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Nationwide platform 'Mera Yuva Bharat' to be launched on Sardar Patel's birth anniversary: PM Modi

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, OCT 29

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday announced that a nationwide 'Mera Yuva Bharat' platform will be launched on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's birth anniversary on October 31 to give the youth an opportunity to play an active role in various nation building events.

In his Mann Ki Baat radio broadcast, he said the 'Mera Yuva Bharat' website is also going to be launched and the youth should register on MYBharat.Gov.In.

"MYBharat will provide an opportunity to the youth of India to play an active role in various nation building events. This is a unique effort of integrating the youth power of India in building a developed India," the prime minister said.

He also noted that October 31 marks former prime minister Indira Gandhi's death anniversary too and paid tributes to her.

In his remarks, Modi reiterated his strong pitch for being



'vocal for local'

"Like every time, this time too, during festivals, our priority should be 'Vocal for Local'," he said.

"I want to reiterate my request that wherever you go on tourism or pilgrimage buy products made by local artisans," he said.

"Today India is becoming the world's biggest manufacturing hub. Many big brands are manufacturing their products here. If we adopt those products, then Make In India gets a fillip and this too is being 'Vocal For Local'," he said.

Modi urged people to insist on using the UPI digital payment system during the transactions, and said buying local products will spread the brightness of the upcoming Diwali festival for artisans.

Speaking on various issues, he said on Gandhi Jayanti, khadi products witnessed record sales, with a store at Connaught Place here alone chalking up a sale of Rs 1.25 crore in a single day. Whereas the sale of khadi products could barely touch Rs 30,000 crore earlier, it has risen

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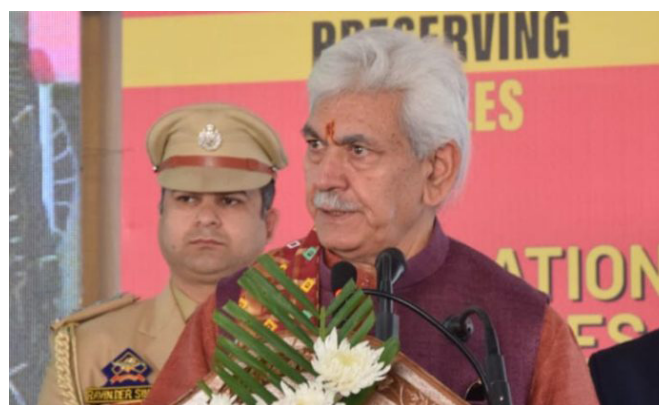
J&K receives investment proposal worth Rs 86,000 crore: LG Manoj Sinha

JI NEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, OCT 29

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday said the Union Territory has received investment proposals worth Rs 86,000 crore as the region has emerged as a favourite destination for investors in the country and abroad.

"Investment proposals to the tune of Rs 86,000 crore have come to the Industries and Commerce Department. People from within the country and outside are considering J&K as a favourite investment destination," Sinha said while addressing a function at the Industrial Complex at Lassipora, 35 kilometres from Srinagar.

Sinha, who inaugurated 12



controlled atmosphere stores here, said the government was working to ensure that these investment proposals are translated into tangible projects for the development and prosperity of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"We are working to bring these proposals to the ground

level, but there can be no development without peace. While security forces will do their job, people will have to raise their voices against attempts to disrupt peace. Innocents will not be harmed or put to unease, but we will not spare the criminals," he added.

Referring to the controlled atmosphere stores as a fruitful business option, Sinha said the 12 stores, which have been dedicated to the public, will prove to be a boon for the farmers.

"It (the new stores) has increased the capacity by 60,000 tonnes and will give employment to 500 to 600 persons. This is just the beginning, there is room for more. The potential of horticulture is huge, and the possibilities are unlimited," he said, adding that in the past six months, investment proposals worth Rs 1,250 crore have been received in this sector. The CA stores are a safe investment as they remain busy throughout the year here," he noted. The LG said 259 more CA stores

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J&K govt orders transfer and postings of 41 IAS, JKAS officers

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

In a major administrative reshuffle, the Jammu and Kashmir government on Sunday ordered a series of transfers and postings of key officials.

Three Deputy Commissioners were among 41 IAS and JKAS officers transferred by the government in the interest of administration.

Aijaz Ahmad Bhat, IAS

(AGMUT:2013), Director, Entrepreneurship Development Institute, J&K, has been transferred and posted as Director, Sericulture, J&K. "Khalid Jahangir, JKAS, Managing Director, J&K Trade Promotion Organization, shall hold the charge of the post of Director, Entrepreneurship Development Institute, J&K, in addition to his own duties, till further orders", one of the orders reads.

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Sikh community has done a lot to protect Sanatan Dharma: Rajnath

AGENCIES
LUCKNOW, OCT 29

Stating that the Sikh community has done a lot to protect the Sanatan Dharma, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday said it was Sikhs who started the Ram Janmabhoomi movement and their contribution can never be forgotten by any Indian.

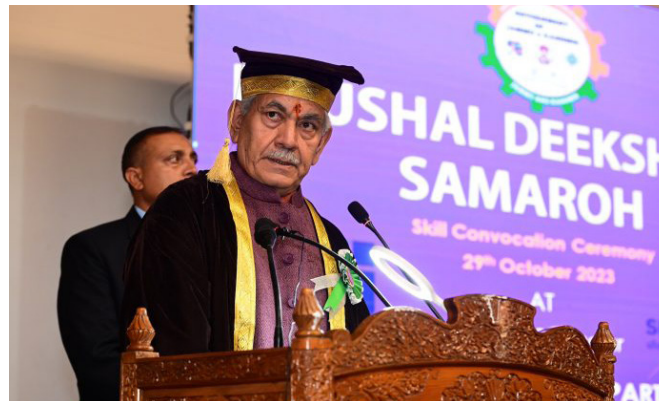
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JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCT 29

The Skill Development Department of Jammu & Kashmir held a convocation of Kaushal Deekshant Samaroh at Srinagar's convention centre on Sunday, where more than 70 students were felicitated by LG Manoj Sinha.

Speaking at the event, Sinha said that Jammu and Kashmir has the potential to become the most favoured place when it comes to skills.

LG Manoj Sinha said, "ITIs have contributed to the nation for ages. There is a lot of pace in technology, it's not linear, it's exponential now. J&K has the potential to become the most favoured place when it comes to skills. We need to focus on these institutions because



they're creating the future of this valley. Mission Youth and other academic institutions are creating opportunities for youth. We will create an industry for these pass-outs who will not only learn skills there but get a job as well. J&K is getting a lot of budget from the centre, and we are all accountable for

how we use that fund for the betterment of these students. We will make sure to upgrade the infrastructure, but my priority is the kids."

LG Manoj Sinha E-launched the Innovation Portal by the Jammu and Kashmir Science, Technology, and Innovation Council, Department

of Science and Technology. LG Sinha also launched an e-platform for ranking polytechnics in Jammu and Kashmir for more transparency. He launched a revised curriculum for the 3rd semester as per the New Education Policy. These students received certificates for learning various skills like carpentry, machines, and data analysis, among others. Some budding entrepreneurs also got certificates. The aim of this event was to make skill development a priority so that the youth of Jammu and Kashmir are not job seekers but job creators. Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to LG, and Saurabh Bhagat, Secretary/Commissioner Skill Development, Jammu and Kashmir, were present at the occasion besides other dignitaries.

Centre asks states not to impose tax or duty on power generation

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, OCT 29

The Central Government has asked states that they have no power to impose any tax or duty on electricity generated from any source - coal, hydro, wind or solar and any such levy is illegal and unconstitutional.

In a circular, the Union Ministry of Power on October 25, said it had come to the notice of the Central Government that some State Governments had imposed additional charges on generation of elec-

tricity from various sources under the guise of development free/charges/fund.

"Such additional charges/fees in the form of any tax/duty on generation of electricity, which encompasses all types of generation viz thermal, hydro, wind, solar, nuclear etc is illegal and unconstitutional," it said.

Clarifying on the constitutional position, the ministry said the powers to levy taxes/duties are specifically stated in the VII Schedule.

"List-II of the VII Schedule lists the powers of levy-

ing taxes/duties by the states in entries-45 to 63. No taxes/duties which have not been specifically mentioned in this list can be levied by the State Governments under any guise whatsoever - as residuary powers are with the Central Government," it said.

Entry-53 of the List-II (State List) authorises the states to levy taxes on consumption or sale of electricity in its jurisdiction.

"This does not include the power to impose any tax or duty on the generation

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J&K border residents take to cleaning bunkers in wake of Pakistan shelling



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Days after Pakistan Rangers violated ceasefire by targeting forward posts and villages along the International border here, the border residents have taken to cleaning underground bunkers, constructed over the years, to take shelter in.

A massive cleaning operation is underway to make the bunkers habitable, with locals demanding more such constructions to escape the cross-border shelling. "We cannot trust Pakistan and have started a drive to clean the bunkers to make them usable," Sarpanch,

Treva village of Arnia, Balbir Kour said.

India shares a 3,323 km-long border with Pakistan, of which 221 km of the IB and 744 km of the Line of Control fall in Jammu and Kashmir.

On February 25, 2021, India and Pakistan announced the implementation of a renewed ceasefire along the borders in Jammu and Kashmir, which came as a major relief to the people living along the IB and the LoC. The two countries had initially signed a ceasefire agreement in 2003, but Pakistan frequently violated the agreement, with over 5,000 violations reported in 2020 - the highest in a single year. To

safeguard the border residents from Pakistani shelling, the Centre had in December 2017 sanctioned the construction of 14,460 individual and community bunkers in five districts of Jammu, Kathua, and Samba covering the villages located along the IB and Poonch and Rajouri villages on the LoC. The government later sanctioned additional bunkers, in excess of 4,000, for the vulnerable population.

The shelling by Pakistan Rangers, the first major ceasefire violation since 2021, started around 8 pm Thursday in the Arnia area of R S Pura sector and lasted around

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Gulmarg all set to receive record tourists this Winter

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCT 29

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

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

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

All the possibilities and opportunities are being explored, and it will be a source of pleasant memories for the tourists, officials said, adding that all the arrangements are being finalised in view of the winter tourism in Gulmarg, a popular tourist destination in the Kashmir valley.

Mushtaqul Hasan, a hotel owner in Gulmarg, said that, in view of the winter tourism, the concerned authorities are busy finalising all the preparations.

He said last year a large number of tourists visited here in winter even

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PWWA members played big part in shaping the future of Police Schools and Police Hospitals: DGP J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCT 29

Jammu and Kashmir Police Public School Bemina, Srinagar celebrated its 4th Annual Day at Tagore Hall Srinagar today. Shri Rajiv Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Hon'ble Lt Governor J&K was the Chief Guest and Director General of Police J&K Shri Dilbag Singh was the Guest of Honour on the occasion.

The function was attended by ADGP Armed J&K SJM



Gillani, Dr. Rubinder Kaur, Chairperson (PWWA/PPS), DIG CKR Shri Sujit Kumar, DC Srinagar, SSP Srinagar, senior PWWA members and a galaxy

of senior serving and retired police officers. Besides, parents, staff members, Students of School were present on the occasion.

The Chief Guest Shri R R Bhatnagar while speaking on the occasion said that it was a good opportunity to spend quality time with the talented students and witnessing the impressive function of the school. He appreciated the school management & staff for providing quality

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Indian Army organises Cultural Fest & Village Carnival at Mahu

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, OCTOBER 29

Army and Civil Administration Ramban on Sunday organised a Cultural Fest & Village Carnival at Mahu nestled amidst nature's lap, surrounded by the mighty Riliyar and Pir Panjal mountain ranges and situated on the banks of Mahu river.

Beautiful Mahu village inhabited by 400 households, since decades, aspired to open avenues for offbeat tourism, however, remoteness of the region coupled with internal situations and limited lines of communication became a serious impediment to realize Mohuite's dream. The Indian Army stepped forward to materialize this long pending desire of the residents of Mahu.

To boost local economy by means of promoting Mahu & Mangat valley as an offbeat tourist destination, Indian Army in active collaboration with District Administration Ramban, organized a Cultural Fest and Village Carnival for two days beginning today at village Mahu in Banihal sub division. The grand event was conceptualized by the Indian Army after witnessing the huge success of the Winter Carnival that had been organized earlier this year jointly by the Indian Army & JKTDC.

The event was organized under the aegis of Op Sadbhavana and is a part of a multipronged initiative which is a subset of grand design of positive engagement of youth and



provide opportunities of regular income to wean the population away from migrating to Kashmir for employment.

Celebrations were carried out in two parts concurrently including local culture and diversity was showcased in a two hour long cultural fest wherein, participants from all corners ie. Srinagar, Jammu, Banihal, Gool, Ramban, Khari & Mahu represented their rich local heritage. Festival was embellished with a wide variety of entertainment programmes attracting interest from all sections of the society.

On the other hand, a village carnival in the form of village fair was organized which consisted of 20 stalls offering fun activities for children, muscle flexing competition for youth, shopping arcade for girls

and succulent cuisine for foodies. A huge crowd of approximately 4000 people from far and wide of J&K UT witnessed this cultural fest.

High ranking Civil and Military dignitaries attended the event. The chief guest, complimented the organizers of the event and expressed gratification on collaborative efforts of Indian Army and civil administration. He further stated that such events besides promoting tourism and local culture bring identity of pride to the village and its inhabitants. The Remote region of Jammu division is blessed with yet to be explored pristine natural beauty, he added.

Tourists as a part of the package enjoyed the host spirit of the locals during their 'Home Stays', flavor of local cuisines, witness

of cultural performances of local artists & enjoyed the scenic beauty. Indian Army along with Goonj NGO with an aim to enhance women empowerment and patronizing education, distributed sewing machines, gas stoves, school bags & stationery kits, to the young prodigies.

Indian Army also distributed assisting equipment to Divyang Jan for their resuscitation and rehabilitation. A total of 20 beneficiaries were distributed which included wheelchairs, crutches & hearing aids.

Later, The Chief Guest felicitated the participants of various cultural performances and young budding talents. Ramban district holds the unique distinction of having people with distinguished literary sense and cultural artists.

Relief Organisation (M) hosts series of activities to celebrate UT Foundation Day

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCTOBER 29

To celebrate the UT Foundation Day 2023, Relief & Rehabilitation Organisation has announced a number of impactful activities to celebrate Jammu and Kashmir UT Foundation Day from October 28 to Oct 31.

The organisation is organizing Painting competition, Essay competition, Declamation competition, Run for fun for all age groups, wheelchair race for specially abled and visually impaired, cleanliness drive and cultural programmes to showcase rich Kashmiri culture and tradition.

Through these activities, the Relief Organisation aims to showcase the dynamic transformation witnessed in development and other social sectors in J&K over the past 04 years.

Today, as per calendar of activities/ events organized were Run for Fun all age groups at Jagti, Muthi, cleanliness drive at Head Office, all Migrant Camps, Zonal Offices and Migrant Schools under its jurisdiction and Run for Fun for wheelchair and specially abled and visually impaired at Jagti Playground was the main highlight of the event.

The Nodal Officers and Inspecting Officers were

designated by the department for smooth conduct of the events, six wheel chairs were distributed among the specially abled participants by the department.

More than 400-500 migrant students, members of NGOs and inmates of the Camp Jagti and Muthi participated with immense enthusiasm and fervor in all activities and also raised slogans of "EK BHARAT SHRESHTHA BHARAT", Clean India, Corruption Free and Poverty Free. 80 participants were declared as winners in the above-mentioned activities and prizes to the winners will be distributed on UT Foundation Day

i.e, on 31 October 2023.

The Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants) K.K Sidha sensitized all the participants regarding positive changes, development progress and transformation that have taken since the creation of UT in J&K and also requested all Kashmiri Migrants to take benefit of online services and to come forward and work collectively with the Administration advocating corruption free campaign and thereby strengthening Relief organization towards transparent Governance.

In the end refreshments were distributed among the participants.

Awareness program on Integrated Pest Management held at Panchayat Gigian in RS Pura



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCTOBER 29

Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Govt. of India, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in collaboration with Department of Agriculture Sub-Div R.S Pura, conducted two day training programme on "Integrated Pest Management" (HRD) at panchayat Gigian, Block R.S Pura of district Jammu. A Large number of farmers took part in the programme wherein they were made aware by Dr Mithilesh Kumar Arya, Assistant Director (PP) and Dr Ashwani

Kumar Sharma Regional SMS, Jammu regarding the concept and objective of organising such programmes.

They elaborated in full detail the techniques of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and when as well as at what stage the use of chemicals, while seeing ETL level, use of Pheromones Traps, Light Traps, Delta Traps and Yellow Sticky Traps should be made.

Moreover, Arun Jaral, SMS Sub-Div R.S Pura also made the Farmers aware regarding various Cultural, Mechanical, Biological and Chemical control measures under

IPM techniques for the welfare of farmers. Sarpanch Panchayat Gigian Capt. Hans Raj also appreciated the Department for conducting such camps for welfare of farmers and asked the farmers to come forward to take maximum benefit from the departmental schemes. SMS Satvir Singh along with Sudhir Chander, Scientific Assistant, Surinder Kumar Technical Assistant, JAEO's Rupinder Kour, Ravinder Sharma and AEAs Sanjeev Kumar, Harpreet Singh, Ashish Kumar, Parsem Choudhary were also present during the programme.

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas: Series of activities held in Government offices at Kupwara

JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, OCTOBER 29

In continuation of the celebration of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas and on the directions of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Plantation drives, cleanliness drives, Pledge ceremonies were held in various Government Offices across Kupwara district.

At Handwara, Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Handwara, Nazir Ahmad Mir along with DFO Social Forestry, besides, Officers and employees participated in Plantation and Cleanliness drives

The ADC also administered Rashtriya Ekta Diwas pledge regarding preserving the unity, integrity and security of the Nation which was taken by District officers and various employees.

Pledge ceremonies, Plantation and Cleanliness drives were also held in all Government offices in the district to mark the celebration of ongoing Rashtriya Ekta Diwas week.

Construction work on much awaited Road from GHSS Degwar to New Betar Bridge to start soon: Poonch Admin

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, OCTOBER 29

All set to provide major relief to the residents of village Degwar, the district administration Poonch has received the authorisation for construction of Approach road from GHSS Degwar to New Betar Bridge.

It has been a long pending demand of the people of village Degwar and nearby Panchayats.

Earlier, a 165 Mtr Steel Girder Bridge was constructed at Dalhan over Betar Nallah along with

450 Mtr approach by Jammu & Kashmir Economic Reconstruction Agency (ERA) in the year 2021-22.

The bridge is not fully functional as a 1080 Mtr stretch connecting the bridge with main road is yet to be up-graded/constructed. The inhabitants of the area were demanding immediate completion/up-gradation of 1080 Mtr stretch between right approach of the bridge to the Higher Sec. School Degwar to make the bridge fully functional

and traffic worthy.

The residents of Degwar village have expressed great happiness over the efforts of the district administration for the construction of this road. "We hope that there will be more developmental works in the area and the people will gain confidence that the current administration is executing works as per the aspirations of the people," they said.

It is pertinent to mention that the village Degwar is a border village and this road will

reduce the commuting distance from the district headquarters and benefit a population of 20 thousand by connecting ten Panchayats.

As per the Order issued by the Chief engineer PWD(R&B) Jammu technical Sanction has been accorded for the work at an estimated cost of Rs.189.28 lakh.

Further, Deputy Commissioner Poonch has directed the executing agency to immediately float tenders for the road so that the work could be completed well in time.

Illegal vehicle modification shops raided, sealed by SSP Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCTOBER 29

A joint team of Revenue, Motor Vehicles and Police Departments on Sunday took swift action against two establishments, Prince Accessories and Quickway Modifications near Wave Mall for unauthorised vehicle modification, which is in direct violation of Section 182 (A) of the Motor Vehicles Act.

The operation resulted in the seizure of both shops and various items used in the illegal trade.

Taking cognizance of the illegal businesses being promoted through social media, SSP Jammu, Dr. Vinod Kumar, directed teams to take immediate action against these establishments, ensuring that the law was upheld.

During the joint operation, several items were seized as evidence of illegal activities taking place at the raided establishments. These items included two High-Security Registration Plates, modified and high-pressure horns, electric shutters designed to conceal HSRPs, tinted films used in contravention of the law and one dismantled motorcycle found within the premises of Prince Accessories. Both Prince Accessories and Quickway Modifications have been seized and subsequently the illegal paraphernalia submitted to the concerned Narwal Police Chowki. SSP Traffic and RTO have said that the action taken aims to send a strong message to those who engage in unauthorised vehicle modifications that such activities will not be tolerated and the law will be enforced rigorously.

UT Foundation Day/ Rashtriya Ekta Diwas: Blocks abuzz with vibrant activities in Bandipora



JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, OCTOBER 29

To celebrate ensuing UT Foundation Day/Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, different blocks in Bandipora district performed a wide range of activities including Gram Sabhas, cleanliness drives, plantation drives besides painting competitions.

The events were lead by the respective block development officers. In block Sumbal, Bonakoot and block Bagtore Gram Sabhas were held in all panchayats of these blocks, which served as a platform for locals to come together, discuss important issues, and chart a collective vision for their panchayats.

In addition to Gram Sabhas, these blocks were abuzz with enthusiasm as cleanliness drives were held in all panchayats. Dedicated volunteers, in collaboration with local authorities

cleaned streets, public spaces, and water bodies.

Furthermore, a massive plantation drive was executed across all panchayats within these blocks. Saplings of various indigenous tree species were planted, contributing to the preservation of local ecosystems while simultaneously enhancing the natural beauty of the region.

The painting competitions were also conducted on the occasion, wherein students from different schools participated. The painting competition added an artistic dimension to the celebration, further emphasizing the holistic development and expression of talent within these blocks.

The participation of residents, government officials, and volunteers expressed the spirit of unity and collaboration that defines the Union Territory.

Director Fisheries initiates Trout stocking in Gurez

JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, OCTOBER 29

Director Fisheries, Mohammad Farooq Dar today initiated the stocking of an impressive 5,000 trout fingerlings in the Kishenganga River with an aim to bolster the local economy by promoting sustainable fisheries and generate employment opportunities in the Gurez sub-division of district.

He also inaugurated a survey cum inspection hut in Dawar, Gurez, established at an estimated cost of 36.52 lakhs, indicating a significant investment in infrastructure.

Furthermore, as part of this initiative supported by NHPC grants, two pairs of American Raceways were also introduced at the trout unit in Wanpora, Gurez, a project completed at an estimated cost of 16.32 lakhs. The addition



of two more pairs of American type of raceways will double the production capacity of this unit from 4 tons to 8 tons.

The Director on the occasion emphasized on the government's commitment to advancing trout culture not only in the Kashmir Valley but also throughout Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized that the government

is fully committed to support initiatives that promote trout culture, which shall have positive impact on the region.

The Assistant Director Fisheries, Showkat Ahmad, highlighted the department's tireless efforts to encourage employment in trout fish farming. He urged the youth to come forward and engage with the

Wular lake and listened to their grievances.

While interacting with them, he assured that all of their genuine demands will be addressed promptly.

The director on the occasion also handed over new Boat to the field functionaries of department at Zuriamnz beat for carrying out anti poaching operations to curb any illegal fishing by the poachers.

Kishtwar admin felicitates Family of World's First Armless Female Archer, Sheetal Devi for clinching gold medal at prestigious Asian Para Games

JINNEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 29

In a remarkable celebration of talent and determination, the District Administration Kishtwar, led by Deputy Commissioner Dr. Devansh Yadav, today extended a warm and heartfelt felicitation to the family members of Sheetal Devi, the 16-year-old armless archer hailing from a remote village Loidhar, tehsil Mughal Maidan of District Kishtwar.

Sheetal has not only broken physical barriers but has also made history by clinching a gold medal in the compound open archery event at the prestigious Asian Para Games held in China. Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav, visited Sheetal's home to meet with her family and personally congratulate her on this extraordinary achievement. He also presented gifts to her family members as a token of appreciation for their support.

During the visit, Dr. Devansh Yadav shared that both the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,



Shri Narendra Modi, and the Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Manoj Sinha, had extended their warm regards to Sheetal for bringing pride to the nation despite her congenital disabilities.

Sheetal Devi has become a symbol of pride, not only for her District Kishtwar and UT Jammu and Kashmir but also for Bharat.

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar assured Sheetal's family of support from the

district administration. The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by Tehsildar Mughal Maidan, Nayeem Ahmed Sheikh, and other officers from the administration, who joined in recognizing and applauding Sheetal's remarkable journey.

Sheetal's journey from a remote village in Kishtwar, where she was born with out hands (Phocomelia), to international recognition is a testament to the indomitable power of the human spirit. The army

noticed her talent during a camp in 2019 in the rugged mountains of her homeland, and since then, she has gone on to make her mark on the global stage. The Vaishno Devi Shrine Board also offered infrastructure for her training in Katra.

Sheetal Devi's incredible achievements serve as an inspiration to all and demonstrate that with determination and support, one can overcome any obstacle to achieve greatness.

4th annual conference of IEASA concludes at KU

JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCT 29

The 4th annual conference of the Indian Economics and Allied Sciences Association (IEASA) concluded on a high note at the Kashmir University (KU) with a valedictory ceremony held on Sunday.

Over the course of three days, scholars from diverse backgrounds presented their research papers, exploring various facets of the Indian economy.

The conference delved into themes including Atmanirbhar Bharat and infrastructure development, J&K and Ladakh economy, health reforms and educational reforms such as NEP-2020 among others.

The primary objective of the conference was to introduce young researchers and students to the latest advancements in the field of economics and encourage in-depth discussions on various aspects of the Indian economy.

Following the presentations, an academic discussion took place where experts from various



academic and research institutions across India reviewed the research and offered their insights on the discussed themes.

The participants and members of IEASA were felicitated and certificates were distributed to recognise their contributions.

While speaking on the valedictory function KU Vice Chancellor, Prof Nilofer Khan said, "We have witnessed the exchange of ideas, the presentation of groundbreaking research and the fostering of new collaborations during the last few days," adding that there is tremendous intellectual capacity within our community to advancing the field of economics and allied sciences.

MD & CEO, J&K Bank, Baldev Prakash talked

about the bank's role in J&K economy and ensured his full support under CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) to the university and other programmes which directly or indirectly contribute to the development of the nation.

Head, Department of Economics, KU Prof Imtiaz ul Haq expressed his well-wishes for the participants' future endeavours. KU Registrar, Dr Nisar Ahmad Mir; Commissioner, State Tax Department, Dr Rashmi Singh; MD & CEO, J&K Bank, Mr. Baldev Prakash and other prominent economists from across India attended the valedictory function.

Pertinently, Lieutenant Governor, Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha inaugurated the conference on Friday, emphasising

India's development strategy of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat, development issues of J&K, Ladakh and the tribal population in India.

The Lt Governor commended the contributions of the Indian Economics and Allied Sciences Association in enhancing the understanding of India's development process and economic policies.

President, IEASA, Prof Sudhakar Panda; Secretary, IEASA, Dr Alok Kumar also spoke during the inaugural session emphasising the key features of the annual conference.

The Lt Governor also released the Conference Souvenir during the event.

KU Vice Chancellor, Prof Nilofer Khan; KU Registrar, Dr Nisar Ahmad Mir; Conference President IEASA, Prof Pulin B Nayak; Member Secretary, ICSSR, Prof Dhananjay Singh; Conference Chief Coordinator, Prof G M Bhat; educationists, economists, experts, heads of various KU departments, research scholars and students were present at the inaugural ceremony.

Strict action against the irregularities of toll contractor demanded

JINNEWS SERVICE
KATRA OCT.29,23

Hotel & Restaurant Association, Katra convened an emergency meeting at Katra to discuss the irregularities being done by the Contractor at Ban Toll Plaza and especially with regard to total ransom of Highway at this point on the basis of muscle power.

It was apprised in the meeting that National Highway Authority of India rules are very clear that areas which are within 20 Kms be provided with local passes and Deputy Commissioners of the concerned districts remain the authority to ascertain and tell the areas which falls within 20 Kms of the Toll Plaza.

Now here in present case different Project directors of NHAI at different times wrote to Deputy Commissioners for telling of areas which falls within 20 Kms and in response to that Deputy Commissioners of Jammu/Reasi/Udhampur described the areas falling within 20 Kms of Ban Toll Plaza and different Project directors Vided their different communications communicated to the same Toll Contractor who is there at moment for issuance of local passes to the residents of areas and same system was prevailing from last



7-8 years but whenever this present Toll Contractor get the contract of Ban Toll plaza he tried to make nuisance but all the times National Highway Authorities intervened and got the matter solved and this same system was going on smoothly but all of sudden he got the contract of the Ban Toll plaza few months back and again his irregularities started and he all of a sudden stopped renewing the passes of the areas falling within 20 Kms especially of Katra and surrounding areas which are there in the list which is being provided by DCs to be within 20 Kms area of Ban Toll Plaza merely on muscle power and that too without any logic and that too keeping in obedience the directions of the NHAI immediate Authority i.e. Project Director which vide his Letter No.11022/2017/PIU-JMU/J-U/1317 dated 18.05.2021 besides other letters had warned him that "the decision of the Authority is hereby conveyed to

issue local monthly passes to the residents of villages falling within 20 Kms from Ban Toll Plaza mentioned in the list of DC Reasi/DC Jammu/Udhampur failing which necessary cation will be taken as per contract agreement against you"

The members decided that it be conveyed to all the authorities that as per previous letters of then Project Directors it is clear that the present contractor is wilful offender who even instead of knowing rules and proper warnings do those violations intentionally again and again for monetary gains which is very serious matter and should not be spared and if this is not stopped it will lead to major law & order problem and its total responsibility will lie on the Toll Post people and people connected with this whole system.

They also said that these types of complaints is a routine matter for this contractor and just two days back CBI also filed

charge sheet against him and then Regional Officer NHAI in the court of Anti Corruption for irregularities in the award of tender and requested the authorities for taking strict action against him and further request for getting the passes activated which have been de-activated by the contractor besides renewal and issuance of local passes which have been stopped by him besides taking of strict action against the irregularities which have already been done by the contractor including lodging of FIR/s against him.

In addition to that members also discussed that the joining of 6 lane express way at Tarakot Marg will be pass Katra and it should not be made because Expressway is already meeting Katra at new Bus Stand.

The meeting among others was attended by HRAK President Rakesh Wazir, Chairman Shyam Lal Kesar, Sr. Vice President Virender Kesar, Ravi Nag, Vice President Nishant Sharma, Executive member & President SMVD Press Club Katra Arun Sharma, Gen. Secretary HRAK, Mangal Singh Serpanch, Ashish Kumar, Bharat Bhushan, Vivek Sharma, Amrik Singh etc.

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JINNEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, OCT 29

BJP J&K General Secretary and former MLC Vibodh Gupta on Tuesday stated that future generations will study Prime Minister Narendra Modi's tenure as a "golden period of Bharat," similar to how today's generation learns about the Gupta empire. Vibodh, who was addressing a party meeting at the BJP office in Rajouri stated that to advance women-led development, the government has introduced an important constitutional amendment bill.

Emphasizing that no Prime Minister except Narendra Modi has the moral strength to pass the women's reservation bill aimed



at increasing women participation in parliament and state assemblies, he asserted that the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam will strengthen our democracy. Vibodh further hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's transformative vision, highlighting that under his leadership, Bharat has evolved as a

key driver of global growth since 2014. From Chandrayaan 3 to a successful G20 presidency under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, India's remarkable achievements across various sectors, including technology, healthcare, and infrastructure, have not only benefited the nation but have also

made substantial contributions to global progress that have elevated India's status on the global stage.

Vibodh maintained that various international analysts and experts anticipate that India's role as a driver of global growth will continue to expand, with its economy and influence reaching new heights under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Modi.

Senior BJP leaders who spoke on the occasion were Rajinder Gupta, Yugal Dogra, Ch. Talib Hussain, Qayoom Mir (DCC Thanamandi), Atam Gupta, Ranjit Tara, Koushal Gupta, Raja Rattan, Radish Sharma, Yogesh Sharma, Arti Sharma, and Harish Bharti.

Open Chess Tournament organized

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

An open chess tournament was conducted today at Nek Hotel, Jammu by Jammu district chess association. Event was held in 2 separate categories in Rapid format. Displaying wonderful moves Former state champion S.P. Sharma won the event in senior category while Young Aryan Raj Bali got second position and 3rd position went to Ashutosh Singh Jamwal.

Senior JKAS officer Mrs. Ashu Behl was chief guest on the occasion who distributed prizes among the winners.

Also present on the



occasion were Atul Kumar Gupta Joint secretary AICF, Baldev Raj President AJKCA, Arvind Sharma coordinator. Ravi Sharma and Neeraj Manhas conducted all the matches with technical support by Arvind Sharma.

In Junior category Paras Sharma won first prize while Rithvik Gandotra got second position and Aarush Sharma got bronze.

cal support by Arvind Sharma.

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Two missing persons reunited with their families

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Two different missing cases solved by Jammu Police in the area under the jurisdiction of PS Channi Himmat.

A complaint got registered at PS Channi Himmat by the legal heirs of a girl stating that she got missing from her home.

In this regard missing report vide DDR No 15 Dated 10-12-2021 got registered at PS Channi Himmat and investigation got started.

Similarly, another complaint was lodged at PS Channi Himmat by the legal heirs of a person namely Parshu Ram S/o Shiv Sagar R/o Sewan Bihar A/P Near Railway Phatak Channi Himmat stating that he got missing from his home.

In this regard missing report vide DDR No 22 Dated 25-06-2021 of missing person, got registered at PS Channi Himmat and investigation got started.

On this special police teams of PS Channi Himmat led by SDPO East Parupkar Singh assisted by SHO PS Channi Himmat Insnr Neeraj Choudhary did strenuous efforts and finally traced the missing persons.

65 bottles and 08 litres of illicit liquor recovered and 150 litres of lahan got destroyed by Jammu Police

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Jammu Police achieved major success by recovering 65 bottles and 08 litres of illicit liquor and 150 litres of lahan was destroyed in the areas under the jurisdictions of PS Bishnah, PS Jhajjar Kotli and PS Akhnoor.

An information was received at PS Bishnah regarding one bootlegger selling illicit liquor in the area under the jurisdiction

of PS Bishnah.

After this special police teams of PS Bishnah led by SDPO RS Pura Nikhil Gogna assisted by SHO PS Bishnah Insnr Vikram Sharma raided at the suspected location in the jurisdiction of PS Bishnah and rounded up a suspected person. During search, 53 bottles of illicit liquor got recovered from his possession.

In this regard, case FIR No. 244/2023 u/s 48 A Excise Act has been registered at PS Bishnah and

accused persons got arrested. The accused person was later identified as Amarjeet Singh @Kaka S/O Pritam Singh R/O Vill. Deoli Teh. Bishnah Dist. Jammu.

Similarly another police team of PS Jhajjar Kotli led by SDPO Nagrota Akash Kohli assisted by SHO PS Jhajjar Kotli Insnr Azad Ahmed while on naka duty rounded up a suspected person who was selling illicit liquor in the area under the jurisdiction of PS Jhajjar Kotli. During search

, 12 bottles were recovered from his possession

In this regard case FIR No. 242/2023 U/S 48-F Excise Act got registered at PS Jhajjar Kotli and accused got arrested. The accused arrested was identified as shnil Kumar S/O Thakur Dass R/O Gunguss P.O Kheral Teh. & Distt. Reasi.

Also another information was received at PS Akhnoor regarding a lady making and selling illicit liquor in the area under the jurisdiction of PS Akhnoor.

21 grams of heroin recovered by PP Narwal Jammu

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Continuing it's drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Jammu Police achieved major success by recovering 21 grams of heroin from one accused person in the jurisdiction of PP Narwal.

A police team of PP Narwal led by SDPO East Parupkar Singh assisted by SHO PS Bahu Fort Insnr Shiv Dev Singh assisted by I/C PP Narwal SI Lalit Sharma while on naka duty

near Railway Pulli Narwal rounded up a suspect. On search, 21 grams of heroin was recovered from them.

In this regard a case FIR No. 311/23 U/S 8/21/22 NDPS Act got registered in PS Bahu Fort and accused were arrested. The accused arrested was later identified as Sunil Kumar/Luie S/O Inderjeet Singh R/O Rajiv nagar Jammu.

Further investigation of the case is going on. Jammu police is working intensively to uproot the chains of drug supply

in the region and thorough questioning of the accused is going on to know the origin of the drugs supply chain.

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

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

Nationwide platform...

to almost Rs 1.25 lakh crore now, he said.

Noting that Amrit Kalash Yatras were organised to collect soil from across the country, he said these yatras are now reaching Delhi and the collected soil will be used in building Amrit Vatika.

“It will remain as a grand legacy of the Amrit Mahotsav in the heart of the country’s capital. The Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, which has been going on for the last two-and-a-half years across the country, will conclude on the 31st of October,” he said.

The prime minister also paid tributes to revered tribal figure Birsa Munda, noting that his birth anniversary on November 15 is observed as ‘Janjaatiya Gaurav Diwas’.

“We can learn from his life what true courage is and what it means to stand firm on one’s resolve. He never accepted foreign rule. He envisioned a society where there was no room for injustice. He wanted that every person should be entitled to a life of dignity and equality,” he said.

Modi said India has a rich history of tribal warriors and cited many prominent figures like Tilka Manjhi, Sidhho and Kanhu, and Tantiya Bheel.

The country is currently celebrating the 500th birth anniversary of Rani Durgavati, who inspired the tribal society, he said, while expressing hope that more youths will come to know about the tribal personalities of their region and derive inspiration from them.

“The country is grateful to its tribal society, which has always held the self-respect and upliftment of the nation paramount,” he said.

The prime minister referred to a famous pilgrim site, Amba Ji Mandir, in Gujarat and noted that sculptures made from scrap dot the way to the temple.

He said these statues have also become a centre of attraction for devotees and urged the Gujarat government to start a competition and invite people who are proficient in making artefacts from waste.

This will also inspire people for the ‘Waste to Wealth’ campaign across the country, he said.

Speaking about India winning over 200 medals, including 75 gold, at the Olympics World Summer Games in Berlin, he noted that several athletes performed admirably at the event where sports persons with intellectual disabilities participate. (Agencies)

J&K receives investment...

are in the pipeline, which is expected to employ 15,000 to 16,000 people.

On the steps taken to promote agriculture in Jammu and Kashmir, Sinha said the country has recognised the power of agriculture and allied sectors in the Union Territory.

‘Jammu and Kashmir administration has given priority welfare of farmers, not only the big farmers but even the 2.6 lakh marginal farmers,’ he said.

He also said that efforts were on to bring the horticulture produce under the PM Fasal Bima Yojna.

“A portal has been set up to train farmers. We are also looking at the possibility of reducing the post-harvest losses. No state is getting as much incentive as PM Modi has given to JK,” he added. (Agencies)

J&K govt orders...

Baseer-ul-Haq Chaudhary, IAS (AGMUT:2015), Managing Director, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Ramban.

Harvinder Singh, IAS (AGMUT:2019), Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Doda.

Babila Rakwal, JKAS, Deputy Commissioner, Reasi, has been transferred and posted as Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K, relieving Bhupinder Kumar, IAS, Administrative Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department of the additional charge of the post.

Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, JKAS, Director General, Sericulture, J&K, has been transferred and posted as Managing Director, J&K Agro Industries Development Corporation.

Om Prakash, JKAS, Director, Geology and Mining, J&K, has been transferred and posted as Managing Director, J&K Financial Corporation.

Arun Kumar Manhas, JKAS, Managing Director, J&K Agro Industries Development Corporation, has been transferred and posted as Director, Industries and Commerce, Jammu, relieving Kishore Singh Chib, JKAS, Special Secretary to the Government, Planning, Development and Monitoring Department of the additional charge of the post.

Ali Afsar Khan, JKAS, Additional District Development Commissioner, Bandipore, has been transferred and posted as Additional Commissioner, State Taxes (Tax Planning, Policy and Advance Ruling), J&K.

Ajay Kumar, JKAS, Managing Director, J&K Financial Corporation, has been transferred and posted as Registrar, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, J&K, on deputation basis.

Mussarat-ul-Islam, JKAS, Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, has been transferred and posted as Managing Director, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited.

“Ram Savak, JKAS, Director, Horticulture, Jammu, shall hold the charge of the post of Director, Agriculture, Jammu, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.”

Nagendra Singh Jamwal, JKAS, Registrar, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, J&K, has been transferred and posted as Director, Command Area Development, Jammu, relieving Rajinder Singh Tara, JKAS, Custodian General, J&K of the additional charge of the post.

Khalid Majeed, JKAS, Director, Panchayati Raj and ex-officio Special Secretary to the Government, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, has been transferred and posted as Director, Industries and Commerce, Kashmir, relieving Mehmood Ahmad Shah, JKAS, Director, Handloom and Handicrafts, Kashmir of the additional charge of the post.

Mohammad Mumtaz Ali, JKAS, Director, Rural Development, Jammu, has been asked to hold the charge of the post of Director, Panchayati Raj and ex-officio Special Secretary to the Government, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

Vishesh Paul Mahajan, JKAS, Deputy Commissioner, Doda, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Com-

missioner, Reasi.

Gurvinderjeet Singh, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department (GAD), has been posted as Registrar, District Udhampur.

Kapil Sharma, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been posted as Special Secretary to the Government, Youth Services and Sports Department.

Kishori Lal, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been posted as Director, Estates, Jammu.

Rakesh Magotra, JKAS, Special Secretary to the Government, Youth Services and Sports Department, has been transferred and posted as Director, Geology and Mining, J&K.

Dr Nasir Ahmad Lone, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Budgam, has been transferred and posted as Additional District Development Commissioner, Shopian, against an available vacancy.

Bal Krishan, JKAS, Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Judicial, has been transferred and posted as Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Baderwah.

Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been posted as Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Srinagar, against an available vacancy.

22. Mr. Jagdish Chander, JKAS, Joint Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, is transferred and posted as Secretary/Chief Executive Officer, J&K Khadi and Village Industries Board. 23. Mr. Veveik Puri, JKAS, Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Rajouri, is transferred and posted as Joint Director, Information (Hqr) in the Directorate of Information, J&K. Mr. Rajeev Kumar Khajuria, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Rajouri, shall hold the charge of the post of Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Rajouri, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

Ansuya Jamwal, JKAS, Joint Director, Hospitality and Protocol, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jammu.

Ravi Mohan Khajuria, JKAS, Registrar, District Udhampur, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Health and Medical Education Department.

Rajesh Kumar Basotra, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been posted as Registrar, Sales Tax Tribunal, J&K, against an available vacancy.

Naresh Kumar, JKAS, Joint Director, Information (Hqr) in the Directorate of Information, J&K, has been transferred and posted as Joint Director, Hospitality and Protocol, Jammu.

Shahid Mehmood, JKAS, Additional Secretary to the Government, Public Works (R&B) Department, has been transferred and posted as Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Budgam, against an available vacancy.

Navdeep Wazir, JKAS, Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Baderwah, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Judicial.

Farukh Qazi, JKAS, Secretary/Chief Executive Officer, J&K Khadi and Village Industries Board, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment.

Vivek Phonsa, JKAS, Additional Secretary to the Government, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Public Works (R&B) Department.

Abdul Rashid Dass, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been posted as Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Kulgam, against an available vacancy.

Mehraj-ud-din Shah, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Budgam.

Ajaz Qesar Malik, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner in the State Taxes Department, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Information Technology Department.

Kaiser Ahmad Bhawani, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the Revenue Training Institute, Jammu, has been posted as Principal, Revenue Training Institute, Srinagar, against an available vacancy.

Gulzar Ahmad, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal.

Shaheena Khan, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, is posted as Joint Director, Food, Civil and Consumer Affairs, Kashmir, against an available vacancy.

Dr. Narupa Rai, JKAS, Additional Registrar, Cooperatives, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Special Secretary in the office of Chief Electoral Officer, J&K.

Champa Devi, JKAS, Joint Registrar, Cooperatives (Audit), Jammu, has been posted as Additional Registrar, Cooperatives, Jammu.

Jugal Kishore Anand, JKAS, Additional Secretary to the Government, Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, has been transferred and posted as Secretary, J&K Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission.

S Paramjeet Singh, JKAS, Secretary, J&K Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission, has been transferred and posted as Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Doda, against an available vacancy.

Sikh community has...

Singh said this while addressing a gathering at Lucknow’s Alambagh Gurudwara on Prakash Utsav of Guru Granth Sahib.

“The Sikh community has done a lot to protect the Sanatan Dharma. For Ram Janmabhoomi also, no Indian can forget their contribution,” Singh said.

He said, “I wanted to share an important fact according to the government record. On Dec 1, 1858, according to an FIR, a group of Sikhs raising slogans of Guru Govind Singh captured the premises and wrote ‘Ram Ram’ everywhere on the walls.” “The Ram Janmabhoomi Andolan was started by the Sikhs,” he added.

Singh said that now everyone talks about their rights but not about their duties.

“If there is a community whose percentage of those who laid down their lives for the country and their percentage in the Army is greater their population percentage, that is the Sikh community,” he said. (Agencies)

Centre asks states not to...

of electricity. This is because electricity generated

within the territory of one state may be consumed in other states and no state has the power to levy taxes/duties on residents of other states,” the order said.

The ministry went on to state that Article-286 of the Constitution explicitly prohibits states from imposing any taxes/duties on supply of goods or services or on both, where the supply takes place outside the state.

Also, Articles-287 and 288 prohibit the imposition of taxes on consumption or sale of electricity consumed by the Central Government or sold to the Central Government for consumption by the Government or its agencies.

“In light of the constitutional provisions, no taxes/duties can be levied by any state on generation or inter-state supply of electricity under the guise of additional charges/free on generation of electricity from any source - thermal, hydro or renewables,” the orders said.

The Central Government asked states to promptly remove any kind of tax/duty/cess levied in the guise of development free/charges/fund on generation or electricity from any sources.

In April, the Ministry had asked states not to levy or impose any tax or duty on generation of electricity especially from hydro projects.

“Some states have imposed taxes/duties on generation of electricity under the guise of levying a cess on the use of water for generating electricity.

“However, though the state may call it a water cess, it is actually a tax on the generation of electricity - the tax is to be collected from the consumers of electricity who may happen to be residents in other states,” the power ministry had said on April 25.

Any imposition of tax on the non-consumptive use of water of these rivers for electricity generation is in violation of provisions of the Constitution, it argued.

Stating that most of the hydroelectric plants in the states are located on inter-state rivers, the ministry had stated that hydro power projects do not consume water to produce electricity. Electricity is generated by directing the flow of water through a turbine which generates electricity - on the same principle as electricity from wind projects where wind is utilized to turn the turbine to produce electricity.

Therefore, the ministry had said that there is no rationale for levy of water cess or air cess. (Agencies)

PWVA members played...

education. He lauded the energy, excitement and talent of the participating students and added that he really feels proud of the level of education being imparted. ‘I believe the children are as good in extracurricular, sports and academics as they were in today’s function’, Shri Bhatnagar added. It is a good thing for students they are getting an opportunity to hone their skills and talent in such functions which would help them to achieve bigger platforms in life. He said that whole function was organized with excitement and sentiments like that of one family.

He advised teachers to impart quality education to the students and fulfill the great responsibility of teaching children who are the future of the Country and of the UT. He advised teachers to hone students with problem solving skills, speech skills, multiple media skills, critical & analytical thinking which is very important to boost the confidence of the students. Shri Bhatnagar said all possible assistance would be provided for the infrastructure and development of the School.

Speaking on the occasion the DGP complimented the Principal and her team and students of the school for presenting an excellent colourful programme. He expressed gratitude to the Hon’ble Advisor for taking time from his busy schedule to grace the occasion. He said that organising such functions is not only a medium of entertainment but such programmes encourage children and boost their morale as well as of their parents who are always thrilled to watch their children performing on the stage. He said that performing on a stage needs courage and it was a proud moment for all of us that our school students were performing on the stage. He hoped that these students will find much bigger stage in their lives and they will get famous in the world and make us, and parents proud.

He said that the journey of Police Public Schools which started from one room in District Police Lines Jammu has reached great heights with its branches in seven districts across the J&K. He said that it is just a beginning, J&K Police has much more plans to execute for upgrading these schools, adding that the PPS Bemina would soon have its own auditorium.

“With today’s programme children have given a memorable farewell to me and to chairperson PWVA/PPS,” the DGP said. He said that he feels proud that chairperson PWVA and its members have played a very big part in shaping the future of Police Schools and Police Hospitals. He said that a school can be a building but it can’t be a center of education which is impossible without hard work. For that he expressed gratitude to the PWVA whose efforts are behind the success of Police Public Schools. He said that it feels satisfactory that children are going to schools everyday and gone are the days when school remains locked maximum time. He prayed for the bright future of the students and said that wherever they make a name for themselves they will make JKP proud. He said that J&K Police is your own Police that is working for people, for their safety and works with people & with their support. He appreciated the support of people for Jammu and Kashmir. He congratulated all the winners in academic and extracurricular activities.

Dr Rubinder Kaur Chairperson Police Wives Welfare Association (PWVA), J&K addressing on the occasion said that out of seven Police public schools across the UT five are affiliated with State Board of School Education while Police Public Schools at Jammu & Srinagar are affiliated with Central Board of School Education (CBSE). She said that with the unwavering support of teachers, parents and management, Police Public Schools have achieved great heights be it in Academics or curricular activities. On the occasion Chairperson PWVA presented the innovative annual academic report for the session 2022-23.

On the occasion prize distribution function was held in which the student achievers of the school were felicitated.

J&K border residents...

seven hours, leaving a BSF jawan and a woman injured. On October 17, two BSF personnel were injured when their post came under fire from Pakistan.

Women gang of pickpockets busted in Ganderbal

J NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, OCT 29

To eradicate the menace of social crimes from the society, Police in Ganderbal have busted women gang of pickpockets & recovered stolen cash from their possession.

During the past few days, Police Station Kangan has been receiving inputs from different sources that a gang of a few notorious persons is roaming in the jurisdiction of PS Kangan & picking pockets of innocent people, especially in the area of Sub District Hospital Kangan.

On the directions of SSP Ganderbal, a special Police team was constituted led by SHO PS Kangan under the supervision of SDPO Kangan. Acting swiftly, a police team with the help of reliable sources set a trap at Kangan Market and 03 accused ladies (names withheld) were apprehended red-handed, while picking pocket of one innocent person namely Bashir Ahmed Mir son of Mangat Mir resident of Hariganiwan. Meanwhile, the trio tried to escape from the spot along with the stolen cash of RS/- 25000, but the police party arrested them tactfully. The stolen money was recovered & seized.

Many panic-stricken people, including migrant labourers engaged in harvesting paddy, fled to safer places amid heavy firing and mortar shelling Thursday night but returned to their homes next morning after the guns fell silent.

BSF has already lodged a strong protest with their Pakistani counterparts at two flag meetings in the past 10 days, with both sides highlighting the need to maintain ceasefire in the larger interest of peace and tranquility on the border.

“After 2018, our villages were pounded with mortars but we could not use most of the bunkers as we paid no attention to their cleaning,” Kour said, appealing to the residents to maintain the bunkers like their houses.

She said the people saw the worst of times before the ceasefire came. “My concern is that the people living in this panchayat remain safe. We have 15 individual and seven community bunkers, but more bunkers are needed to cover all households who are living in the Pakistani shelling range.” According to locals, the majority of the bunkers are inundated and thick with wild vegetation, which work as a cover for snakes and other poisonous insects. They also lack toilets and electricity.

“We have cleared almost all the community bunkers,” Prerna, a resident of ward number 5, said.

For Nirmala Devi, the Pakistani firing was her first experience of such kind. “If we keep the bunkers clean, we need not flee our villages amid shelling.” Jammu Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar, who along with a team of senior civil and police officers including Inspector General of Police, Jammu Zone, Anand Jain, visited the border villages on Saturday to assess the loss. Not only Arnia, the border dwellers in other parts of Jammu, Samba, and Kathua, have also started cleaning security bunkers in their areas. A delegation of National Conference led by Jammu provincial president Rattan Lal Gupta during his visit to the Pakistan-affected villages criticised the government for “not doing enough” to safeguard the border population. “Bunkers which were constructed with much fanfare are proving to be useless as they are inhabitable due to poor maintenance and as most of these constructions have been inundated due to rain water. The public exchequer has been drained by the lethargic government in the case of bunkers as they are proving to be worthless,” Gupta said.

Gulmarg all set to...

though there was no place to stay in the hotels, and this year there is even more hope and suitable arrangements are being put in place by the authorities.

He said Gulmarg remains more busy with the rush of tourists during the winter than in the rest of the year, and people associated with this sector earn their livelihood handsomely. Gulmarg is expecting to receive a record number of tourists this year, he said.

Keeping in view the rush of tourists, authorities had already arranged a “homestay” facility to provide accommodation and food for the tourists in the famous skiing resort of Gulmarg.

Meanwhile, Secretary of Tourism Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed has recently urged all officers to ensure the availability of all facilities for tourists during winter tourism in Gulmarg.

He also directed the officers to audit the basic facilities in Gulmarg and remove the deficiencies before the onset of winter.

Rasheed asked the officers to hold meetings with hotel owners, Pony walas, transporters, and other stakeholders for the proper conduct of tourism activities in Gulmarg during the winter.

The tourism secretary stressed the importance of exploring winter tourism potential in Gulmarg and urged the officials to ensure smooth traffic movement in Gulmarg, besides parking facilities in Tangmarg.

He asked for coordinated cooperation from all departments so that tourists can go back with pleasant memories, and instructions were also given to establish a common control room comprising all the concerned departments.

According to official data available, 1.52 million tourists have visited Jammu and Kashmir till August this year, compared to 1.88 million tourists last year. This year, the number of tourists is likely to exceed two hundred million, he said.

According to officials, the government is promoting 75 new tourist destinations where all necessary infrastructure will be made available.

He said after the successful G20 tourism meet held in Srinagar, there has been an increase in the number of foreign tourists as well.

It is noteworthy that the Kashmir Valley is the most suitable place for tourism even during winter. The snow-clad mountains draw tourists from warmer regions to enjoy the snowfall here. (Agencies)

Shastri Judo Club celebrates World Judo Day



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Shastri Judo Club celebrated World Judo Day with great enthusiasm on the birthday of Prof Jigaro Kano, the founder of the game, during a programme held at Lower Roopnagar, Jammu.

On the occasion, Udhay Bhanu Chib, President of Shastri Judo Club was the Chief Guest.

Speaking on the occasion, Udhay Bhanu Chib congratulated and commended the dedicated athletes of Shastri Judo Club who achieved remarkable success in the North India Zone Judo Competition.

He emphasized the importance of not only the athletes' hard work but also the unwavering support and pride shown by their parents. This support system is a cornerstone of young athletes' success, and Udhay expressed his deep appreciation for the parents' involvement.

The World Judo Day celebration at Shastri Judo Club included a variety of activities, such as demonstrations, speeches, and awards. The athletes of Shastri Judo Club put on a spectacular display of their skills and techniques, and the audience was thoroughly impressed.

Chib reiterated Shastri

Judo Club's commitment to the growth and promotion of Judo in the region. He said that the club is always looking for new ways to support and develop young athletes. He also encouraged parents to enroll their children in Judo classes, as the sport offers a number of benefits, including physical fitness, mental discipline, and self-confidence.

Udhay also extended his heartfelt gratitude to Romi Jamwal, Coach of Shastri Judo Club, as well as Vikas Gupta, Vice President of Judo Federation Indian, and Suraj Sharma, General Secretary of Judo Federation J&K.

Kathak Dance Recital organized by JKAACL Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages organised Kathak Dance Recital by the renowned artist Manju Wazir and doctor Priya Dutta at Abhinav Theatre, Jammu. Kathak is one of the eight major forms of Indian classical dance. It is the classical dance form from Uttar Pradesh. The origin of Kathak is traditionally attributed to the traveling bards in ancient northern India known as Kathakars or storytellers.

In the beginning Shri Bharat Singh, Secretary, JKAACL welcomed the guests and artists. He said that there was a long pending demand for organising classical based programs in Jammu and I am sure that today the audience will be enthralled by the classical dance presentations by these artists. He further added that the Academy will be organizing such programs in future also. The program began with the presentations by Manju Wazir, a renowned Kathak dancer hailing from the crown state of India Jammu and Kashmir. She has attained Visharad in Kathak from Gandharva Mahavidhyala Mandal. She has completed a post graduate diploma of 5 years in Kathak dance from Katha Kendra, New Delhi. Currently, she is actively involved as a troupe member of J&K cultural academy by performing all over the coun-

try. She is also a member of the Cultural Council of the Government of J&K. The program began with Shiv Vandana which was followed by Thumri Malika. The presentation of Fusion of Kathak on Dogri songs was lauded by the audience. The artists who presented these presentations included Aarushi Gupta, Samiksha Purohit, Abantika Dasgupta, Vrinda Kackar, Deesha Bhargava, Nupur Jain and Manju Wazir. This followed presentations by Dr Priya Dutta and her group. A Kathak dancer, Priya has been associated with the Institute of Music and Fine Arts for the last nineteen years. She started her own academy, Nriyanjali Classical Dance Academy, to promote Kathak. She completed her graduation in Kathak dance and then went to Birju Maharaj's Kathak Kendra to get training under him. Under the guidance of Birju Maharaj, she went to Shriram Bhartiya Kala Kendra,



New Delhi, and completed her diploma successfully. Then she went to Chandigarh to pursue her master's in Kathak from Punjab University. In the beginning the group presented Ganesh Vandana by Dr Priya Dutta, Shivani Kapoor, Ankita Yadav, Ritika, Sunidhi Banerjee, Manu, Sonia, Shivam Shukla and Umesh Kumar. This followed by Dogri Fusion by Dr. Priya Dutta, Shivani Kapoor, Ankita Yadav, Saba, Ritika, Sunidhi, Manu and Sonia. In their last performance the group presented Kathak Subsonic by Dr Priya Dutta, Shivani Kapoor, Ankita Yadav, Anandita Dutt, Sumukhi, Sonakshi Singh, Manu, Sonia, Umesh, Shivam Shukla, Priyank Kachroo, Pranvi Sanga, Anaya Singh, Aadhya Kapoor, Aadeesha Kapoor, Aadya Sharma, Swara Sharma, Ojasvi Gupta and Maithili.

Dr. Shah Nawaz, Editor cum Cultural Officer Gojri presented the vote of Thanks.

Poor air quality heightens stroke risk: DAK on world stroke day

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCT 29

On world stroke day, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Sunday said exposure to air pollution increases the risk of stroke.

"Poor air quality heightens your chances of getting a stroke," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

Dr Hassan said according to a new study published in Journal Neurology short exposure of just 5 days to air pollutants could increase a person's risk of stroke.

Previous studies have established a link between long term exposure to air pollution and increased risk of stroke. But the new study shows that even short term exposure poses heightened risk. The study analysed more than 18 million cases of ischemic stroke - which is the most common type of stroke caused by a blood clot that blocks a blood vessel in the brain.

Researchers looked at different pollutants and different sizes of particulate matter.

The analysis found that stroke risk rose 28% when people had been exposed to nitrogen dioxide, 26% when exposed to carbon monoxide, 15% when exposed to sulphur dioxide and 5% when exposed to ozone. Higher concentration of PM2.5 was

linked to a 15% increased risk of stroke with PM10 at 14% and PM1 at 9%.

"Higher levels of air pollution were also linked to higher risk of death from stroke," he said.

The DAK President said air quality in Kashmir has been constantly deteriorating for the past few years due to increasing number of vehicles, constructions, brick kilns, cement and other factories which emit pollutants and significantly pollute the air.

"The pollution hits dangerous levels during winter months due to elevated level of biofuel emission from domestic sector," he said. Dr Nisar said over the years stroke cases are on the rise in Kashmir valley. Not only elderly, we are seeing increase in number of strokes among younger people.

"While smoking, hypertension, diabetes and high cholesterol remain important risk factors for stroke, in Kashmir many people with none of these risk factors come to hospitals with strokes and air pollution could be a factor," he said.

"There is an urgent need to create policies that reduce air pollution. That would reduce the number of strokes which is one of the leading causes of death and disability in the valley," he added.

Balram Tandon Memorial Tourney

J&K outplays Chhattisgarh; seals berth in historic final



JI NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, OCT 29

Jammu and Kashmir outplayed Chhattisgarh by virtue of the first innings lead to seal berth in the historic finals of Balram Tandon Memorial Cricket Tournament at Chandigarh today.

Battling first, Chhattisgarh scored a decent total of 205 runs in the first innings.

Aryavart Singh top scored with 54 runs, while Nitant Singh and Shahir contributed 43 and 29

runs to the total respectively.

For J&K, Saksham, Irfan Ashraf and Manityva bagged 2 wickets each, while Arun Kumar and Jeevesh Gupta claimed one wicket each.

J&K in reply scored 264/7 in 90 overs, thus emerged winner by virtue of first innings lead. Shourya Chouhan top scored with 94 runs, studded with 10 fours and 2 sixes, while Rahil, Zaid Mufti and Manityva contributed 47, 36 and 26 runs to the total respec-

tively. Shubh Singh and Mohd Faiz took 2 wickets each for Chhattisgarh.

It is pertinent to mention here that this is for the first time that J&K has qualified for the finals of this prestigious tournament.

The J&K team is being accompanied by Zahoor Sofi as Manager, Sameer Khajuria as Head Coach, Muzaffar Mattoo as Coach, Amit Bargoitra as Strength & Conditioning Coach and Dr Amir Malik as Team Physio.

Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation Celebrates J&K UT Foundation Day

JI NEWS SERVICE
SUNDERBANI, OCT 29

The Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation marked the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory Foundation Day by organizing a significant plantation drive at the Police Station Sunder Bani, Jammu and Kashmir. The event was attended by prominent individuals, including Ankush Sharma, Media Secretary of the foundation, Dogar Nath, Office Secretary, and Rajinder Singh Jasrotia, Station House Officer of Sunder Bani. In addition to the foundation's key representatives, the event saw the active participation of Amit Kumar, Sub Inspector of PS Sunder Bani,



Ravi Kumar, Sub Inspector, and Sunil Dutt, President of the All Jammu and Kashmir Dogra Lok Kalyan Forum. The foundation received encouragement and recognition from Dr. Sonia Verma, President, for their relentless efforts

in promoting environmental sustainability and community engagement.

Ishan Raina, Secretary of the Rajouri Chapter, also joined the initiative, demonstrating the collective commitment to environmental preser-

vation and sustainable practices. The plantation drive at Police Station Sunder Bani was a significant step toward enhancing the green cover in the region and contributing to a healthier environment.

Dr Sonia Verma Founder President of Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation extends her gratitude to all participants, supporters, and the local community for their involvement in this event. The foundation reaffirms its dedication to creating a greener, more sustainable future for the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory.

The Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to environmental conservation

and sustainability. Their mission is to protect and nurture the environment through various initiatives, including tree plantation drives, clean-up campaigns, and educational programs. Ankush Sharma Media Secretary of the foundation extended his gratitude to the SHO Sunder bani and his team for making the programme successful. Ankush sharma also informed the participants that foundation has started a whatsapp group for the civil service aspirants where the volunteers add daily content based on the preparation of civil services, if anyone want to join the group he can contact him.

BJP J&K Organizes Booth Empowerment Campaign in Srinagar's S1 Church Lane

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCT 29

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of Jammu and Kashmir hosted a significant event at S1 Church Lane Srinagar, featuring the Booth Empowerment Campaign and a Core Group Meeting for the Srinagar Parliamentary constituency. This gathering, which took place on October 29, 2023, was attended by distinguished party leaders.

The meeting was presided over by Shri Ashok Koul, BJP's General Secretary (Organization), and prominent BJP leaders. Eminent individuals from the Srinagar Parliamentary constituency, including Dr Ali, Showkat Gayoor, Ashok Bhat, Avtar Singh, District Presidents of the Srinagar Parliament constituency, Sahil Bashir (Social Media charge),



and Sheikh Salman (IT Cell Incharge), were also present.

Shri Ashok Koul, addressing the media, underscored the crucial role of civil society in recognizing the substantial contributions made by the Modi government in strengthening the nation and fostering a resilient

society. He emphasized the party's dedication to expanding its reach to all sections of society, garnering support from every region and across diverse religious backgrounds.

During the meeting, Shri Ashok Koul outlined the foundation of the Booth Empowerment program, encapsulated by the

slogan "Apna Booth Majboot" (Our Strong Booth). He provided insights into the series of initiatives planned under the "Booth Empowerment Campaign" and emphasized the core principle that "Winning the Booth Equals Winning the Election," which is essential for electoral success.

"Successful Day 2 of the Panache Expo at Amar Singh Club"

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Day 2 of the "Panache" expo was also a big success as people visited Amar Singh Club with great enthusiasm. They went by all the stalls to buy their requirements these stalls are displaying Top clothing brands designer wear, Bangles, makeup articles and designer kitchen wares.

Besides this Tarot card readers and Mehendi artists were also seen busy with their varied clients

The event was managed by Pans & Pots co., P.P Concepts in association with Kaushvi events and was supported by Print & Copy (printing Partner), Asura Studios (Designing & Digital Partner). The Food Court was managed by Gaurav Gumble.



This exhibition went extremely successful and Mr Anil Kapahi secretary of the club welcomed the Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Biloria and made him visit all the stalls of the exhibition. Mr Baldev Singh Biloria showed big pleasure over it, he witnessed Jammu People from all walks of

life thronging the venue, especially the ladies who loved the variety of arrangements organised for the coming festivals.

Mr Baldev Singh Biloria (Deputy Mayor) was happy to see, the stalls taken up by many start ups and stressed upon the need to prioritise them as they give encouragement

to perform well in their business

The secretary of the club Sh Anil Kapahi thanked the team of club members especially Mr. Raman Gupta MD Pans & Pots, Mr Vikram Puri, Pooja Puri, Mrs Nadita Mehta, and all the people who came and became a part of this exhibition.

EDITORIAL

Don't be complacent to deal with air pollution

New Delhi, the capital of the country, is yet again in the news for all wrong reasons. This time, the residents of New Delhi breathed the world's most toxic air early last Monday as Delhi's air quality index (AQI) rose to 346. This was the highest among 110 cities tracked worldwide by Swiss air quality technology company IQ Air. Till now, a lot of politics has been played over the critical issue of air pollution in the National Capital where the residents are gasping for clean air. This is quite an unfortunate and unhealthy trend of events unfolding as the political parties have resorted to blame games to score petty issues instead of finding a viable and tangible solution to the problem. It has been a challenging task for the Delhi government as well as the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) in National Capital Region and adjoining areas to contain the air pollution as no immediate respite seems to be expected in the coming days and weeks. The CAQM, set up in 2021 as a statutory body, is tasked with devising and executing plans to prevent and control air pollution in the region. Its other functions include addressing stubble burning and coordinating pollution control initiatives taken by the states concerned (Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and UP). Various reasons including the toxic mix of low wind speed, dipping temperature and dust, vehicular emissions, wood or coal as well as stubble burning in farms around the National Capital Region (NCR) are attributed to the current situation that has once again engulfed the area into a thick blanket of smog. Recently, the Air Quality Index (AQI) had even crossed the 400 mark to plunge into the 'severe' category for some time. Not only is this high level of AQI critical for those suffering from respiratory ailments, but also harmful for healthy people. Unfortunately, Delhi has earned the notoriety of being among the most polluted cities in the world. This is notwithstanding the fact that several remedial measures initiated since 2021 by the authorities to deal with air pollution and offset its dangerous ramifications are yet to deliver desired results. The distressed residents are still looking for some relief which is yet to be seen. The Graded Response Action Plan is being implemented in a phased manner in the NCR in order to combat air pollution. It categorises actions into four stages, depending on the air quality. However, despite such a clear-cut action plan, enforcement has left a lot to be desired. As this is an election year, state governments are reluctant to antagonise the farmers – a key vote bank – by taking strict action against those who set crop residue afire. Last week, the National Green Tribunal had issued notices to the Punjab Chief Secretary and Member Secretary of the Central Pollution Control Board over the role of stubble/straw burning in aggravating air pollution in the national capital. The CAQM needs to rise to the challenge and push the states concerned to show no laxity in tackling air pollution. The Commission had earlier warned of the rising air pollution after which the Delhi government pressed stage three of GRAP meant to combat the crisis of 'very poor' category (AQI of 300-400). It entails stopping the dust-emitting construction work and more frequent use of water sprinklers and anti-smog guns to battle the particles suspended in air. To sum up, it is the duty and obligation of every political party to put their joint efforts that help in reducing the level of pollution in the air.

US support for Israel: An old game

MAKHAN SAIKIA

Amid the intensifying Israel-Hamas conflict, this analysis delves into the intricate web of historical, political, and humanitarian factors shaping the crisis. From the longstanding US support for Israel to the divide within American politics, it scrutinises the complex dynamics. As casualties rise and diplomatic efforts falter, the urgency for a resolution that balances security with justice becomes paramount on the global stage.

The US' support for Israel is unequivocal. It has been consistent since the creation of the Jewish State on May 14, 1948. Washington is sticking to its long-established script that provides all the grounds for standing for Israel. From day one of the current attack of the Hamas over Israel, President Joe Biden is repeatedly echoing the line in public that Israel has a "legitimate right to defend itself".

This unquestionable support for Israel began with former President Harry Truman who became the first world leader to recognise the State of Israel. His decision was driven by two main considerations—first being a personal one i.e. his former business partner Edward Jacobson actually did all the foundational work to make the way for recognising the Jewish State by the UN in 1948. The second being a strategic perspective as Washington wanted to have a trusted ally in West Asia to spread its influence and to gradually counter the growing might of the USSR. Specifically, the US was using all its military, economic and diplomatic maneuvers to have major influence over the Suez Canal, the gateway to control strategic waterways and massive oil reserves in West Asian nations.

In the last more than five decades, America's unequivocal support to Israel grew with its deci-

sive victory over major Arab nations like Syria, Jordan, Egypt, etc. in 1967 and in 1973. This literally changed the equation in favour of Israel in the US Congress. During the reign of President Barack Obama, the US Government signed an agreement with Israel to send \$38 billion military aid over a period of 10 years, including Iron Dome Missile System to the Zionist effort nation. Besides these tilts towards Israel, another powerful politically sensitive organisation called American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) wields major influence over both the political parties and their top leaders.

But all is not well for Israel in the US. For a long time, progressive Democrats in the US have opposed the Jewish treatment of the Palestinians. Back in July of this year, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a resolution pledging full support for the State of Israel. This resolution explicitly condemned anti-Semitism and declared that the country is neither racist nor an apartheid nation. It is worth noting that all of this occurred just before the President of Israel was scheduled to address a joint session of Congress. This historic resolution once again delivered an implicit rebuke to the progressive Democrats who had been criticizing Israel for its decades-long policies against Palestine.

On the record, Pramila Jayapal, the Democrat from Washington and the head of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, referred to Israel as a "Racist State", but later she retracted her comments. Pramila also clarified that she is not contesting the idea of Israel, but rather its present government's policies. The irony lies in the fact that, despite her frontal attack on the Israeli government and opposition to its policies, most Democrats supported the resolution put forth by the Republican Party.

And in the event of the

current dastardly attack unleashed by Hamas over the Israeli state, the tensions between the moderate and progressive Democrats are sharply divided on Israel's treatment of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and in the occupied West Bank region. The most powerful Republicans, and almost all the ordinary ones, are fully standing in solidarity with Israel at this hour of crisis. President Biden is trying to use this chaos as a re-election strategy for the next year's election campaign, aiming to impress both the hardliners and many Americans who are completely in favour of crushing Hamas and its dastardly acts against innocent civilians.

Some experts argue that the benefits of the US support for Israel no longer outweigh the costs. It has been a huge burden on the American exchequer. Once, the relationship between the US and Israel was justified both on moral and strategic grounds. The Jewish state readily offered an opportunity to America to influence the West Asian region after the Second World War.

Indeed, the establishment of Israel was projected as a befitting response to widespread anti-Semitism in the West, particularly referring to the Holocaust under the tutelage of Adolf Hitler during the peak of the War. But at the same time, the majority in the West led by the US simply ignored the reality that the Arabs who had lived in Palestine for centuries had finally lost their indigenous land.

What has been failed to project by Washington is Israel's military prowess and advantage from all fronts over Palestine and its people. It is a war between David and Goliath. And on top of that Israel is fully backed by the military machine of the US, the world's most powerful nation. So one can easily imagine what will be the fate of the fighting Palestinians and the Hamas fighters.

For the first time, a US President visited Israel during the war. Not only Biden, but also his Secretary of State and Defense, Antony Blinken and Lloyd Austin respectively, landed in Israel between October 11-13, when hostilities were at their peak. Once they set the stage, President Biden came to Tel Aviv to meet Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, demonstrating total solidarity with Israel.

Interestingly, after Biden's visit on October 18, Israel was ready to allow humanitarian aid coming to the Gaza Strip.

The saddest part of the current quagmire is that innocent civilians are punished in the name of fighting the Hamas militants. When the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) ordered more than a million people to evacuate from North Gaza to shift to South Gaza, all international humanitarian agencies warned of dire consequences. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) immediately raised an alarm of a humanitarian tragedy if million people have to vacate their homes within 24 hours as the deadline set by Israel. The intention was to launch ground offensive against the Hamas and to rescue more than 200 hostages it has taken from Israel on the day of the attack i.e. Shabbat, the holy day of rest and recuperation. But then, Mahmoud Abbas, the President of the Palestinian Authority, clearly said that civilians should not vacate North Gaza. The reason behind this is that this will offer another opportunity to the Zionist state to recapture more Palestinian territories to push forward its ulterior motives.

And for Palestinians it could be the Second Nakba (catastrophe or cataclysm) as many of their older generations already experienced the First Nakba in 1948 during the creation of the Israeli state. The Nakba refers to displacement of thousands of Palestinians from their original homes to make way for the Jewish

state. While ordering to evacuate, the Israeli State had stopped all the basic facilities like water, food, electricity, etc. to the Gaza enclave.

When the tragic hospital blast took the lives of more than 500 civilians and the daily death count continues to rise, how can the US and the West remain silent spectators to this horror? It is true that Hamas took the lives of more than 1,300 innocent people on October 7 while the Jewish community was celebrating their festival. This is simply unpardonable.

It is a criminal act on the part of Hamas which they had been planning for months to breach one of the world's most sophisticated security and intelligence systems. According to records published on the UN website, the number of people killed in Gaza has now exceeded 5000, as reported by the de facto authorities there.

Humanitarians are repeatedly calling for a ceasefire and for more aid convoys. Meanwhile, the Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO), Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, issued a new appeal for "sustained safe passage" for medical essentials and fuels to keep health facilities open. Sadly, women and children make up more than 62 per cent of the fatalities, while more than 15,000 people have been injured since October 7.

Now the pertinent question here is that is it justified for the US, the world's oldest democracy and leader of the global liberal order to continue sending arms, ammunitions, man and materials to bolster the Israeli defence forces to pound more and lethal attacks on the Gaza Strip? Are its civilians responsible for what Hamas did on South Israel? After long and sustained appeals from UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres and other human rights and humanitarian aid agencies, why has the Biden

Administration either failed or purposefully escalated another war in West Asia?

It is not all justified on the part of the US to back Israel at this hour with its superior military equipment as it could exacerbate the war in an already chaotic West Asia. Nowhere the civilians of Gaza and west Bank are responsible for ghastly act of the Hamas and the current torture on them is absolutely uncalled for. Despite appeals from the UN and other international bodies, the US is spearheading the acts of aggression and providing all that Israel needs to win over the Hamas is nothing but its decade long agenda to stand behind the Jewish State. It does not vary depending on who comes to Washington. Finally Israel wins its favour from its big brother in the US. So the violence and long discrimination against the Palestinian people goes on.

The Israel-Hamas war since October 7 is a grim reminder to the international community that violence only breeds more violence. It is time to halt war in favor of peace. We all need to bear in mind that this planet demands peace simply to serve the uncared for and the most vulnerable people all around.

Maybe, the Palestinian people will not be able to reclaim their homeland but they all have the fundamental right to have peace and claim over whatever territories they have as of today. It is clear that a two-state solution may take longer than ever before looking at the current hostilities in place. Also, we all need to accept the fact that the way Hamas has displayed its might and brutality over innocent Israeli civilians will certainly not pave the way for an independent Palestine sooner or later.

(The writer is currently president of the Global Research Foundation)

Punjab needs all-party consensus on SYL

SUKHDEV SINGH

The recent Supreme Court direction to the Union of India to survey the land for the Satluj Yamuna Link (SYL) canal in Punjab has triggered a war of words among the major political parties in the state. The Congress, the SAD, and the BJP found an opportunity to attack the AAP government for its failure to defend the position of Punjab on SYL in the court, attempting to cover up their past positions on it. They pointed out that the APP government in Punjab was not serious and sincere on the matter given elections due in Haryana. They quoted the Punjab Advocate General and his team submitting to the court that the Punjab government was very keen to resolve the SYL issue amicably, but the farmer unions and landowners were opposing it. There is some content in their charge of lack of preparation and weak defence of their case by the Punjab legal team.

Instead of passing on the responsibility to the landowners and farmer unions, the team should have argued that the state had no surplus water; that Haryana was not a riparian state; that there should be a fresh adjudication of

water availability; that the long stretch of the canal through Punjab will not only uproot many families, but will also cause great damage to the adjoining cultivable land, which is now fertile; that Haryana already has a full share of water from Yamuna; that Punjab farmers and Haryana farmers have no animosity, but there is no surplus water in Punjab to share.

Punjab is using its underground water to meet 50% of its current needs, causing the groundwater level to go dangerously low. It is noteworthy that this need has arisen out of its food grain production for the whole of India. Hence, it is necessary to adjudicate the availability of water before any direction to complete the SYL is implemented. The data on surplus water mentioned in consecutive reports and accords has been changing: 15.85 MAF in 1955 and 17.17 MAF in 1981. To quote Vandana Shiva, "...river flows are assumed to be static while they change over time, usually as a downtrend because of ecological degradation linked to water projects created for intensive irrigation and energy inputs for green revolution agriculture".

As to the emotive appeal of 'water as the

basic need', the team should have reasoned that the current dispute on the sharing of water does not refer to the need for water for drinking and irrigation for subsistence agriculture. It refers to the need for water for market-driven agriculture. Hence, there is no special sanctity or emotive response to such a need. It is Punjab that requires water for market-driven agriculture because this is what the governments have developed it for.

The farmers of Punjab were pampered to grow wheat and paddy when the country was in a food deficit, and it was only this land that took the call and became the 'food basket of India'. Now the farmers know nothing else but to grow crops and also there is no significant industry in the state. The union government and the court must understand that the artificially dug canal will cover the fertile land while there is not enough surplus water to flow through it. Further, a canal like SYL requiring inter-basin river water transfer will alter 'geography and hydrological regimes', causing water logging and salinity on both sides of the SYL canal.

Today, after fifty-seven years since 1966, the matter of sharing river

water is not just about how to share the water, but also how much water is available to share. That is where the shoe pinches and that is what all involved must understand 'amicably'. If all Haryana has to be provided additional water for its market-driven agriculture needs, it can be provided surplus water from the river Sharda through a Sharda-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal, which will solve the major flood problems in Uttarakhand. The association of Punjab with water is so organic that it is named 'the land of five rivers'. In 1947, its one part was amputated, taking its two rivers along with it, making its name only a misnomer, and in 1966, its other two parts were amputated, resulting in the current conflict.

Now the economy of Punjab is primarily based on agriculture, and agriculture is based on water. Therefore, whenever there is any reference to the sharing of its river water, the emotions are roused to fever pitch. Hence, the question of water sharing feeds politics more than it serves to irrigate crops. Politics and water in Punjab are so intertwined that no political party can dare to ignore this nexus; on the contrary, they have to cry louder than the other

under vote bank pressure but perform more meekly than the other under power pressure from the centre. The AAP claiming for its national status and its government in the state was expected to work with a difference, which it has not.

On matters like SYL, it has chosen ambivalence and political suitability, just like other parties. In the race for (dis)credit war, it has rather acted immaturely by engaging in the game of 'pots calling each other black'. Instead of holding an all-party meeting to create a consensus and lead the political class of the state to prepare and present the case, the Chief Minister of Punjab has challenged the opposition parties to a debate. And, as usual, the opposition parties accepted the challenge and then proposed it on flimsy grounds. Some of them made laughable suggestions such as the appointment of judges for the debate, mimicking a youth festival competition.

A debate is required when opposing arguments are possible on a matter. But there are no opposing arguments possible; only the suggestions to address the matter are possible, with no divisive politics of accusations. Any form of debate on the matter is redundant unless the par-

ticipants intend to show each other down, ending in no benefit to the people. Everyone knows the content, intentions, and outcomes of the proposed debate.

Everyone knows the role of the political parties in power in the past; everyone knows their chequered history of accepting the accords under pressure from above (the central government) and rejecting the accords under pressure from below (the vote bank). What the state expects of its political class is to represent its case on river waters collectively to persuade the union government of India, giving all the arguments above, to take a final decision on it, closing the matter forever. The issue of water resources affects the people of Punjab, not the political parties. The sooner the political class comprehends it, the more advantageous it will be. The SYL canal with no water to flow through should no more be used to divide the farmers of Punjab and Haryana and garner votes for the next term.

(The writer is a retired professor from Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar and a Member of the Governing Council, INTACH; views are personal)

Affordable smartphone case provides workaround for inaccessible touch screens

AGENCIES
NEW YORK, OCT 29

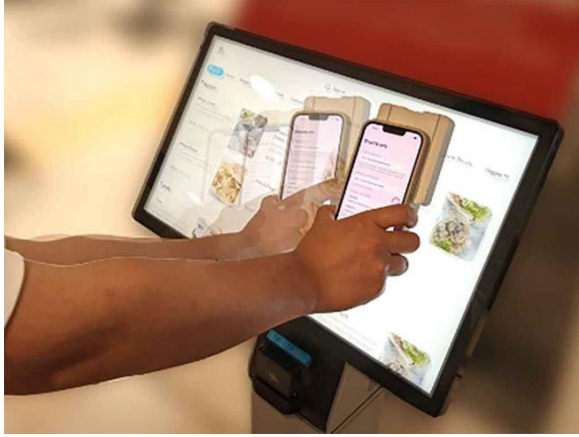
A new smartphone case under \$50 could soon enable people with visual impairments, tremors and spasms to use touch screens independently.

Developed at the University of Michigan in the US, the case named 'BrushLens' could help users perceive, locate and tap buttons and keys on the touch screen menus now ubiquitous in restaurant kiosks, ATM machines and other public terminals.

Users can comb through a touch screen interface by holding a phone connected to BrushLens against a touch screen and dragging the phone across the screen.

The phone sees what's on the screen with its camera then reads the options aloud by harnessing the phone's built-in screen readers.

Users indicate their menu choice through



screen readers or an enlarged, easy-to-tap button in the BrushLens app.

"So many technologies around us require some assumptions about users' abilities, but seemingly intuitive interactions can actually be challenging for people," said Chen Liang, a doctoral student in computer science and engineering.

"People have to be able to operate these inaccessible touch screens in the world. Our goal is to make that technology accessible

to everyone," Liang added.

Liang and Anhong Guo, assistant professor of computer science and engineering developed BrushLens with Alanson Sample, an associate professor in the same department.

When given a target, BrushLens divides the screen into a grid, then guides the user's hand toward the section of the screen containing their menu choice by saying the coordinates of both the target and device.

Once those coordinates

overlap, pushbuttons or autoclickers on the underside of the phone case tap the screen for the user, depending on the model.

"The user doesn't have to precisely locate where the button is and perform the touch gesture," Liang said. Ten study participants, six with visual impairments and four with tremors or spasms, tested the hardware and app. For one participant with cerebral palsy, BrushLens improved their accuracy by nearly 74 per cent.

The inventors of BrushLens recently applied for a patent with the help of Innovation Partnerships, U-M's central hub for research commercialization. The team hopes to bring the product to users as an affordable phone accessory.

"The parts that we used are relatively affordable. Each clicker costs only \$1," Liang said. "The whole device is definitely under \$50, and that's a conservative estimate.

Sunscreen gives 'false sense of security', warn researchers

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, OCT 29

Despite the importance of sunscreen, researchers said that it is also the least effective way to protect your skin when compared to sun-protective clothing and sun avoidance.

According to the study published in the journal *Cancers*, sunscreen use is increasing, but so are melanoma and skin cancer rates, which the researchers say, is the "sunscreen paradox".

"The problem is that people use sunscreen as a 'permission slip' to tan. People think they are protected from skin cancer because they are using a product marketed to prevent a condition," said Dr Ivan Litvinov, associate Professor at McGill University, Canada.

Most people don't apply enough sunscreen or stay in the sun for hours after applying sunscreen in the morning, which gives them a "false sense of security", he added.

To understand the factors between varying incidence rates of melanoma,



the researchers conducted two studies.

In the first study, they found that Canadians living in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island -- provinces with high melanoma incidence rates -- were more likely to report using sun protection, more aware of the health risks of sun exposure, and more apt to follow the UV index.

Despite this, they also received more sun exposure due to warmer temperatures and a tendency to engage in outdoor activities.

Similarly, in the second study of the UK Biobank, the researchers documented that sunscreen

use was surprisingly associated with a more than two-fold risk of developing skin cancer.

"These combined findings suggest a sunscreen paradox, whereby individuals with higher levels of sun exposure also tend to use more but not an adequate quantity of sunscreen or other sun-protection measures, providing a false sense of security," Litvinov said.

Interventions to address knowledge and practice gaps in sun protection and skin cancer prevention must consider this sunscreen paradox and the unique norms of communities around the world, he added.

'50% people stroke survivors develop memory loss, dementia'

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, OCT 29

More than 50 per cent of stroke survivors go on to develop cognitive issues like mild memory loss, attention issues and dementia, said doctors on Saturday ahead of World Stroke Day, stressing the importance of early treatment.

World Stroke Day is observed on October 29 to underscore the serious nature and high rates of stroke, raise awareness of the prevention and treatment of the condition, and ensure better care and support for survivors.

Timing of treatment is crucial for stroke and it should be treated fast to preserve brain function and reduce the risk of future cognitive impairment, the doctors said.

"Over half of people who survive a stroke go on to develop cognitive impairment, ranging from mild memory and attention issues to dementia. Some stroke survivors with cognitive impairment recover fully within a year. So while treatment of stroke time is very important and it should be treated fast to preserve brain function and reduce the risk of future cognitive impairment," Dr. Praveen Gupta, Principal Director of Department of Neurology at Fortis Memorial Research Institute, said.

"Early screening and monitoring can help identify people experiencing cognitive decline after stroke so the progression can be slowed and, in some cases, stopped," he added.

Cognitive impairment may be underreported in stroke survivors because the person and family may think that memory loss is a normal phenomenon after stroke or may think the symptoms are part of the stroke.

According to the latest scientific statement by the American Stroke Association, one-third of all stroke survivors develop dementia within five years.

Further, up to 60 per cent go on to develop memory and thinking problems within a year.

The statement also noted that about 40 per cent of the survivors of stroke have mild cognitive impairment that does not meet the diagnostic criteria for dementia. Mild or not, the mental difficulties can seriously affect quality of life. Stroke can also cause mental decline leading to behavioural and personality changes, depression, physical disability and disruption in sleep, the doctors said.

"Stroke is one of the preventable major causes of dementia as a large number of patients who get stroke later also develop dementia which is then irreversible. So treatment and prevention of stroke is of utmost importance," Dr. Prof Vinay Goyal Chairman Neurology Medanta, Gurugram said.

Knowing the signs of a stroke may help seek quick medical attention. Early cognitive therapy and addressing stroke risk factors may be key in improving outcomes.

"Cognitive therapy should be a necessary adjunct to physical therapy during recovery. Like physical exercise, mental exercise is essential for patients to make a complete recovery. Stroke cases can be reduced or even stopped by addressing risk factors of stroke such as blood pressure and diabetic control, weight loss, and exercise," Dr. Gupta said.

Long Covid most prevalent in patients with severe SARS-CoV-2 infection

AGENCIES
LONDON, OCT 29

Long Covid affected majorly people who had a severe Covid-19 infection, finds a study.

The study, published in *The Lancet Regional Health - Europe*, found that patients who had been bedridden for at least seven days during the SARS-CoV-2 infection had the highest prevalence of severe physical symptom burden, over double that of those not diagnosed with Covid-19.

They also had the most persistent symptoms for up to two years after diagnosis.

The prevalence of chronic symptoms such as shortness of breath, chest pain, dizziness, headaches, and low energy/fatigue, was 37 per cent higher in those who had had a Covid-19 diagnosis than in those who had not.

However, no elevated prevalence of long Covid was found in people who had never been bedridden



with the SARS-CoV-2 infection.

"Long Covid has grown into a major public health problem since a large proportion of the global population has been infected," says Emily Joyce, doctoral student at the Institute of Environmental Medicine, Karolinska Institutet in Sweden.

"Our results show the long-term health consequences of the pandemic and highlight the importance of monitoring physical symptoms for up to two years after diagnosis, especially in people who experienced severe Covid-19," Joyce added.

In the study, researchers examined the prevalence of persistent physi-

cal symptoms in people with different degrees of Covid severity and compared them with people who had not had a confirmed Covid-19 diagnosis.

The study comprised 64,880 adults from Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Iceland with self-reported physical symptoms between April 2020 and August 2022.

Over 22,000 of the participants were diagnosed with Covid-19 during the period, almost 10 per cent of whom were bedridden for at least seven days.

"We'll continue to assess the long-term health impact of the Covid-19 pandemic in this project," said Qing Shen, affiliated researcher at the Institute of Environmental Medicine and the Department of Medical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Karolinska.

Google scientists use noise-canceling headphones to measure heart rate

AGENCIES
SAN FRANCISCO, OCT 29

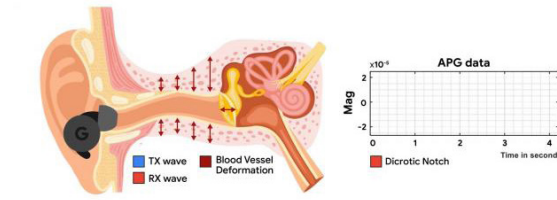
Google scientists have successfully used audioplethysmography (APG), that utilises ultrasound to measure heart rate, for cardiac monitoring with wearable devices without adding extra sensors or compromising battery life.

The team conducted two rounds of user experience studies with 153 participants.

The results demonstrate that APG achieves consistently accurate heart rate (3.21 per cent median error across participants in all activity scenarios) and heart rate variability (2.70 per cent median error in inter-beat interval) measurements.

People frequently wear headphones and earbuds not just for music listening, but also for exercising, focusing, or simply mood adjustment.

"We have introduced a novel active in-ear health sensing modality. APG



enables ANC hearables to monitor a user's physiological signals, such as heart rate and heart rate variability, without adding extra sensors or compromising battery life," Google researchers said in a blog post.

APG adheres to safety regulations with an 80 dB margin below the limit, remains unaffected by seal conditions, and is inclusive of all skin tones.

The signal quality of passive listening in the ear canal heavily relies on the earbud seal conditions.

It is challenging to embed health features that rely on the passive listening of low frequency signals on commercial ANC

headphones.

"APG bypasses the aforementioned ANC headphone hardware constraints by sending a low intensity ultrasound probing signal through an ANC headphone's speakers," said Xiaoran "Van" Fan, Experimental Scientist and Trausti Thormundsson, Director, Google.

This signal triggers echoes, which are received via on-board feedback microphones. We observe that the tiny ear canal skin displacement and heart-beat vibrations modulate these ultrasound echoes.

"The final APG waveform looks strikingly similar to a photoplethysmograms (PPG) waveform,

but provides an improved view of cardiac activities with more pronounced diastolic notches (pressure waveforms that provide rich insights about the central artery system, such as blood pressure)," they explained.

During their initial experiments, they observed that APG works robustly with bad earbuds seals and with music playing.

"However, we noticed the APG signal can sometimes be very noisy and could be heavily disturbed by body motion. At that point, we determined that in order to make APG useful, we had to make it more robust to compete with more than 80 years of PPG development," said the team.

APG transforms any TWS ANC headphones into smart sensing headphones with a simple software upgrade, and works robustly across various user activities, the researchers added.

70-hr work per week: Docs point out risk of heart attack, stress, autistic kids

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, OCT 29

Amid Infosys founder Narayana Murthy's advice to youngsters in India, urging them to work 70 hours a week, several doctors across the country informed that it may raise the risk of heart attack, stress, anxiety, back pain among others.

During a podcast, Murthy had said that if India wants to compete with developed economies that have made remarkable progress in recent decades, youngsters should work for 70 hours a week.

Dr. Deepak Krishnamurthy, a Bengaluru-based cardiologist broke down the amount of time spent by an average professional dividing the day between work and other commitments.

"24 hours per day (as far as I know). If you work 6 days a week-12-hour per day, remaining 12-hour - 8 hours sleep, 4 hours

remain. In a city like Bengaluru 2 hours on road, 2 hours remain - Brush, poop, bathe, eat," Krishnamurthy posted on X (formerly Twitter).

He said this will leave "no time to socialise, no time to talk to family, no time to exercise, no time for recreation, not to mention companies expect people to answer emails and calls after work hours also.

"Then wonder why young people are getting #Heartattacks?!"

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), long working hours beyond 55 per week result in 35 per cent higher risk of stroke and 17 per cent higher risk of heart disease, compared to working 35-40 hours a week.

The WHO and the International Labour Organization, in a paper published in *Environment International* in 2021, showed that long working hours led to 745, 000 deaths from



stroke and ischemic heart disease in 2016, a 29 per cent increase since 2000.

"70-hour workweek cannot be a norm or

even a recommendation," wrote Dr Ambrish Mithal, Chairman, Endocrinology and Diabetes, Max Health-Care, on X.

While, "mandatory or expected work hours would be approx. 48-hour per week," he said that to achieve success many

people in their youth have spent 70 hours per week. However, he said "it cannot be made mandatory".

Dr. Maninee, a paediatrician, said, long working hours can cause tensions in the family and lead to autism in children.

"It is because of toxic work culture and extended working hours, families are suffering. No wonder why we are seeing so many autistic kids these days because parents are not able to find time to interact with their kids," Dr. Maninee posted on X.

"Say no to 70 hours a week".

Another doctor, Dr Sidharth Unnithan, a sports medicine physician, calls 70 hours work per week "ridiculous".

"It means 5 days, almost 12 hours per day that means from 9 to 9. Well my wife who is a psychiatrist will have a field day with increasing cases of anxiety, stress and me with back pain, tennis

elbow".

Some doctors also said that working long hours should not be forced, rather must be free-will. "You can work 70 hours a week, if you work for yourself. The hustle will eventually pay off. You get to keep the fruits of your labour. You get wealthy. What is dumb is to work 70 hours for someone else's next billion, in a soul crushing job. Especially if the pay is peanuts," said Karthik Balachandran, #Endocrinologist at SRMC, Chennai.

Avoiding winter heart attacks and Winter Cardiovascular Diseases Phenomenon- Need to create awareness: Dr Sushil

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

In view of recent climate change and upcoming winter season Head Department of Cardiology GMCH Jammu Dr Sushil Sharma in collaboration with Amarujala held a day long cardiac awareness cum health Check up camp at Panchayat Gho Brahmana Block Ramgarh, Samba with main focus on the ways to reduce the impact of winter season on cardiac ailments and decrease the morbidity and mortality.

While interacting with the people Dr Sushil stated that Cardiovascular diseases is the number one cause of death worldwide. Seasonal variation in morbidity and mortality due to CVDs has been noted in both the northern and southern hemispheres, with higher incidence rates during the winter than in the summer. This variation linked with multiple risk factors, such as temperature, physical activity, air pollution, infections, and food habits. Another potentially important seasonal risk factors such as seasonal variation in the plasma level of fibrinogen, cholesterol, Hormones and vasoactive substance including vasopressin (AVP), norepinephrine (NE), epinephrine (E) and



angiotensin II, aldosterone and catecholamine which tends to rise in the winter is suggested to play an important role in the seasonal change of CVDs. However, the influence of these factors on the onset and course of cardiovascular events is not well understood. Several mechanisms have been suggested to explain this association. He elaborated that the seasonal variability of CVDs is quite clearly demonstrated by the epidemiological data; showing mostly a peak in winter months. The exact cause of CVDs seasonality is not known clearly. However, many theories have been given to explain the possible reasons underlying the development of a disease in winter more than other time in year. People should be informed of the increased risk of cardiovascular disease during the cold seasons, and educat-

ed about the importance of regular physical activity and dressing warmly in winter. Furthermore, people should be motivated to maintain health dietary habits including a nutrient rich in vitamin D and low fat intake.

He stressed that People who are at a high risk of a heart attack in winter are Those with a prior history of heart problems, Those who have had a heart attack previously, Those with high blood pressure and high cholesterol, Smokers and heavy drinkers and people with sedentary lifestyle. He advised people to Manage Heart Attack in the Cold Weather and give some tips like If you go outside, limit the time you spend out in the cold weather, dress warmly, in several layers, cover your head and hands, and wear warm socks and shoes. Get a flu shot: Winter also raises

your chances of getting the flu due to low humidity carried on by cold weather and indoor heating. The flu is potentially harmful to anyone with heart disease, He Said .

Prominent members of the area Ram Paul Sharma (Sarpanch), Mukesh Sharma, Parshotam Singh, Shamsheer Singh, Satpal Sharma, Rajni Sharma and Vikas Sharma appreciated the efforts of Dr Sushil and his team for conducting Cardiac Awareness cum health check up camp in their area .

Others who were part of this Camp includes Dr Yaswant Sharma and Dr Dhaneeswar Kapoor . Paramedics and volunteers includes kamal Sharma , Faisal Rashid , Rohit Nayyar, Arun Singh , Rahul Sharma , Paramveer Singh Ji, Jatin Bhasin ,Rajkumar, Ranjeet Singh, Rajinder Singh and Vikas kumar.

Tanveer appointed State Convenor, Jai Sidh Bhalla Co-Coordinator PYC Social Media Cell

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Manu Jain National Head IYC Social Media today appointed colleagues as State Convenor, State Coordinators, State Co-ordinators, State Executive Members of Jammu & Kashmir Youth Congress Social Media. According to order, Tanveer Singh appointed State Convenor. Ram Singh, Waseem Khan, Umar Ayub, Abhinandan Nayyar, Vasseem Tak, Irshad Chaudhary appointed State Coordinators. State Co-ordinators include Kapil Kumar, Waqar Aziz, Darshan Kumar, Sandeep Sharma, Danish Malik, Jai Sidh Bhalla, Aiesha lan, Suhail Nisar, Abdul Hamid.

Tanveer Singh speaking on his appointment said that public opinion is the currency of democracy. Social media platforms are increasingly becoming the primary ground for public



discourse and mobilization of public opinion, a tool where people are able to talk about the issues of day to day life and also of national importance. Social media today is no longer just an innocent space to connect with friends and family. Instead, it has metamorphosed into becoming an influential space for political activity and creating a new political dialogue, added Singh.

Singh further said that communication barriers that did not allow people to interact with the leaders

have reduced significantly because of social media. Politicians are reaching out to their supporters on social media. They are making sure to keep the public in the loop through their engagements and posts on social media. It has increased the ability for ordinary citizens to take part in the political process. Besides this, social media has been actively used for influencing diplomatic relations between India and its friendly countries, added Singh.

State Co-Coordinator

Jai Sidh Bhalla extended his gratitude to Manu Jain National Head IYC Social Media on his appointment and express his commitment to effectively counter false propaganda by BJP against Congress party. He said in today's digital era, social media is highly useful tool to communicate information. In 2014 General elections, social media played a key role in influencing voter's behavior. From 2014 onward, many startups related to the social media came into picture. Due to which various job opportunities got opened for the youth. As people across the globe have increasingly turned to Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and other platforms to get their news and express their opinions, the sphere of social media has become a new public space for discussing - and often arguing bitterly - about political and social issues.

MP Khatana commends PM, HM, LG for promoting public outreach

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Bharatiya Janata Party MP Rajya Sabha (Nominated) Er. Gulam Ali Khatana extended his heartfelt appreciation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for their proactive efforts in promoting public outreach and ensuring the welfare of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a largely attended public meeting at Bathindi here, MP Gulam Ali Khatana lauded the comprehensive and forward-thinking initiatives undertaken by the central government and the local administration. These initiatives, spearheaded by



the dynamic trio of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, are aimed at ensuring that the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir receive the attention and support they need. The public outreach efforts, led by the central and local

authorities, will be instrumental in addressing the concerns and grievances of the residents of Jammu and Kashmir. MP Gulam Ali Khatana noted that these efforts shall foster a sense of inclusivity, transparency, and good governance, ultimately leading to the region's develop-

ment and prosperity. A large number of people also joined BJP on the occasion including Shakil Ahmed, Abdul Latif, Sadiq Ahmed, Mohd Kamal, Mohd Yousaf, Talib Hussain.

MP Khatana said, "It is indeed heartening to witness the unwavering commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha towards the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Their vision and leadership have ushered in a new era of development and opportunity for our region. The ongoing public outreach efforts have created a robust platform for the people to voice their concerns and aspirations,

Don't allow religion in politics, Azad in Ramban

J1 NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN OCT 29

DPAP Chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad on Sunday promised people that his politics would always be based on moral and social values and he would never discriminate among his people on the basis of religion. He said the foundation of DPAP is itself based on same principles since he believes in inclusiveness and equality and only promotes merit. "In my political career I have never been discriminative and helping anyone for being from a particular religion. Because if we practice such tactics it can prove disastrous and insidious," he said while addressing a public meeting at Ramban. Azad said his works are itself advocating for my plurality since districts, colleges, hospitals and other developmental works he did in Jammu and Kashmir are actually benefiting all the human beings and not any particular community. He said if he is elected to power, he will escalate his developmental agenda and ensure all the



left out works are done on priority basis. He said he aims to work for the people of all faiths and social class where no discrimination is practiced and all humanity is benefited. "I will focus on further building hospitals and colleges in those areas which are far away and people are suffering for such facilities. Road networks shall be further expanded and the rural pockets will be connected with cities and towns. This will in turn ensure the economic growth and job opportunities for our people," he said. He said he would never ever play the politics of hatred and invoke religion for votes. "This is not what my ide-

ology stands for. I strictly believe in the politics of merit and work. I will place my report card in front of my people and they will judge me instead of instigating communal flames to secure power," he said. He said without playing communal cards people appreciate developmental and positive politics as reflected in the rally. "Today thousands of people turned to my rally here since they admit and appreciate my developmental projects in the area when I was the Chief Minister of erstwhile J&K state. I assure you all that more such projects will come up and Ramban will be one of the modern districts in the country if I

am given a chance to serve my people again," he said. Among others who were attended the public meeting were G.M.Saroori Vice Chairman, R.S.Chib General Secretary, Jugal Kishore Sharma Provincial President, Ab Majeed Wani Gen Secretary, Salman Nizami Chief Spokesperson, Anita Thakur Gen Secretary, Arun Singh Raju Secretary, Th Dharam Chand Distt President, Riyaz Naz Secretary, Sobat Ali Provincial Gen Secretary ST wing, Shakeel Singh Bhagat ST wing GS, Prabha Salathia Mahila President, Sunita Arora Spokesperson, Ch Farooq Secretary, Dr Asif Khanday, Fayaz Naik, Sheikh Shabir and others.

Massive Participation of Public in Booth Jan Samvad Abhiyan in J&K: Vibodh



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

BJP's Booth Jan Samvad Abhiyan is currently being implemented in full swing in J&K with massive participation of common people which is addressed by young BJP leaders. These remarks were made by J&K BJP General Secretary and former MLC Vibodh Gupta while addressing a meeting of the party leaders and workers of Talab Tillo Mandal at Jammu. He strongly asserted that the UT of J&K has a special place in the heart of PM Modi and with his commendable efforts today peace and prosperity is visible in J&K.

Giving further details about this ambitious initiative of BJP in J&K, Vibodh said that he is thrilled to announce that presently 150 trained youth who have been trained through a Yuva Workshop are actively leading this Abhiyan in different parts

of Jammu & Kashmir. He further added that this Abhiyan is aimed at fostering direct voter engagement with youth and is set to create a remarkable impact on every citizen of the society. The Booth Jan Samvad Abhiyan will empower citizens with information, exchange of ideas and will strengthen the democratic process.

During the meeting the Vibodh also informed that the main focus of the Abhiyan is on various developmental initiatives of the Modi Government after 5 August 2019. The campaign will last till 15 January 2024 and during this campaign BJP aims to bridge the gap between citizens and government and will create a platform for open dialogue on various issues that matter most to the people, Vibodh highlighted.

Concluding his remarks, Vibodh encouraged all the citizens of J&K specially the youth to

actively participate in the Abhiyan and make their voices heard.

In his address Keshav Chopra, Mandal President, said that BJP believes that an engaged and informed electorate is crucial for vibrant and responsive democracy.

The meeting was also addressed by Sanjay Baru, Councillor and he said that through this initiative, the party aims to further its commitment to serving the people and building a better J&K for every section of the society. Prominent among others who were present in the meeting included, Shakti Kendra Parmukh Rakesh Sharma, Booth President Kewal Krishan Sharma, Incharge Ashok Wazir Jatinder Khajuria, K L Sharma, Rani Sharma, Seema Sehgal, Veena Devi, Pooja, Meenu, Satpal, Ratan Sharma, Seema Dutta, D K Kotwal, Mulkh Raj Rana and O P Sharma.

J&K Water Sports Associations felicitate medal winners and flag off the J&K National team for upcoming National Games at Goa



JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, 29 OCT

The players of water sports were felicitated at SKICC for showing excellent performance and bringing medals to UT. Mr Maysir along Mr Aqib, Mr Idrees and Mr Showkat who have played many Nationals and won significant number of medals have once again brought Laurels to J&K by bagging Bronze medal in recently held National Championship at Uttarakhand. After Felicitation ceremony the team leaving for upcoming National Games at Goa was flagged off with highest level of energy and enthusiasm by Water Sports Associations. Besides Mr Shafqat Watali (President JKWSKCA) and Dr Burhan Bazaz (President JKARS), the gather-

ing witnessed many other prominent figures of UT, who showed full support to athletes and prayed for their medal winning performance. On the occasion Dr Burhan Bazaz said that the entire Union Territory is feeling proud of our young water sports athletes and the result is the reflection of hard work put by Players as well as coaches. Dr Bazaz quoted "Ms Bilquis Mir (Director Water Sports J&K and International player) has an identical role as of Lapidarist, who turns the ordinary stones into Gems, Costlier and rarest ones". He further added that Ms Bilquis Mir is playing the vital role for water sports players across India and especially in J&K. Our Association is committed to work in the interest of public and to unmask

the real talent across UT. We are thankful to the LG administration for magnificent support to the Sports community and with all the support from Government and hard work of Athletes, we are very sure that Talent of J&K will represent India at highest competitive level soon. Shafqat Watali expressed his immense satisfaction about the performance of water sports champions of J&K. He credited the players, office bearers of the association and above all the relentless professional guidance and motivation provided by Ms Bilquis Mir, Director water sports J&K. Mr Watali assured the budding water sports champions of the fullest support from the association and wished the Athletes best of luck for upcoming National event.

"Sarkari Daftar Ka Ek Din: Natrang's Theatrical Exploration of Government Office Realities"

Natrang presented 'Sarkari Daftar Ka Ek Din', a play in Hindi in its weekly theatre series, Sunday Theatre today at its Studio Theatre here in Kachi Chawni, Jammu. The play has been written by Laxmikant Vaishnav and was directed by Neeraj Kant. The play portrayed a real life situation of a 'Sarkari Daftar' (Government Office) and highlighted the vices in a very intelligent manner.



The play opens in a Government Office where all the employees are shown to working in their own styles. As they have job security, no one bothers to exercise punctuality; on the contrary, they have their own reasons to modify the rules and regulations as per their personal convenience. The common vices like red-tapeism, nepotism, favouritism, corruption, absenteeism and sycophancy which are generally associated with such offices are prominently shown in the play in a very genuine manner. The office has a peon who listens to none as no one can remove him from his permanent job and moreover no one, even the boss has

courage to say anything to him as he has lot of secrets of theirs and thus exploits them at appropriate times. Everyone in the office has his/her weakness and each one is busy exploiting that just to implement personal agenda. The only person who musters respect from this stubborn peon is an official who is relative of a minister who works fearlessly as being a relative of a Minister, as no one could harm him in any manner. On the top of it, the Head of the Department, who was supposed to maintain integrity and punctuality of the office himself, shirks from his duties and remains absconding from the office to cater to his personal merry making engagements. But to the dismay of all, a vigilance

officer conducts a surprise raid and finds no one in the office without any information and thus orders suspension of all the absconders. But by the time this new situation could establish the faith of good governance, the raid by a vigilance officer turns out to be dream and the fate of working of a Government office continues to be the same.

Natrang young artists who performed in the play included Sunny Mujoo, Vishal Sharma, Abhimanyu Choudhary, Sumit Singh Bandaral, Mehak Chib, Anand Verma and Munish. Lights were operated by Neeraj Kant whereas the music of the play was scored by Kushal Bhat. The show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen

Jammu did not become smart but smart meters are installed: Varinderjeet Singh

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Chairman of National Sikh front S. Varinder Jeet Singh said that the project of Jammu smart City is about to complete but Jammu has not become smart till now. He said that crores of funds came for the project but only B.C road, green belt park and Apsara Road has seen some development. There are 75 wards in the city and the drainage system in streets is very poor. The water is stagnant because of which water keeps standing in the drains and this

amounts to increase in mosquitoes which ultimately results in Dengue and Chikungunia. In government hospitals there are more than 2000 patients with these diseases and even more patients are getting treatment in private hospitals. Yesterday a patient even died of dengue in Jammu in a government hospital. In the neighbouring state of Punjab many people of our state are getting treatment for dengue and chikungunya. Government is claiming that Jammu has become a smart City but internally the condition is worse. He has appealed

to L.G Shri Manoj Sinha to look after this very urgently and improve the condition of these drains and arrange for cleaning of these drains immediately and release funds and see that the funds are properly utilized so that Jammu City becomes smart not only on paper but on ground also. He also said that the government should not only focus on making paintings in the city but should also focus on giving basic facilities to the people. All the elected corporators should focus on giving basic facilities to the people of the city.

DC Jammu flags off PMARK Jammu Duathlon 70.3, for fit - Drugs free Jammu, 200 athletes participate

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

The 4th Edition of PMARK Jammu Duathlon 70.3 event concluded here today.

The Deputy Commissioner Jammu Sachin Kumar Vaishya was the chief guest on the occasion and was accompanied by Harvinder Singh ADC, Jammu, Vinod Kumar SSP Jammu, Ishita IAS, Atul Sharma SDM South, Sushil Khajuria Bishnah Tehsilidar, Vikram Sharma SHO Bishnah and others.

The event was organized by P Mark and Jammu hill sports club.

Addressing media on the occasion DC Jammu said, "Jammu district administration welcome the all athletes as the Jammu Duathlon 70.3 encompassed a gruelling 1.2-mile run, 56-mile bike ride, and a half-marathon 13.1-mile run, drew athletes from diverse backgrounds and skill levels."

As such kind of event helps us to remain fit and moreover its motivate youth to choose the right path by staying away from Drugs, DC Jammu added.

SSP Jammu Vinod Kumar stated, "Events like these play a pivotal role in fostering a healthier society. The emergence of drug-related issues poses a significant threat to our well-being. It is imperative



that individuals promptly share any information related to drugs with the police to address this growing concern."

Organiser Archit Puri, Director of PBI India Pvt Ltd (Brand P Mark), and Chairman CII J&K UT underscored our company's commitment to producing wholesome and pure products. We're passionate about promoting fitness and various physical activities. This event is a testament to our dedication to the cause, as we believe in making a meaningful contribution to the world of fitness.

The key highlighted were Over 200 athletes participated in the event, demonstrating the growing popularity of duath-

lons in India, the participants were met with a challenging yet breathtaking course, which showcased the natural beauty of the Jammu region, the Jammu Duathlon 70.3 attracted top-tier athletes from across the country, leading to intense competition throughout the race, the event garnered strong local support, with communities along the course enthusiastically cheering on participants, creating a vibrant atmosphere.

Jammu Hills Sports Club expressed their satisfaction with the event's success, saying, "We are thrilled to witness the overwhelming response to the PMARK Jammu Duathlon 70.3. The dedi-

cation and passion of the athletes, combined with the support of our partners, made this event an incredible experience for all involved. We look forward to building on this success in the years to come."

Other dignitaries also Participated Anisa nabi JKAS, Shri sukhpal JKAS, Col. Rahul Aggarwal joined the event with other Indian army participants.

Later prizes announced Overall 70.3

- 1) Manav Radha
 - 2) Kuldeep Kumar
 - 3) Sukaran Raj Sharma
- Overall Olympic distance
- 1) Parvaiz Ahmed
 - 2) Aman Gupta
 - 3) Nikhil Dehlan

Amit Kapoor Addresses Safety and Land Allocation Concerns in Response to Pakistani Shelling

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Aam Aadmi Party leader Amit Kapoor meets people affected by Pakistani shelling Marginal people should be given 5 marla plots at safe places, bunkers should be built for security, Jammu, 29 October. Aam Aadmi Party's Jammu province vice president Amit Kapoor met the villagers and took stock of the damage caused by Pakistan's shelling last day. He visited villages Bulle Chak, Triba and Arnia and other areas and took stock of the damage



and met with the villagers. On this occasion, he said that the administration is not serious about the problems faced by the people living in the border areas and their every problem should be solved on priority. On this occa-

sion, the local people said that there can be shelling from Pakistan side at any time and in such a situation, arrangements should be made all the time for people to reach safe places. Apart from this, people said that all the

government health centers in rural areas should have doctors deployed 24 hours a day. After listening to the problems of the people, Amit Kapoor said that their problems will be taken up with the concerned authorities on priority. During this, Amit Kapoor said that the border people should be provided five marla plots at safe places and bunkers should be made in their houses and community places so that they can protect themselves from the Pakistani firing from across the border. Can keep.

IUST to host International Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Intelligent Systems

JINNEWS SERVICE
AWANTIPORA, OCT 29

IUST is set to host the Two-Day International Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Intelligent Systems (ICAIMLIS) from October 30-31, 2023. The inaugural function will be presided over by Shri Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, advisor to the Hon'ble Lt. Governor of J&K, as the chief guest, and Shri Saurabh Bhagat, Commissioner Secretary to the Government, Department of Science and Technology, as the Guest of Honour. Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, Vice Chancellor of IUST, highlighted that the conference will serve as a platform for leading experts, researchers, and practitioners to exchange knowledge in the rapidly evolving fields of AI, ML, and Deep Learning, fostering collaborations and solutions to some of the important societal problems. He said that the impact of AI/ML is all pervasive and its applications have been found to have significant implications in the areas of healthcare and medical image analysis, drug discovery, climate change impact assessment, commerce, agriculture, and natural language processing, etc. and said that training the budding research scholars in these areas will have transformative impact on their lives as well as society in general. He further said that IUST has already taken strides in this direction by establishing a Center for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for research and to impart training to the students.

BJP leaders along with public listens 106th Episode of Mann Ki Baat Program at Public Park in Jammu

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Braham Jyot Satti (Senior leader and Incharge BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir) along with BJP leaders and prominent Citizens listened 106th edition of "Mann Ki Baat" by PM Narendra Modi at Public Park in Jammu.



Vicky Pandey (Mandal President OBC), Ajay mehra Mandal (Vice President OBC), Ram saran Sharma, ninder Kumar, Vijay Kumar, pratham and prominent citizens were present on the occasion. Program was organised by BJP workers.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday addressed the nation through the 106th edition of his monthly radio programme 'Man Ki Baat'. The Prime Minister greeted the nation for the festive season. He asked the citizens to buy local products whenever they travel to any place in the country. The PM urged citizens to go for local products during the festive season to support local artisans. He asked people to con-

tinue investing in 'Make In India' products even after the festival season.

PM Modi also announced that on October 31, the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, a "very big" nationwide platform will be launched. He said that a platform, 'MY Bharat: Mera Yuva Bharat' will be unveiled as an opportunity for Indian youths to flourish.

The PM wished the Asian Games winners for bagging a record number of medals in the athletic event in China and also applauded the Para Asian Games winners.

"In this festive season, sports activities are scaling

new heights in the country. After Asian Games, India has created history by winning 111 medals in Para Asian Games," he said.

Talking about Tribal Pride Day, to be observed on Nov 15, he said, "The entire country will celebrate Tribal Pride Day on 15th November. This special day is associated with the birth anniversary of Lord Birsa Munda. Lord Birsa Munda resides in the hearts of all of us. We can learn from his life what true courage is and what it means to stand firm on one's determination."

Braham Jyot Satti explained the summary of the whole episode to

the public and said India is growing too fast under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He said India is blessed to have PM like Narendra Modi who works for every segment of society and he is only PM who remembers the valour and martyrdom of our forces.

He said with the help of various employment schemes we are experiencing a huge growth in the number of entrepreneurs in the state we are highly appreciable.

He said Nation First is the ideology of BJP and every BJP worker is working on ground level and serving humanity.

AAP- Jammu de-cries step mother treatment with Chenab Region in general & Sub-Division Thathri in Particular

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Kuldeep Kumar Rao, State Organization Building & Manifesto drafting Committee Member AAP-J&K UT, de-cried over step motherly treatment in all walks of life, with the poor public of Chenab Region in general & Sub-Division Thathri in particular, at the hands of successive state & central governments which is spread over an area of around 12500 sq. Kms having a population of over 6 lakhs. It is irony of fact that erstwhile District Doda which has now been bifurcated to Three Districts, has sent several Cabinet Ministers in the state as well as central council of Ministers but sadly the socio, economic, Health system & educational conditions did not change, however changing the conditions of our said leaders & Ministers significantly, he said & added that for example Thathri Sub-Division of District Doda is surrounded by 8 Tehsils namely Tehsil Phagsoo, Bhella, Chiralla, Kahara, Drabshalla, Bonjwah, Mahalla & Thathri and the only medical facility centre called "TRAUMA CENTRE THATHRI" is located at H/Q Thathri which sans the required basic facility



of X-ray, Ultra sound, Pathological tests, gynecological facility etc as a result the poor patients of these 8 Tehsils are either referred to District H.Q Doda or Kishtwar which is a grave injustice with the people of these Tehsils. Mr. Rao further urged upon the Lt. Governor of J&K UT for up gradation of Trauma Centre Thathri immediately without any further delay, by appointing of specialist staff like Children Specialists, Gynecologist & Surgeon etc. Even surgical equipments for operation Theatre are available but the same is not being used due to non availability of Technical staff. In addition there is a dire need of Digital X-Ray, Ultra Sound facilities, proper Laboratory for all tests etc. He further said that similar conditions exists in other parts of rural areas like Paddar Sub-Division, Tehsil Nag-seni, Tehsil Marwah-Warwan & Chhatru etc. Rao further pointed

out that three Mega Hydel Projects namely Salal, Bagliar & Dul-Husti over river Chenab, generate over 3000MWs of power, which fetches around Rs 8 crores per hour but the bias, neglect & step motherly treatment of successive state & central governments is that whole area of Chenab Valley remains plunged to darkness like ancient days, the release said and added that there is urgent need to prepare a BLUE PRINT for the all round development of the area. Enough is enough so far it pertains to JUMLA BAZI and the need of the hour is to see what percolate to the ground. The release cautioned the people to see that Delhi government does not generate a single unit of power indigenously but provide power to public free of cost up to 200 units. This speaks volumes about the sincerity of the government in respect of Health, Education & water sectors and urged the masses to emulate the foot prints of Delhites for revolutionize & galvanize the conditions of poor public. He further said that NC & Congress have ruled the state for about 67 years is squarely responsible for all evils, neglect, under development, corruption, nepo-

tism & discrimination with Jammu & Ladhak regions in general & the rural areas of Kashmir Division in particular & they are primarily answerable not exploiting huge potential of Hydro-electric projects, huge mineral wealth like world famous sapphire, gypsum, ruthless cutting & wasting forest wealth, huge scenic spots in the entire Chenab Region ignored particularly after "NOORI" film success & same is the case of Pir Panjal area & the rural areas of Kashmir Division as well as the remaining Jammu Division & they (NC & Congress) always remained against decentralization of powers as a result far off hilly & remote area of the entire J&K state remained neglected & under development & in 2 year's coalition government of BJP- PDP they also followed the same path. We have to discard all these spent forces in whatever colour they come before the masses, he said & cautioned the masses not to get misled by the Pseudo-Development, Pseudo-Secularism & Pseudo-Nationalism of Congress, BJP & newly floated Political Parties by Ex. PDP & Congress leaders & also blame game of all these tested Political Parties & leaders.

Lack of proper health care facilities at NTPHC Lalpora Kupwara

J I NEWS SERVICE
LOLAB, OCT 29

Lamenting present state of affairs accountable for sufferings of people of erstwhile state, JK People's Party Chief Sheeban Ashai lashed out at current regime over shape of healthcare in Kupwara District. Pointing out case of New type Primary health care center Lalpora, Lolab Ashai voiced resentment of residents over lack of facilities at the health care center. He underscored, "Due to lack of facilities people are suffering immensely; health care center is abysmally short staffed, only two doctors cater to a population size of more than thirty thousand people. Hospital is focal health care institution for



more than two dozen villages including Lalpora, Krusan, Dardpora, Gundmacher, Rednag & Hayatpora. An X-Ray plant is available in the hospital but due to vacant post of X-Ray technician people are being deprived of such a facility. Similarly hospital has an ambulance for medical exigencies but remains operational only

during daytime. At night there have been several occasions where locals have been forced to book private cabs to reach Sub District Hospital Sogam or Sub District Hospital Kupwara. Pregnancy care is unavailable due to non-availability of gynecologist and expecting women are compelled to visit far off medical facilities. Further-

more hospital functions without any dental surgeon, even though it has all necessary infrastructure and equipments but due to absence of dental doctor people of entire Lalpora and surrounding two dozens villages are necessitated to visit health care centers far off. Ashai lambasted present LG Manoj Sinha led government over current state of affairs. He sought immediate intervention of Deputy commissioner Kupwara to ensure vacant posts at NTPHC Lalpora are filled at the soonest". Party top brass expressed anguish over continued neglect of Kupwara District and beyond other things demanded a hot line be connected from Krusan receiving station to the hospital.

Free Health Check up, Physiotherapy and Breast Cancer Awareness Camp held at CUJ



J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Central University of Jammu in collaboration with Kanval International Rehabilitation Foundation (KIRF) organised a free health check up and physiotherapy camp for the students of Central University (hostel residents) at Boys and girl hostel at Sainik colony Jammu. A team of doctors from

Government Ayurvedic hospital headed by Dr. Sukhpreet kour provided free consultation and medicines to all the beneficiaries in the camp. Physiotherapy team from KIRF headed by renowned Physiotherapist Dr. Imran Khan gave physiotherapy consultation and sensitized the participants regarding Management of Ergonomical musculoskeletal disorders. Besides medical consultation a special

Breast Cancer Awareness Camp was also organised for girl students of CUJ in association with American Oncology Institute Jammu at girls hostel. Dr. Surbhi Kudiyar (Consultant Surgical Oncologist AOI) held a very informative session regarding identification, prevention and management of breast cancer. An interactive session was also held where Dr. Surbhi cleared the queries raised

by the participants regarding breast cancer. The State organ donation organisation GMC Jammu led by Dr. Irfan Lone, coordinator SOTO Jammu held an interactive session with the students and made them aware about the importance of organ donation for saving precious lives. The camp was coordinated by Dr. Harpreet Singh (Medical Officer CUJ).

Mahila Samanvaya organises first ever Nari Chetna Sangam

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 28

The Women Coordination, Jammu Unit of Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday organized the 'Nari Chetna Sangam' here at the General Zorawar Singh Auditorium, University of Jammu.

The topic of discussion was the role of women in Indian thought and the development of the nation.

Under Nari Chetna Sangam, the women's conference was inaugurated jointly by the chief guest, retired IIS, Bharti Vaid, the main speaker along with renowned educationist and social worker Mamta Yadav and Mahila Samanvay Jammu Kashmir Province convener Amita and other officials by lighting a lamp.

The chief guest, who was a key speaker, was felicitated by the Women's Coordination members.

An exhibition that highlighted the inspiring women of the Union Territory was also organised on the occasion. All India Office bearer of Rashtriya Sevika Samiti, Chanda Tai specially attended the conference.

The forum was moderated by Nidhi Sharma.

Addressing the Nari Shakti Sangam, Bharti Vaid congratulated the women coordination for organising the event and said that this is the first such event in Jammu. "The success of the confer-



ence or Sangam can also be gauged from the fact that a place like General Zorawar Singh Auditorium has been selected for it," she said, adding that women have to recognize their strengths and capabilities and move in the right direction.

She stated that there is a need to bring timely changes in the evil practices, adding, she also explained the characteristics of women from the Vedic period to the modern period in her address and urged women to recite Geeta along with their families.

All India Officer of Rashtriya Sevika Samiti, Chanda Tai, in her brief address said that such conferences are being held across the country. More than 100 conferences have been organized so far. Even in Jammu and Kashmir, the commencement of conferences at the feet of Mata Vaishno Devi itself has an importance.

Educationist and social worker Mamta Yadav in her address congratulated

the women power present in the conference and said that the participation of women is encouraging.

"On the basis of the number, we can say that the women of Jammu and Kashmir are not less or behind anyone," she added.

Mamta Yadav said that in western countries there was a debate for a long time whether a woman has a soul or not. This discrimination led to women's movements, in which equality was demanded. Many distortions occurred in Indian society during the Islamic invasions.

"The practice of Sati, child marriage, night marriage, veil (Pardah) system, female foeticide etc are the results of this, but now times have changed. Women are playing big roles in every field," she narrated.

The excellent performance by Indian women players in various events in the recently concluded Asian Games is proof of this. While discussing the issue of women in Bharati

Chintan, Mamta Yadav mentioned various aspects of life philosophy and also explained the outline of life values and life behavior in detail in the conference.

Mamta Yadav also highlighted the role of such conferences being held across the country.

She said that the objective of these conferences is one. Through these, to increase the participation of women in the development of the society and the country and to spread the Indian vision towards women to the lower levels of the society.

"Mother power will have to be aware of its power, rights and laws related to girls," she said and called upon the women present at the Sangam to contribute to the society and the country in some way every day.

Earlier, Bharti Vaid was honored by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board member and author Dr. Neelam Sarin and key speaker Mamta Yadav was honored by Mamta Singh, President of Nari Shakti Manch.

The exhibition organized on this occasion was also appreciated by the women attending the conference and said that this was the first time when they got such a platform in which they shared their problems and achievements.

Cultural programs were also organized on the occasion.

Singer GurJazz; Actress Hashneen & Chaupal Team visits Aryans

J I NEWS SERVICE
MOHALL, 29TH OCT

Students of Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh displayed their talent in the Talent Hunt programme organized at Aryans campus. The students of Engineering, Pharmacy, Nursing, Law, Management, Education, Paramedical, Physiotherapy etc. spell bound the audience by exhibiting extraordinary talents. Dr Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group presided over the function.

On the occasion, Renowned Punjabi Singer Gurjazz; & Punjabi actress Hashneen along with entre star cast of Hawa visited Aryans. The webseries "Hawa" is the fusion of horror and



comedy, combining the spine-tingling chills of horror with the uproarious laughter of humour by Chaupal. Hawa has been produced and shot in the picturesque landscape of the United Kingdom. Viewers can now watch Hawa on the platform Chaupal. Ajayveer

Singh, head of textbooks at Chaupal, said, "It is the first horror-comedy film of Bollywood released on OTT platform", said Program Head, Chaupal Ajayveer Singh

Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group said that the Group would always welcome such ges-

tures of the students and also encourage the students to organize such events more frequently. He further added that such events are necessary in the professional institutions as they instill confidence and sense of responsibility in the students.

In this Talent Hunt, Rubi Das from BA LLB declared winner in Classical dance, Shehnawaz from Pharmacy announced 1st runner up in Martial Art while Deepa from Nursing Got 3rd position in bollywood dancing. Cultural activities were performed by students including Classical dance, Martial Arts, Skit, Giddha, Solo Song, Solo Dance, Collage making, Painting, Rangoli making etc.

Govt Schools of Jammu Division Organize special mega PTM on APAAR for students

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCTOBER 29

The Government schools falling in Jammu Division organised a mega Parent Teacher Meet (PTM) on Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR) which is a new initiative of Government of India focusing on the creation of Unique ID's of the students.

The teachers/Faculty counsellors sensitised the students' parents about the benefits of this Unique ID and sought the consent of the Parents regarding sharing the details of the students with the Ministry of Education, Government of India for creation of Unique ID. Many parents have given their written



consent for the same and the process of receiving the parental consents has been expedited. Director School Education Jammu, Ashok Sharma in his message said that it will be a

lifelong ID and will reflect detailed information about the student like academic progress, achievements (Olympiad, sports, skill training), scholarship disbursement, transfer

of govt. benefits, holistic report card, skill training and sports activities of the student etc. The students can use their credit score for their higher education and employment purposes in future. It will help in achieving the objective of "One Nation and One student ID". He complemented the efforts of Heads of the institutions and Teachers concerned in making Special PTM a successful drive. He has also complemented the efforts of Counselling cell, DSEJ for organisation of this mega drive.

Monthly PTM has become a regular feature in Govt. schools of Jammu division and it is leading to a paradigm shift in teacher parent relationship.

Bhartiya Shikshan Mandal declares JK & Ladakh Body at CUJ

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

Central University of Jammu in collaboration with Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal organized a seminar on "Bharatiya Values for Transforming Education in Bharat" under the visionary patronage of Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain wherein eminent academicians, thinkers and scholars participated.

Dr. Dilip Kumar, Palak Adhikaari, Uttar Shetra and Professor, IIMC Jammu chaired the inaugural session and Dr. Vibhuti Gaur, Professor, IGNOU and Akhil Bharatiya Mahila Sah Pramukh was the Keynote speaker and Mrs. Chanchal Bhardwaj, Akhil Bharatiya Sankalp Sah Pramukh was the guest of honour.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Vibhuti Gaur shed light on the principles of Indianness and announced the Executive body and highlighted the responsibilities of BSM as an extension of the family, focusing on the responsibility of contributing to the country's educational landscape. The newly elected state Executive Committee of



the Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal was announced as follows: Prof. Sanjeev Jain (Adhyaksh), Prof. Vandana Sharma (Upadhyaksh), Shri Rajinder Charak (Vice President), Shri Vishal Sharma (Mantri), Prof. Bharat Bhushan (Sah-mantri), Dr. Narinder Sharma (Sah-mantri), Prof. Suram Singh (Kosh Pramukh), Inderjeet Singh (Sah-kosh pramukh), Anurag Kumar (Ikai Pramukh, SMVDU), Satish Kumar (Ikai Sah-pramukh, SMVDU), Rajeev Bharat (Anusandhan Prakost Pramukh), Kamlesh Bali (Anusandhan Prakost Sah-pramukh), Dr. Neelika Arora (Shaikshik Prakost Pramukh), Dr. Neerendra Kumar (Shaikshik Prakost, Sah-pramukh), Raminii Gupta (Mahila Prakalp Pramukh), Dr. Vinita Sharma (Mahila Prakalp Sah-pramukh), Sushant

Panda (Shaley Prakalp Pramukh), Dr. Vandana Sharma (Prakashan Pramukh), Dr. S.S. Kotwal (Yuva Aayam Pramukh), Dr. Ketan Bhatt (Yuva Aayam Sah-pramukh), Davinder Manhas (Yuva Aayam Sah-pramukh), Gunjan Sharma (Prachar Pramukh), Amit Sharma (Sampark Pramukh), Sukh Chain Sharma (Sampark Sah-pramukh), Dr. Amit Gangotia (Karyalaya Pramukh) and Pariyas Sharma (Karyalaya Sah-pramukh).

President, BSM, Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh Prof. Sanjeev Jain, expressed his commitment to connect Indian educational methods with its traditions and initiate the organization's work at the grassroots level. The newly elected state secretary, Prof. Vishal Sharma, expressed

his enthusiasm for advancing alongside the executive body with full energy and courage. Dr. Dilip Kumar discussed development within the context of the discussion while sharing his thoughts.

The program was attended by Prof. Yashwant Singh (Registrar, CUJ); Prof. Vinay Kumar and other faculty members of CUJ along with karyakartas from other states of the northern region. Prof. Bharat Bhushan provided an introduction to the Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal. The formal welcome address for the distinguished guests at the program was delivered by Prof. Vandana Sharma, while the vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Amit Gangotia. Dr. Ketan Bhatt conducted the proceedings.

J&K swimming team to participate in National Games today

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 29

The Swimming contingent of Jammu and Kashmir will participate in the 37th National Games being held at Goa from October 30 to November 3. The contingent of Swimming consisted of four members i.e two males and two females, one male and one female swimmer is from Kashmir Division while one male and one female swimmer is from Jammu Division.

The selection is made strictly according to the instruction of the swimming federation of India. The players who are registered with SFI have been



properly allotted a unique identification number after paying fees for the year 2023. The team was pho-

tographed with Jammu Bharat Kumar Sharma along with parents and incharge team Babita Ramandeep Singh Soodan and General Secretary Jamwal who will accompany the team.

Islamic Fraternity Kashmir hosts inspirational "Prophet's Biography Study Competition" in Srinagar

J I NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR

Islamic Fraternity Kashmir proudly organized a distinguished academic event, the "Prophet's Biography Study Competition," which saw widespread participation from students hailing from across the picturesque valley of Kashmir. Approximately a month ago, Islamic Fraternity, known as IF, unveiled their exciting plans via print and social media channels, announcing the upcoming biographical contest. This remarkable competition is centered around the profound work authored by the renowned Maulana Abdul Khaliq Khalil. To entice the young minds, the first-place winner will receive a generous cash prize of 10,000 rupees, with the second-place contender securing a 5,000 rupee cash prize, and the third-place recipient taking home 3,000 rupees in



cash. The remaining top seven participants will receive valuable books and certificates, while all entrants will be awarded certificates of participation. The response was truly heartening, with over 250 school children from diverse corners of the valley eagerly registering for this enlightening competition. A spokesperson for Islamic Fraternity Kashmir expressed the core objective of this initiative, emphasizing their unwavering commitment to acquainting the younger generation with

the life and teachings of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). This endeavor seeks to bring them closer to the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), which is the organization's primary mission. The spokesperson further underscored the critical need for the youth to immerse themselves in the study and comprehension of the Prophet's biography, emphasizing that living in accordance with these teachings holds the key to success, both in this world

and the hereafter. The spokesperson passionately urged parents and educators to inspire their children to explore and cherish the "Sirat e Tayyaba" with great reverence and devotion. Notably, the competition was designed for students from the 5th to the 10th grade, but Islamic Fraternity Kashmir is already gearing up for another competition in the near future, catering to students ranging from the 11th grade to the Ph.D. level. Stay tuned for more educational opportunities! Islamic Fraternity Kashmir is a prominent Islamic organization of Kashmir working in the field of Dawah and Education and dedicated to nurturing a deep understanding of Islamic values and teachings among the youth. Their initiatives aim to empower young minds with knowledge and devotion to the Prophet's biography, fostering a strong connection to their faith.

President S.S. Sodhi's Lauds Aneasha Sharma For Historic Bronze at Asian Shooting Championship

J I NEWS SERVICE
CHANGWON, OCT 29

In an awe-inspiring display of talent and marksmanship, the daughter of the soil, Aneasha Sharma, clinched the prestigious Team Bronze Medal in the Youth Women's Rifle category at the esteemed Asian Shooting Championships held in Changwon, Korea recently.

Emerging as one of the most promising talents in the world of shooting, the 18-year-old Aneasha from Bishnah has created history for Jammu & Kashmir by not only becoming the first female shooter from J&K to earn her place to represent India in the highly anticipated Asian shooting championship but by also securing the coveted team bronze for India in the highly competitive event. Aneasha's historic



achievement signifies a new dawn for shooting sports in the Union Territory. Undoubtedly, the support provided by the Jammu & Kashmir Rifle

Association (JKRA) and its President, Mr. S.S. Sodhi, in facilitating Aneasha's journey, has proved instrumental in her journey to this monumental

achievement.

Aneasha has been a trainee of the Mission Olympics Shooting Academy, Jammu. Her coaches, Mr. Vishal Mehra and Mr. Aman Singh, have done a commendable job in nurturing Aneasha's exceptional talent, leading to her hitting the 'bull's eye'.

Speaking on the occasion, Sh. S.S. Sodhi, President JKRA, said that today, every member of the shooting fraternity across India and the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, and all citizens are proud of Aneasha, whose dedicated effort has brought Jammu and Kashmir a place of pride among the medal winners in Asian Games. The Jammu & Kashmir Rifle Association will always be supportive of such feats achieved by her and all other aspiring shooters of J&K.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, JAL SHAKTI (IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DEPARTMENT)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION, JAMMU.

e-mail : xcnfcjammu@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short e-NIT No. 27 of 2023-24

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

S. No	Name of work	Amount of Work (In lacs)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of completion	Cost of Tender documents (In Rupees)	Class of contractor
1	Construction of protection work of BSF Post at Myan Post on left side and Alpha Machal at confluence of Waddi Tawi and Chander Bhaga by the way of construction of crate revetment studs and allied works	39.02	78040.00	60 days	2500.00	A & B
2	Construction of Out-Let Drain of Surinsar lake for the protection of agriculture land houses and protection to houses at surinsar in nagrota block.	23.95	47900.00	60 days	2000.00	A,B&C
3	Protection to Dug Well and strengthening of right side protection of sardannallah near Check-Dam in Sardan Nallah	23.99	47980.00	60 days	2000.00	A,B&C
4	Construction of protection work for the protection of Army Brigade Headquarter Miran Sahib, Jammu.	37.35	74700.00	60 days	2500.00	A & B

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

Important Dates

- i) Date of Publishing of Tender Notice : **21-10-2023 (04:00Pm)**
- ii) Date of downloading Tender documents start : **21-10-2023 (04:00 Pm)**
- iii) Bid submission start date : **21-10-2023 (04:00Pm)**
- iv) Bid submission end date : **31-10-2023 (04:00 pm)**
- v) Date and time of Bid opening : **01-11-2023 (12:30 PM)**

1. The complete bidding process will be online.
2. The tenders shall be received on-line on or before **31-10-2023 upto 4:00 PM**. The Bids will be opened online on the same website www.jktenders.gov.in at above mentioned time and date at the office of the Executive Engineer Flood Control Division Jammu on **01-11-2023** or any other date convenient to the tender opening authority.
3. **Bids must be accompanied by bid cost of documents as mentioned in the above table in the form as specified in the bidding documents. The Cost of Tender should be paid through Challan simply remitting into Treasury under MH: 0702 and uploading treasury Challan receipt along with Tender shall be pledged to Executive Engineer Flood Control Division Jammu payable at Jammu. (Note:- The fee on account of downloaded bidding documents shall be acceptable in form of Treasury Challan under MH: 0702. Further, bidders are requested to mention name of the work/ NIT No. on the particular Challan. The Treasury Challan before date of publishing of e-NIT shall not be accepted).**
4. The bids of the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids and the tender shall be applicable for the financial year 2023-24.
5. Quantities of work may increase or decrease. The contractor will have to execute the work as per site conditions / specifications as per the directions of the site Engineer. Any item not covered in the BOQ shall be paid as per **SSR 2022** according to his quoted rates i.e. overall appreciation/ depreciation for the said work.

No: **FCD/J/4118-29**
Dated: **21.10.2023**

DIP/J-10285/23
Date: **29-10-23**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Flood Control Division
Jammu

Women's Asian Champions Trophy India defeat Malaysia 5-0 in second match

AGENCIES
RANCHI, OCT 28

The Indian women's hockey team registered their second consecutive victory - a 5-0 victory in the Jharkhand Women's Asian Champions Trophy in Ranchi on Saturday.

In a high-scoring encounter on Saturday, India defeated Malaysia 5-0 in their second game of the tournament. Vandana Katariya (7', 21'), Sangita Kumari (28'), Lalremsiami (28'), and Jyoti (38') were the goalscorers for India.

India began proceedings with intensity, deploying a high press and searching for a breakthrough from the very first minute, while India's resilient defense made circle penetration a challenging task for Malaysia.

Following back-to-back penalty corners, India found their first goal after Ishita's injection led to a goal from Vandana Katariya (7'). With a few minutes left in the first quarter, India was awarded yet another penalty corner, but Deep Grace Ekka's dragflick was denied by a brilliant save from Malaysian goalkeeper Nur Zainal.

The second quarter began with an early opportunity for India but Vandana Katariya's tomahawk was saved by Nur Zainal. India earned a penalty corner and this time Ishita's injection was received by Jyoti before a



deft touch from forward Vandana Katariya (21') registered India's second goal of the night to make it 2-0. In the 27th minute, a promising move by India led Lalremsiami to find Sangita Kumari deep in the circle. A smart finish from Sangita (28') ensured that India's lead was extended to 3-0. Less than a minute later, Salima Tete broke away on the right flank to find Lalremsiami (28'), who expertly deviated the incisive pass into the back of the net for India's fourth goal.

As the third quarter commenced with India dominating possession, Malaysia tried to penetrate the circle from the right flank, but their efforts were rendered futile by the Indian defenders. The first chance of the quarter fell to Navneet Kaur who took a powerful strike that was only inches away from goal. India's fifth goal was a product of brilliant link-up play, after a series of short passes, Vandana

Katariya found Jyoti's (38') nimble stickwork in the circle, to secure a well-deserved goal.

As the final quarter of the match unfolded, the scoreline remained unchanged. While India's defense was largely untested, the forward continued to look for opportunities. Navneet Kaur took another powerful shot at goal but she missed her target by a small margin. In the 47th minute, Lalremsiami earned a penalty corner for India, however, Nur Zain pulled off another spectacular save to resist Deep Grace Ekka's shot. With less than ten minutes to go, India was awarded two consecutive penalty corners, but the Indian offence was unable to score another goal. At the full-time mark, India completed a comprehensive 5-0 victory, exhibiting their offensive prowess.

India will next take on China in their third encounter of the tournament on October 30.

'Our hearts are set on bringing the trophies back to India,' says Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team Coach C R Kumar

AGENCIES
BENGALURU, OCT 29

Indian junior men's team coach C R Kumar spoke about their preparations for the ongoing Sultan Of Johor Cup as well as the upcoming FIH Men's Junior World Cup 2023.

The team is currently in Johor Bahru, giving their best at the 11th Sultan of Johor Cup 2023, which started on Oct 27th and ends on 4th Nov 4th.

India have been placed in Pool B along with Malaysia, Pakistan, and New Zealand, while Pool A comprises Germany, Australia, South Africa, and Great Britain.

"These players are very fortunate that we stay with the Senior Men's Team in SAI Bangalore. We have been getting opportunities to play friendly matches with them and so the boys have firsthand knowledge of the demands required to play at the highest level. The difference between the European teams and the Asian teams is that they employ tactical hockey and physicality,



which we often experience with the Senior Men's Team as well, and that prepares our mindset for the international standards. We know how to deal with that now and the players have fine-tuned their minds," Kumar shed light on the preparations.

India are in a perfect position to defend their title as they come into the tournament after winning the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023. They also performed admirably in the 4 Nations Tournament U21 Men in

Germany recently.

Speaking on the growth of the team, Kumar said: "Developing the junior team is always a long process, the target is the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2023 and the number of competitions worldwide that we can participate in are very few. So, we took it very seriously right from the beginning. We should perform well at the 11th Sultan of Johor Cup 2023 and that will take us towards the FIH Hockey Men's Junior

World Cup 2023 in high spirits. This is our target, and everybody is working with the same intention, and the unwavering focus every single day has made us a formidable side."

The squad that has travelled to Malaysia under the tutelage of Kumar, is led by captain Uttam Singh and vice captain Rajinder Singh. When quizzed about the exclusion of a few players that featured in the last edition, he said: "We have a strong and experienced side that will

feature in the 11th Sultan of Johor Cup 2023. The reason why we are leaving some players behind is that the World Cup is just 45 days away from today and peaking twice in a short period is very difficult, so we are leaving some of our experienced players behind. All the other players are in good shape, and we have a formidable squad that will take to the pitch in Malaysia." India registered a thrilling draw in the opening game against Pakistan and recorded a 3-1 victory against hosts Malaysia on Saturday in the ongoing tournament

"We are definitely working on winning the Gold at the 11th Sultan of Johor Cup 2023 and the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2023 trophy. We will also get to see what the other teams who will challenge us in the upcoming Junior World Cup and without giving too many of our own secrets, we would like to test a few combinations here. Our hearts are set on bringing the trophies back to India," Kumar asserted.

Indian team wearing black armbands as a mark of respect for Bishan Singh Bedi

AGENCIES
LUCKNOW, OCT 29

In their 2023 Men's ODI World Cup match against England at the BRSABV Ekana Cricket Stadium, the Indian team will be seen wearing black armbands as a mark of respect for legendary left-arm spinner Bishan Singh Bedi.

"#TeamIndia will be wearing Black Armbands in memory of the legendary Bishan Singh Bedi before the start of play against England in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023," said the BCCI on X (formerly Twitter).

Previously, players from both Australia and Netherlands observed a minute's silence in his memory ahead of their World Cup match at the Arun Jaitley Stadium last Wednesday, a venue which has a stand named after Bedi. Bedi, a member of the famous spin quartet alongside BS Chandrashekar, Erapalli Prasanna and S Venkataraghavan, passed away last Monday at the age of 77. Bedi played 67 Tests for India between 1967 and 1979, taking 266 wickets at an average of 28.71, apart from making 656 runs with the bat. He also took seven wickets in 10 ODI matches, apart from captaining India in 22 Tests - with its most memorable wins coming in Melbourne and Sydney Tests in 1977-78 tour of Australia. Born in Amritsar, Punjab, Bedi



began his first-class career with Northern Punjab, before moving to Delhi in 1968-69 season.

Bedi also led Delhi to winning the prestigious Ranji Trophy titles in 1978-79 and 1979-80, apart from two runners-up finishes. He also had a successful stint for Northamptonshire in county cricket in England. In 102 outings for the club between 1972 and 1977, Bedi bagged 434 wickets, the most by an Indian in English County cricket circuit, while averaging 20.89.

His left-arm spin bowling was known for the mastery he had of flight, loop and spin, along with using subtle variations to outwit batters at the crease, with tiny adjustments made in his superior arm speed release points.

Post his playing career, Bedi turned to coaching young cricketers, with Maninder Singh and Murali Kartik being his students to have played for India. He also coached Punjab, Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir teams in domestic cricket, with Punjab winning Ranji Trophy in 1992-93.

He was the manager of the Indian team briefly in 1990. He was also an outspoken, unfazed and fearless voice on all matters related to the sport, calling a spade a spade. He was conferred with Arjuna Award in 1969, the Padma Shri honour in 1970 and the C. K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004.

Former England World Cup-winning captain Eoin Morgan has raised concerns over Joss Buttler's morale and confidence ahead of Sunday's ICC Men's ODI World Cup match against hosts India, saying "there's something within the team that is definitely unsettled."

The defending champions were thrashed by nine wickets in their tournament opener against New Zealand, beat Bangladesh in their second match but have since been shocked by Afghanistan and hammered by a record margin by South Africa followed by a disappointing loss to Sri Lanka in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup which all but ends the team's title defence, as they struggling at the bottom of the standings with just one win in five outings.

"I've never come across a sports team that has underperformed like this England team, given the level of expectation that is on their shoulders. There's something within the team that is definitely unsettled," Morgan said on Sky Sports ahead of India clash.

"The method which they're trying to use and given the substantial nature in which they've lost the game(s). It is definitely called into question, the morale within the changing room and the confidence. It must be at its lowest that it's been for a considerable period of time now," he further said.

Morgan feels that England are as good as other team in the tournament but their performance has been par below. "When you look at the strength in depth, particularly with the bat, England are as good on paper as any other side in this tournament, but they haven't yet fired.

'Something within England team is definitely unsettled': Eoin Morgan



AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, OCT 29

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Men's ODI WC: 2019 final was first thing I thought of...', says Neesham on his run-out in NZ's narrow loss to Aus



AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, OCT 29

New Zealand all-rounder James Neesham was reminded of his ODI World Cup 2019 final experience after his team fell short of five runs in a chase that could have been monumental against Australia on Saturday.

Neesham's superb 58 off 39 balls almost propelled New Zealand to a remarkable comeback. However, a crucial run-out, when he was desperate second, ended his innings on the penultimate ball. With six needed off the final delivery, Mitchell Starc held his nerve, denying Lockie Ferguson as New Zealand finished at 383/9 in reply to Australia's 388/10.

In the 2019 World Cup, Martin Guppitt attempted a second run in a similar to secure the win but was run-out in a similar fashion, resulting in a tied game. Neesham was at the non-striker's end back

then. Eventually, Australia won the final on the basis of a boundary comeback.

"Actually, that (2019 final) was the first thing I thought of when I was coming off, that it's going to look very, very similar. I mean that's the nature, isn't it? You want to be desperate in those situations, and you'd much rather get run out on your stomach than on your feet," Neesham was quoted as saying to ESPNcricinfo.

Back in Manchester four years ago, Neesham found himself on the opposing side of a nail-biting finish against West Indies. In that game, he delivered a fantastic 49th over, successfully containing the powerful Carlos Brathwaite and ultimately assisting New Zealand in securing a victory, also by a margin of five runs.

Reflecting on that memorable night when he thwarted Brathwaite, and asked about whether the recent game was hard to

come to terms with, Neesham jokingly said: "Well, I'm not 6'6" and bowling 145, so it's probably more impressive when I get out of it."

"You worked for six and a half hours during the day, and it comes down to potentially two deliveries. And four years ago, we worked for two months, and it came down to one delivery.

"It's just the nature of the game. Obviously, I'm probably closer towards the back-end of my career than I am to the front. So yeah, it doesn't pay to stress too much on the results. I think everyone wants to win and everyone's desperate to win, especially in world tournaments, but that can't dictate how you want to play the game," Neesham added. New Zealand's next take on South Africa on Wednesday at the Maharashtra Cricket Association (MCA) Stadium in Pune.

Men's ODI WC: Sri Lanka quick Lahiru Kumara ruled out; Dushmantha Chameera approved as replacement

AGENCIES
PUNE, OCT 29

Sri Lanka's bid to secure a spot in the semifinals of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup has encountered a setback as their in-form fast bowler, Lahiru Kumara, has been sidelined for the remainder of the tournament due to a left thigh muscle injury.

Kumara hurt his left thigh during training in Pune

ahead of Sri Lanka's crucial clash against Afghanistan here at MCA International Stadium on Monday and has been replaced in the squad by fellow pacer Dushmantha Chameera.

Chameera's inclusion was approved by the Event Technical Committee on Sunday. "The Event Technical Committee of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 has approved Dushmantha Cha-

meera as a replacement for Lahiru Kumara in the Sri Lanka squad," the ICC said in a release.

Although Chameera, who has played 44 ODIs, boasts extensive experience with over 100 appearances for Sri Lanka, Kumara's absence will be noticeable, particularly as he played a significant role in their surprising triumph over England in Bengaluru last Thursday, where he was

adjudged 'Player of the Match' for his 3-35, helping Sri Lanka win by 8 wickets.

Kumara's injury marks the third injury setback for Sri Lanka, with skipper Dasun Shanaka (quad) and Matheesha Pathirana (shoulder) already sidelined due to their respective injuries.

Sri Lanka currently have two wins from five matches the World Cup and sit in fifth place on the standings with

four group matches remaining.

Sri Lanka squad: Kusal Mendis (c), Kusal Perera, Pathum Nissanka, Dushmantha Chameera, Dimuth Karunaratne, Sadeera Samarawickrama, Charith Asalanka, Dhananjaya de Silva, Maheesh Theekshana, Duniwell, Angelo Mathews, Dilshan Madushanka, Dushan Hemantha, Chamika Karunaratne.