lying areas, besides lodging of paddy crop in the district. Upon meeting Chief Agriculture Officer Kathua, Farmers from the paddy grown areas apprised him that the rain has slowed down the pace of harvesting as the fields have become wet and it would be difficult for them to harvest the matured paddy. Meanwhile, heavy rain accompanied by strong winds in past



few days has increased the chances of damage to paddy crop in the district. An area of 6347.93 ha and 11229.00 ha under paddy coverage in Sub Division Dayalchak and Sub Division Kathua respectively has been reportedly affected due to the incessant rains in past few days. The worst affected paddy (basmati) varieties are the Pusa Basmati 1121, & Basmati-370 and lodging of the two varieties in the field has been observed in an area of 6940.00 ha.

Sh. Sanjeev Rai Gupta, Chief Agriculture Officer Kathua assured farmers that teams has been directed to assess the damage and losses caused. He also directed officials to help farmers holding

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima to file complain with Insurance service provider in stipulated time as timely registration of complaints helps in ensuring better services.

Chief Agriculture Officer, Kathua was also accompanied by Sh. Karan Attri D.D.C Marheen, Sh. Shiv Dev Singh Pradhan, Rashtriya Kisan Union, Sh. Ravi Kumar, Sarpanch Haripur, Sh. Ashok, Panch, Gopalachak, Sh. Ashwani Sharma, Sub Divisional Agriculture Officer, Hiranagar (H.Q. Dayalchak), Sh. Parshotam Gupta, Sub Divisional Agriculture Officer, Kathua, Sh. Jamshed Andotra, A.E.O Marheen, Sh. Vinod Sharma, A.E.O Hiranagar and Sh. Sanjiv Chib A.E.O Rajbagh.

## UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI PHE MECHANICAL DIVISION KATHUA

NOTICE INVITING TENDER  
e-NIT No. JSPHEMK/176 OF 2023-24 Dated: 16-10-2023

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division Kathua, invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/Companies/joint venture etc. for below mentioned works at Water Supply scheme **Narolian Bhajwal** of Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Sub Division Hiranagar of Kathua District of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).The bidding process shall be completed online on [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) in two covers viz.

**Cover 1<sup>st</sup>** consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and **Cover 2<sup>nd</sup>** Financial Bid in the prescribed BOQ.

S. No.	Particulars of the Work	Estimated Cost (Lacs)	Tender fee (in Rs)	Earnest money Deposit	Bid Validity	Time of Completion of work (days)
1	Providing, installation, testing and commissioning of pumping machinery and electro-mechanical works along with allied jobs to be executed at water supply scheme <b>Narolian Bhajwal</b> of Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Sub Division Hiranagar of Kathua District of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).	Rs. 97.81	1000/- (Non-Refundable) In the shape of Treasury Challan/e-Challan or through RTGS in favour of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division Kathua	50000/- (pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division Kathua)	365 days	150days

Position of funds : Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

Position of AAA : Accorded

Position of T.S : Sanctioned

The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE (M) Div. Kathua.

### Critical Dates:

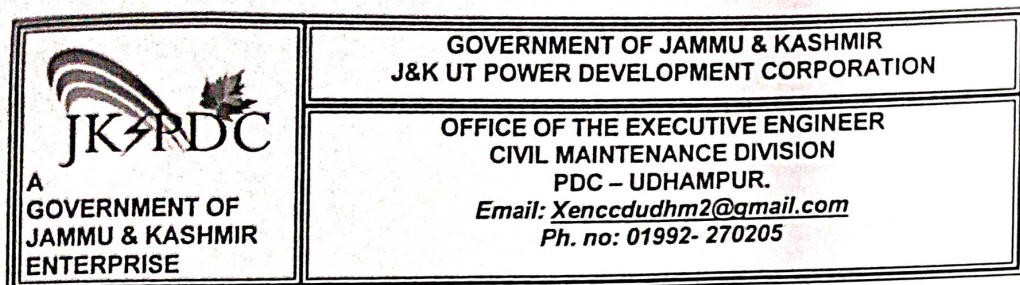
i	Publish Date	16-10-2023
ii	Document Download/sale start Date	16-10-2023
iii	Date of Pre-bid meeting	20-10-2023 (02:00 PM)
iv	Bid submission start date	17-10-2023
v	Bid submission end date	08--11-2023 (04:00 PM)
vi	Date and time of Bid opening	09-11-2023 (01:00 PM onward)

- Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in)
- The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in). The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
- The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division Kathua. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table and shall be payable at Kathua.
- The cost of tender documents should be in the form of Treasury challan/e-challan towards the cost of tender document to be deposited in MH-0215 (Revenue head) or through RTGS in J&K Bank Ltd. Kathua City bearing bank account No. 0555010200001579, IFSC CODE: JAKA0PCKATU in favour of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division Kathua.
- The original hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury challan/e-challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover.
- The bid shall remain valid for a period of 365 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in).
- Queries by email if any should be made at [phejmmkathua@gmail.com](mailto:phejmmkathua@gmail.com)

No: JSPHEMK/4311-23  
Dated 16-10-2023

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Division  
Kathua

DIP/J-9805/23  
Date: 18-10-23



### NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

E-NIT No: 10 of 2023-24 Dated: 16/10/2023

For and on behalf of Managing Director J&K, Power Development Corporation tenders are invited by the Executive Engineer, Civil Maintenance Division JKPDC Udhampur by E-tendering mode for below mentioned work on percentage rate basis from the registered & reputed contractors registered with J&K state Govt./CPWD/MES and Railways having sufficient experience in execution of civil works and possessing sufficient man power & machinery.

S#	Name of work	Approximate cost in Lacs	Cost of tender document	Earnest Money	Time of Completion	Class of contract
1.	Repair to cut and covers (Rectangular portion) between RD 3800m to RD 4400m CHEP-III. (Shutdown Work)	4.50	Rs. 300.00	Rs. 9000.00	30 WD	"D"
2.	Restoration of canal service road RD 1560m to RD 3200m CHEP-III.	4.50	Rs. 300.00	Rs. 9000.00	30 WD	"D"

Date of issue of Notice Inviting Bid:	20/10/2023 (1000 hrs)
Period of Downloading Tender Documents:	From 1100 hrs of 20/10/2023 up-to 1400 hrs of 10/11/2023
Places(s):	<a href="http://jktenders.gov.in">http://jktenders.gov.in</a>
Pre-Bid Meeting	27/10/2023 at 12:00 (Office of the Executive Engineer CMD JKPDC Udhampur)
Period of Receiving Bids Online	From 1300 hrs of 20/10/2023 up-to 1500 hrs of 10/11/2023
Time & Date of Opening technical Bids:	11/11/2023 at 1200 hrs
Place of Opening Bids:	Office of the Executive Engineer CMD JKPDC Udhampur
Bid Validity:	120 Days.
Officer Inviting Bids:	Executive Engineer Civil Maintenance Division JKPDC Udhampur.

Tenderers are advised to visit the site before submitting their offers. In this behalf, office of undersigned can be contacted for any assistance regarding site visit. All terms/ conditions/ eligibility can be confirmed in the office of Executive Engineer Civil Maintenance Division JKPDC Udhampur / from the website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in).

DIP/J-3543-P/23  
Date: 18-10-23

The Executive Engineer  
Civil Maintenance Division  
JKPDC Udhampur



## Block Diwas programmes held at various locations of District Kishtwar



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 18

With an aim to redress the grievances of people at their doorsteps, the Block Diwas programmes were today held in two Sub Divisions of District Kishtwar on the direction of District Development Commissioner Kishtwar Dr Devansh Yadav.

The block diwas programme was held at Pallali in Sub Division Paddar, witnessed a proactive engagement led by SDM Paddar, Arun Kumar Badyal. Presiding over the public grievance redressal camp, the SDM Paddar addressed the concerns of the public, swiftly resolving a majority of them in consultation with concerned officers and field functionaries from various departments.

DDC Councilor Paddar, Hari Krishan Chauhan, SDPO Paddar, Prehlad

Sharma, SDAO Paddar, SHO Vikram Parihar and field functionaries representing RDD and other line departments were present on the occasion.

Regarding the issue of Palali Road, the SDM assured that the matter would be expeditiously brought to the attention of the R&B Department, with work commencing soon after completing all necessary formalities.

Other issues, such as staff shortage in schools, providing 100 days work under MGNREGA and challenges related to hassle free extension of Social Security Schemes (ISSS) of the Social Welfare department to the beneficiaries of the area, were also discussed.

SDM passed necessary directives to concerned officers and assured that the issues will be forwarded to the concerned for prompt redressal.

SDM Kishtwar issued directives to the Agriculture Officer, emphasizing the need for more comprehensive awareness programs in agriculture and allied sectors to benefit local farmers.

The camp also featured awareness sessions conducted by field functionaries on various beneficiary schemes. Police authorities seized the opportunity to address students and the community on the pressing issue of the drug menace, urging cooperation for a comprehensive crackdown on drug menace for betterment of Youth

Similarly, in a proactive move towards citizen-centric governance, the Block Diwas programme was also conducted at HS Gouri-nallah Sub Division, Chatroo, under able leadership of SDM Chatroo, Shokat Hayat Matoo.

The event witnessed

the participation of key officials, including Tehsildar Suman Sharma, BDO Tasleem Wani, DySP Sajjad Khan, and local Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), officers and officials of various departments besides locals.

SDM Chatroo Shokat Hayat Matoo, actively engaged with the community, attentively addressing a spectrum of issues pertaining to the local infrastructure and the enhancement of public service delivery mechanisms in the region.

SDM Chatroo emphasized the Block Diwas programme's core objective to provide effective redressal of public grievances at their doorsteps. He urged all officers and field functionaries present to exhibit dedication in addressing people's concerns promptly, aligning with the principles of good governance.

## DIC, RDD organize camp to identify beneficiaries under Vishwakarma scheme

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, OCTOBER 18

District Industries Centre Samba in coordination with Department of Rural Development and other allied Departments under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner, Samba today organized an awareness camp for identification of targeted beneficiaries i.e. craftsmen and artisans under recently launched Prime Ministers Vishwakarma Scheme at Block Purmandal of District Samba.

The programme was aimed at sensitizing the participants regarding the newly launched PM Vishwakarma scheme, a fully funded scheme of Government of India which provides recognition and holistic support to the artisans and crafts people working with their hand and tools. The salient features of the scheme



and the benefits available under the Scheme were conveyed to the targeted beneficiaries by the Functional Manager, Shehzada Noor ul Ain (FM DIC Samba) along with IPOs of DIC Samba and a drive was launched to identify the eligible artisans and craftsmen and their enrollment under the scheme was started. The programme was conducted under the overall supervision of General Manager, DIC Samba,

Surinder Paul Sharma. During the session a threadbare discussion was held to devise a holistic approach to identify the beneficiaries for effective implementation of the scheme. PRI members who attended the camp offered to extend their full support in identification of the targeted beneficiaries for maximum enrollment under the scheme. The awareness camp was attended by Avtar Singh

(DDC Member Purmandal) and PRI members of Block Purmandal.

All participants expressed gratitude and thanked the government and District administration for organizing an awareness programme on the scheme in order to identify the targeted beneficiaries for enrollment. More such programmes will be held at block level in District Samba in coming days.

## District Administration Samba hosts Weekly Block Diwas to address community concerns

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, OCTOBER 18

The District Administration Samba successfully today organized a significant Block Diwas event, addressing pressing community issues, at the Panchayat Ghar Chajjwal.

The event was presided over by Rajinder Singh, Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), along with various high-ranking district officers including the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Tehsildar, District Development Council members and other PRI functionaries.

The Block Diwas event acted as a platform for the



local community to voice their concerns, primarily focused on various essential aspects of development and infrastructure. The community highlighted the necessity for a veterinary hospital to cater to the health and well-being of their live-

stock. Locals stressed the importance of upgrading the local high school to enhance the quality of education provided to the youth in the region.

Those affected by recent demolitions in the area urged compensation

for their losses.

The event also saw appeals for compensation for the agricultural losses incurred by local farmers.

A demand for establishment of a receiving station was made, indicating the significance of a reliable power supply in the area.

The Block Diwas event served as a platform for open and constructive dialogue, allowing the citizens to directly engage with district officers. Many issues related to electricity, road connectivity and education were raised and commendably, numerous concerns were addressed on the spot by the respective officers.

## Advisor Bhatnagar visits Budgam

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
BUDGAM, OCTOBER 18

Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar today visited Panchayat Halqa Jawal Pora of District Budgam and presided over a Block Diwas there.

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Budgam Akshay Labroo; ADDC, Dr. Akhramullah Tak, PRI members, senior officers of the district administration, and other sectoral officers were also present at the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Advisor Bhatnagar emphasized the importance of Panchayats, and said, panchayats play a pivotal role in process of development and it is essential to empower them for holistic progress.

He impressed for speedy completion of developmental works in the area. He stressed on concerned that work on road projects be taken up for early execution and ensure better connectivity to the local population, besides, PHE authorities were instructed to ensure speedy completion of all going IJM works and smooth functioning of all existing water pipelines, reservoirs and filtration plants in the area to ensure smooth supply of potable water to locals.

## DC Udhampur holds Weekly Block Diwas at Khourgali



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
UDHAMPUR, OCT 18

Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai today presided over the weekly Block Diwas program at Khourgali in Udhampur district. During the event, numerous public issues and demands were discussed.

BDC Chairman Bimla Devi, DDC Councillor Jasvir Singh, ADDC Ghan Shyam Singh, ACD Dr. Ranjeet Singh Kotwal, BDO Amit Kumar, along with Sarpanches, Panches, and locals from nearby panchayats attended the Block Diwas program.

Various demands and issues were raised during the event, including the widening and dilapidat-

ed condition of the road from Kaith gali to Khourgali, establishment of a forest guest house, installation of a mobile tower, unscheduled power cuts, shortage of electric poles, construction of a play field, electrification of un-electrified houses, reconstruction of government Primary and Middle school building at Panjar, establishment of Niabat at Ladda, staff shortages in schools, construction of link roads, an increase in MGNREGA wages, maintenance of the irrigation canal, establishment of a PHC and Veterinary center in the area, and black-topping of various circular roads, among others.

The Deputy Commissioner took note of all the public demands and assured that their issues would be addressed in a timely manner. She directed the officers to work with dedication to ensure that the people in the area receive the services they deserve. She highlighted how these outreach camps bring governance to the doorstep of the public, improving the delivery of public services.

The DC encouraged participation in the Swachhta 3.0 campaign launched by the Government and urged PRI members and the public to join hands with the District Administration.

## Undertrial Review Committee meeting held at Ramban



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, OCTOBER 18

The Undertrial Review Committee meeting was held in the Office of Principal District and Sessions Judge, Ramban in compliance with the UTRC Special Campaign 2023

launched by The National Legal Services Authority (NLSA).

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Principal District and Sessions Judge, Ramban, Ranbir Singh Jasrotia and was attended by Deputy Commissioner Ramban

Mussarat Islam, Secretary DLSA Ramban, Anjana Rajput and Sr. P.O Ajay Kumar.

During the meeting the committee carefully scrutinized the cases of Undertrial prisoners of District Ramban who are lodged in various District Jails.

## Power shutdown

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 18

Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Sumer, Railway and adjoining areas will remain affected from October 19 to 24 from 7.30 am to 5 pm on daily basis.

Similarly, the power supply to District Udhampur and adjoining areas will remain affected on October 20 from 4 pm to 6 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to City, Choudharynar, Gambhir, PWD and adjoining areas will remain affected on October 22 from 9 am to 5 pm.

## DC Poonch chairs DLTF Committee meeting, approves 45 cases under Mission youth initiative

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
POONCH, OCTOBER 18

A meeting of District Level Task Force Committee (DLTFC) to review the Mission Youth Schemes and grant approval of cases of beneficiaries under MUMKIN, TEJASWINI, the Radiant and Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative (SEI) schemes was held under the chairmanship of District Development Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Poonch, Sandesh Kumar Sharma, Deputy Director Employment Poonch, Moham-



mad Rafiq, General Manager DIC Poonch, Dr. Mohammad Tanveer, District Information Officer Poonch, Vishaldeep Chandan, District Statistics & Evaluation Officer Poonch, Maqsood Ahmad, MVI, Gurmeet Singh, Lead District Manager Poonch,

Ashutosh Koul, DNO JKEDI Poonch, besides other concerned officers.

In the meeting 30 cases under MUMKIN, 10 cases under TEJASWINI and 5 cases under SEI-Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative have been approved by DLTFC Poonch. Deputy

Commissioner directed the Nodal Officer Mission Youth, Rafiq Ahmad for prompt disbursement of the approved cases under Mission Youth Schemes.

During the meeting detailed discussion has been held for Implementation of AVSAR initiative in the district wherein responsibilities have been assigned to the District officers.

The DC also stressed upon the officers to complete the assigned tasks within the specified time under AVSAR so that the proposed institute namely District Institute of Professional Excellence, Career Guidance & studies will become functional at an earliest.