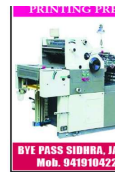




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Government call special session of parliament between September 18 & 22
AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, AUG 31

The Government has convened a special session of Parliament for five days between September 18 and 22, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said on Thursday.

There was no official word on the agenda of the session which will be held days after the
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

World Sanskrit Day | PM Modi asks people to share one sanskrit sentence on X
AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, AUG 31

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted people on the occasion of World Sanskrit Day on Thursday and urged them to share a sentence in the ancient language to celebrate its greatness.

"Greetings on World Sanskrit Day. I laud
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Polls in J&K can be held at any time, restoration of statehood will take some time: Centre to SC

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, AUG 31

The Centre on Thursday told the Supreme Court that elections can be held in Jammu and Kashmir "anytime from now" with most of the work on the voters' list over, and the decision on specific dates depends on the Election Commission.

Addressing a five-judge bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta also said Jammu and Kashmir's union territory status is "a temporary thing" and restoration of complete statehood will "take some time".

Mehta told the bench, also comprising Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Sanjiv Khanna, BR Gavai and Surya Kant, that elections in Jammu and Kashmir will be held in three stages



first panchayat, second municipal polls and third legislative assembly polls. "The Central government is ready to hold elections anytime from now... It is for the Election Commission of India and Election Commission of State to take the call on which election will take place first and how. The updating process of the voters' list is almost complete and will be completely over in a month," he said.

Discussing the issue of statehood, Mehta said he had already made a statement and that apart was the statement of Home Minister Amit Shah on the floor of Parliament that "UT is a temporary thing in JK".

"We are dealing with an extremely extraordinary situation," Mehta said. "The exact time frame for restoration of complete statehood in JK cannot be given at the moment. It might take some time. Various steps

are being taken to restore the status of the state in Jammu and Kashmir."

"Terror-related incidents, he said, had gone down by 45.2 per cent when compared to 2018. Infiltration, which was one of the biggest concerns in the erstwhile state, is down by 90.2 per cent, Mehta added.

Citing more data, he said, "Incidents of stone pelting and hartals which were 1,767 in 2018 are now nil. Casualty of security personnel has gone down by 60.9 per cent, organised bands, which were coordinated by secessionist groups, have gone down from 52 in 2018 to nil in 2023."

For restoration of statehood, he said, several steps are being taken and investments of around Rs 7,000 crore have
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

J&K Digital Week: All individuals above 5 yrs of age to be made aware about digital initiatives in J&K, says

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, AUG 31

Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta Thursday directed all the Deputy Commissioners to raise awareness amongst all the people above 5 years of age about the digital initiatives in J&K.

Dr Mehta was speaking in a function held to declare open the 'Digital Week' being organized by the IT Department and attended by thousands of individuals and school children throughout the length and breadth of the UT.

During his address, the Chief Secretary observed that the malaise of 'Corruption' can be largely addressed through 'Online Services' and digital services are best antidote to evil of corruption. He maintained that the digital services are not only accessible and transparent but also non-discriminatory and more efficient, besides being less costly and cumbersome.

The Chief Secretary stated that the celebration of this week is only aimed at making people aware about their rights. He noted that only those favoring corruption are against such transformations. He advised people to seek their rights and avoid visiting offices physically by applying for services from the comforts of their homes. He also impressed upon the IT Department to devise the ways like that of establishing call center



or sending messages to applicants about the status of their applications

Dr Mehta reiterated today J&K is at the adoption of IT-en solutions in government. He called it a sheer commitment on part of administration and credit to Team J&K prising of all the D Commissioners, Ho Administrative Secy and Secretary IT D ment.

Dr Mehta noted J&K has come a long in transforming itself
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Khalistan Liberation Force Narco-Terror Case | NIA court orders property attachment of key accused

AGENCIES
CHANDIGARH, AUG 31

An another success of its investigation into the Khalistan Liberation Force (KLF) narco-terror case, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has got the property attachment order of a key accused in a 2019 case of seizure of heroin and drug money from a special court in Punjab's Mohali. The order was issued on Wednesday with the Special Court at SAS Nagar in Mohali ordering the attachment of the property of chargesheeted accused Varinder Singh Chahal.

The immovable property, measuring 24 kanals, 14 marlas and 04 sarsai, is located in village Devidaspura of district Amritsar Rural (Punjab). The court has ordered to attach the property under section 33



(1) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967. The case was registered by the NIA on January 22, 2020, based on the original First Information Report (FIR) dated May 31, 2019, when 500 grams of heroin and Rs 1,20,000 as drug money was seized from an accused identified as Jagbir Singh Samra, along with two others, namely Varinder Chahal and Harpreet Singh alias Happy. Subsequent investigations in the case

revealed that Varinder Chahal was a close associate of an international Dubai-based drug smuggler and money launderer, Jasmeet Singh Hakimzada, and also of Pakistan-based self-styled Chief of KLF, Harmeet Singh alias Ph.D. "Varinder Singh Chahal was engaged in the collection of heroin consignments from Kashmiri drug dealers on the directions of Hakimzada and Ph.D, as part of a
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

SIA arrests 8 absconding terrorists involved in terror crimes 3 decades ago in Doda

J NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 31

State Investigation Agency on Thursday said that it arrested 8 absconding terrorists and their associates involved in serious crimes of terrorism and disruptive activities involved in TADA cases registered around three decades ago in Doda.

According to a statement issued to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) a spokesman said that, all the arrested persons have been chargesheeted in the TADA Court Jammu. The statement reads that these absconding terrorists had managed to escape from the clutches of law for decades by going underground and remaining untraced for sometimes, and then resurfaced to enjoy normal

family life at their native or some distant places.

"Some of these absconders have managed to get government services and contracts, others found engaged in private businesses and even working in the Court. These apprehended eight absconders include Adil Farooq faridi son of Abdul Ghani Faridi (Government employee presently posted in JK BOSE, Jammu), Mohd. Iqbal @ Javed son of Sikander Khan, Mujahid Hussain @ Nisar Ahmed son of Abdul Rasheed Gathwan, Tariq Hussain son of Ghulam Ali Misger, Ishfaq Ahmed Dev @ Ajaz son of Mohd. Ayoub Dev, Ajaz Ahmed @ Mohd. Iqbal son of Abdul Rehman, Jameel Ahmed @ jignu @ Chika Khan son of Faiz Ahmed and Ishfaq Ahmed son of
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Amarnath Yatra concludes, over 4 pilgrims offer prayers at Cave shrine

J NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 31

The 62-day annual Amarnath Yatra concluded on Thursday with more than 4.4 lakh pilgrims offering prayers at the cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas this year.

Officials said a total of 4,45,338 devotees paid
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Indian Air Force to carry out Ex Trishul along China, Pak borders from next week

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, AUG 31

The Indian Air Force is going to carry out a major training exercise code-named Trishul in the northern sector along the borders with both China and Pakistan, IAF officials said here.

All major fleets of fighter aircraft including the Rafale, Mirage 2000 and the Su-30MKIs will be participating in the drills along with heavy-lift transport aircraft and choppers including the Chinooks and Apache," they said.

The Garuda Special Forces are also part of the drills where all elements of air power are likely to be

exercised in the ex to be held from September 4 to 14 in the northern sector including La Himachal Pradesh, J& Kashmir and Pt. The Indian Air Force also putting all its on high alert for the summit to be held on September 9 and 10 which
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Kargil-Zaskar intermediate lane on National Highway 301 being upgraded: Nitin Gadkari



AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, AUG 31

Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, has said that the Kargil-Zaskar Intermediate Lane on National Highway 301 is being upgraded.

In a tweet on X (formerly Twitter), Gadkari said that the total length of the project is 31.14 kilometers and falls under Package-6.

He said the main aim of this effort is to boost economic growth in the area by providing a reliable and accessible link for both commuters and the movement of goods in the interior zones. The Union Minister said the upgraded highway will ensure year-round accessibility, which will greatly benefit the local economy and the inhabitants of
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

E-Commerce platforms important enablers for StartUps, MSMEs: Dr Jitendra Singh

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 31

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today said that e-Commerce platforms can be important enablers for StartUps and MSMEs.

Delivering keynote address at the 4th "Amazon SMBhav Summit" on the theme "Nurturing Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Paving the Path for Small Business Success" here today, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are crucial to India's economy as this sector comprises ancillary units, thereby contributing enormously to the overall industrial development of the country. These enterprises are engaged in the production, manufacturing and processing of goods and commodities.



The Minister said, "All this is eventually going to take us step forward in the direction of Ease of Doing Business, particularly for the MSMEs, which are the greatest stakeholders and the potential beneficiaries". The MSMEs constitute the backbone of India's economy, contributing

around 30% of India's GDP, and creating employment opportunities for 11 crore Indians.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, as India emerges as one of the fastest growing innovation-led economies under the leadership of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the collaboration with the e-Commerce platforms has an important role to play as a bridge between the private and the public
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Jaya Verma Sinha becomes first Fema Chairman, CEO of Indian Railways

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, AUG 31

In a historic move, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has granted approval for the appointment of Jaya Verma Sinha, a seasoned member of the Indian Railway Management Services (IRMS), as the new Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Railway Board.

This appointment signifies a pivotal juncture in the 166-year history of the Indian Railways, as Jaya Verma Sinha takes on the mantle of CEO, becoming the first woman to hold this esteemed position.

Sinha joined the Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS) in 1988. She is currently serving as a Member, of Operations and Business Development, Railway Board, Ministry of Railways. Sinha is



responsible for the overall transportation of freight and passenger services on Indian Railways. Prior to the current assignment, she was an Additional Member, of the Traffic Transportation, Railway Board. In the last 2 years, Indian Railways has registered an all-time high growth of over 20 per cent in the freight segment and has broken the mark of 1.5 billion tonnes annually in freight.

In her career of over 35 years in Indian Rail-

ways, she has worked diverse verticals spa operations, comm IT and vigilance. Sh also the first woman appointed as the Pri Chief Operations Ma of South Eastern Ra She has also been chief Chief Comm Manager of Northern way and Divisional way and Divisional Manager of Se Division. She had w as the Railway Advi the High Commissi India in Dhaka, B; desh during which famous Maitri Ex from Kolkata to Dhal inaugurated.

With a distingui career within the I Railways, Sinha has onstrated exemplary erishp and expertise realm of Operation Business Developp Her elevation to th ed position of
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

BJP government is dedicated to the welfare of every section: Sham Sharma



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: Sham Lal Sharma, former Minister & J&K BJP Vice-President and Chandar Mohan Gupta, former Mayor & Vice President accompanied by party Secretary Vikas Choudhary and Department Incharge Dil Bahadur Jamwal, listened to the grievances of the public in a camp organized at Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Sham Lal Sharma, while listening to the grievances said that every BJP activist works with a

commitment to end the woes faced by the public. For this, BJP remains in constant touch with the common masses through various activities, and through the medium of these grievance camps, BJP leaders are able to listen to the issues of the public.

"BJP government is dedicated to the welfare of every section. Modi government has continuously addressed the issues of Refugees, border people, and every other community, which were still unattended.

The party has furthered its mission through these camps."

Sharma said.

Chander Mohan Gupta said that the BJP leaders try to give solutions to the maximum issues presented on the spot. For the remaining issues, necessary letters to the appropriate departments are issued with the telephonic conversation with the department officials.

Vikas Choudhary said that people reach the party office with a very positive mindset that their issues would be resolved soon.

Dil Bahadur Jamwal stressed they have tried sincerely to provide the best possible solutions presented by the masses.

During the camp, individuals and deputations of people from various areas of Jammu & Kashmir reached the Trikuta Nagar office to meet senior BJP leaders with their grievances. They narrated their woes and sought kind intervention from the party leader to get their problems solved.

Various deputations and individuals presented their woes before the BJP leaders and sought their intervention in the matters concerned. Main issues were linked to the departments like PHE, PDD, PWD, revenue, etc.

JU Department of Buddhist Studies Hosts Interaction with Tibetan Parliamentary Delegation



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: The Director General of Police J&K Shri Dilbag Singh inaugurated Inventory Management System (IMS) in a function held at conference Hall Police Headquarters here today.

The meeting was attended by Spl DSG Shri R. R Swain, Shri A.K Choudhary, ADGP (Headquarters/Coordination) Shri M.K Sinha, Director SKPA Udhampur Shri Garib Dass, ADGP Kashmir, Shri Vijay Kumar, IGP CID J&K Shri Nitish Kumar, IGP (Headquarters/CIV) PHQ Shri Bhim Sen Tuti, DisG Shri Sujit Kumar, Shri Javid Ahmad Koul, Shri Shahid Mehraj, Shri Shridhar Patil, Shri Haseeb-Ur-Rehman, Shri Abdul Qayoom, SSP Srinagar, SSP Budgam all

AlsG of PHQ, Srinagar based commandants of IR/AP battalions attended the function in person. ADGP Jammu Shri Mukesh Singh, All DIsG, District SSSP and Commandants of Armed/IRP Jammu/Kashmir Zone attended the function online.

The DGP Shri Dilbag Singh while speaking on the occasion appreciated ADGP (Headquarters/coordination), Shri M.K Sinha, DIG Traffic Jammu Shri Sridhar Patil and the team for getting the task completed within the stipulated time. He said that it is a useful application and would speed up the procurement process in an efficient and effective manner. He directed for putting the available data on the portal within a month and said that the legacy data needs to be

digitized. He directed for following the timelines and making the inventory management system live within a month. The DGP impressed upon the officers to make optimum use of the system.

ADGP headquarters while giving details of the portal said that JK Police have around 160 stores functional at different levels and to upkeep these stores, the IMS is being implemented. He said that the system is aimed at facilitating all horizontal and vertical end-users hooked to the system to have updated and real-time information pertaining to indents containing stocks, requirements, procurements, purchase, surveys of received items with acceptance or rejection user interface holdings of stock items and subsequent distribution and allotment. It is aimed at giving real time information on records pertaining to items issued to employees and subordinate formation units of Jammu and Kashmir Police. It will ensure maintenance of electronic ledgers containing transactions pertaining to inventory management and process paperwork in a timely manner, he added.

DIG Traffic Jammu Shri Sridhar Patil briefed the meeting regarding the functioning and features of the IMS application through powerpoint presentation.

Empowering Safety: SSP Inaugurates Special Cell for Women Affected by Violence in Collaboration with NCW

J I NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, AUG 31: In a remarkable stride towards women's security and well-being, Sh. Khalil Psoval-JKPS, the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) in Kishtwar, inaugurated a Special Cell dedicated to women affected by violence. This significant initiative comes as a collaborative effort between the Kishtwar Police and the National Commission for Women (NCW), with support from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) Mumbai. The inauguration, held at the Kishtwar Police Station, highlights the commitment to ensuring women's safety and addressing their unique concerns.

The newly established Women Cell serves as a haven where women can freely express their grievances and seek assistance. By fostering a gender-sensitive approach to law enforcement, this initiative reiterates the police department's dedication to cultivating a secure environment for women within the community.

Speaking about the Cell's purpose, SSP Kishtwar, Mr. Psoval-



JKPS, emphasized its role in providing women with a confidential platform to report incidents and access support. This specialized Cell aims to offer tailored assistance, ensuring that women's concerns are met with compassion and understanding.

For those seeking help or information related to the Special Cell for violence-affected women, a dedicated helpline is accessible at 8999258737. The Cell is opera-

tional from Monday to Saturday, between 10 am and 5 pm.

A team of dedicated professionals is poised to offer guidance, address queries, and extend the necessary support to women in need. This initiative marks a pivotal step forward in creating a safer and more inclusive society for women in the Kishtwar region, underscoring the shared commitment towards their protection and empowerment.

Raina Celebrates Rakshabandhan Amidst Political Commitments

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: Ravinder Raina, the State President of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), celebrated the heartwarming festival of Rakshabandhan with his family members, providing a glimpse into the harmonious blend of his political commitments and personal values.

Amidst the bustling world of politics and his demanding role, Raina found time to connect with his family on this special occasion. He was spotted engaging in the age-old ritual of tying Rakhis on his sisters' wrists, sharing smiles, laughter, and moments of togetherness. The scene depicted a wholesome family celebration, a stark contrast to the political buzz and military responsibilities that occupy his schedule.

Ravinder Raina's significance in the political arena cannot be overstated, considering his role as the State President of the BJP in Jammu and Kashmir. However, beyond his



political stature, he also holds a military background, adding another layer of duty and commitment to his life.

Despite his demanding schedule, Raina's commitment to family traditions remained steadfast. He not only participated in the Rakshabandhan celebrations but also extended warm wishes to sisters and brothers across the state, emphasizing the essence of this festival that celebrates the sibling bond.

The Rakshabandhan festivities provided a break from the relentless whirlwind of political engagements and military responsibilities for both Ravinder Raina and his elder brother.

The siblings found solace in celebrating a tradition that transcends professional demands and brings family members closer.

A Message of Unity and Dedication:

Reflecting on the occasion, Ravinder Raina shared, "As brothers, both of us are committed to serve the country—I am in the political field, working day and night for the nation, while my elder brother upholds his duties too." His words resonated with the underlying message of unity and dedication to serving the nation, even as familial bonds are cherished.

Ravinder Raina's ability to juggle his political leadership with his role

as a family member exemplifies his balanced approach to life. The Rakshabandhan celebration underscored the significance of nurturing relationships amidst demanding responsibilities, ultimately enriching the tapestry of his life.

The celebration of Rakshabandhan by Ravinder Raina encapsulates the spirit of the festival—honoring the bond between siblings while upholding personal values.

Amidst the dynamic world of politics and his military involvement, Raina's gesture serves as a heartening reminder that amidst all commitments, the foundation of love and familial ties remains unshaken.

DIG Shakti Pathak Honored on World Sanskrit Day by Kailakh Trust for Promotion of Sanskrit Language

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: DIG Shakti Pathak (IPS), the Chief Trustee of Chudamani Sanskrit Sansthan Basholi, was felicitated today on the occasion of World Sanskrit Day for his remarkable efforts in promoting and propagating the Sanskrit language and literature. The accolade took place during an event organized by Shri Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust in Ban Talab, Jammu. World Sanskrit Day is celebrated annually on Shravan Purnima.

Speaking on the occasion, Trustee Nigam Gupta said that Shakti Pathak ji, besides being an efficient police officer of high calibre, is also the Chief Trustee of Chudamani Sanskrit Sansthan, Basholi, which is providing free education in Devnami Sanskrit and other modern subjects to the students of the far-flung areas of Basholi. Chudamani Sanskrit Sansthan was founded



by his father late Pandit Dr Uttam Chand Pathak Shastri ji. His selfless service in promoting Sanskrit language, cultural and heritage values through this school has been commendable. Shakti Pathak is playing a special role in the upliftment of the society by doing the important work of making Devnami Sanskrit language and Indian culture accessible to the masses. Shakti Pathak and his family have made invaluable contribution in the promotion and development of Sanskrit language in India.

The students taught by his father are holding high positions in the state and central govern-

ments, today. The young generation should also follow the example of Shri Shakti Pathak ji and contribute to the preservation of state and national culture.

Sh. Nigam Gupta pointed out that Shakti Pathak ji had also been awarded "Kailakh Sanskrit Ratna Award - 2022" by Sh. Manoj Sinha, Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir. Speaking on the occasion, DIG Shakti Pathak said that Sanskrit is not just a language, but a treasure trove of knowledge, culture and human values which has inspired the intellectuals, the saints and the masses alike for thousands of

years. Promotion of Sanskrit language and literature is a service to the humanity as a whole. He also appreciated the role of Shri Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust in propagating Devnami Sanskrit under the dynamic leadership of its President, the Yuva Sanskrit Sevi Mahant Rohit Shastri, for which he and all the members of the Trust deserve to be congratulated.

The function was also attended by Trust General Secretary Prabodh Sharma, Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Ajay Sharma, Uttam Chand Sharma, Jagdev Singh chib and other members of the trust.

Bugam Village: The Green Jewel of Budgam, Nurturing Generations of Farming Excellence

J I NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM, AUG 31: Nestled in the heart of central Kashmir's Budgam district, Bugam village has garnered a reputation as the "Green Jewel" and a symbol of agricultural prowess, earning it the moniker "Chhota Punjab." The village's agricultural heritage, deeply intertwined with its identity, spans generations, and its fertile soil has fostered a tradition of cultivating a diverse array of vegetables, including potatoes, cabbage, cauliflower, radish, and carrots. This ideal environment results in bountiful harvests year after year.

With 407 active farming families, Bugam boasts an irrigated area of 202 hectares, primarily dedicated to vegetable cultivation. An impressive production rate of 840 quintals per hectare is achieved over three crops each year, with 174 hectares allocated to vegetables and the remaining area to potato farming.

Remarkably, Bugam's vegetable production generated revenue exceeding Rs 26 crore last year and has already surpassed Rs 15 crore this year. The village has dispatched vegetables worth around Rs 27 crore to various markets, both local and beyond, underscoring its pivotal role in the regional economy.

Astonishingly, almost 40 percent of the entire district's vegetable production originates from Bugam village. This year alone, over 900 trucks loaded with vegetables, including 250 trucks of potatoes, have been dispatched to markets across Kashmir, Jammu, Rajouri, and Delhi.

Beyond its economic contributions, Bugam's vegetable surplus enriches the lives of its residents and reverberates throughout the state. A hub of livelihoods for both locals and non-locals, the village welcomes men, women, and even highly educated youths to actively participate in vegetable farming. The commitment to agriculture is

evident as every farming family employs three to four laborers, working tirelessly throughout the year. The recent introduction of advanced agricultural techniques aims to further elevate production.

Uzair Lone, a young farmer from Bugam, acknowledges the village's enduring legacy of agricultural excellence, which has earned it the title "Chhota Punjab." This accolade is a testament to its remarkable contributions to the region's sustenance.

In Bugam, education level holds no sway over one's willingness to engage in agriculture. Regardless of qualifications, individuals enthusiastically work the fields, celebrating the consistent positive outcomes of vegetable farming. Bugam village stands as a testament to the harmonious coexistence of tradition, innovation, and agricultural prosperity.

Woolen Industry aims to achieve target of US\$ 2.5 Billion by 2029-30: Romesh Khajuria

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: Romesh Khajuria, Chairman, Wool & Woollens Export Promotion Council(WWPEC), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India has stated that the Woolen Industry will be able to achieve the target of 2.5 billion USD by the year 2029-30. Khajuria was speaking on the occasion of 184th meeting of the Committee of Administration of the Council held at New Delhi.

Romesh Khajuria informed that various meetings/sessions have been chaired by Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal, Commerce Secretary, Textiles Secretary, joint secretaries, Trade Adviser and senior Officials of the Government. These meetings were held to review export performances, discuss issues faced by the industry and to other export related issues.

Khajuria informed the Government of India under the leadership of world popular leader Sh. Narendra Bhai Modi honourable prime Minister of India fixed the export target of one trillion USD by 2029-30. export target of woolen sector 2.5 billion USD is fixed which is practical and can be achieved with continuous annual export growth of about 18.5%. Shri Khajuria further informed that WWPEC is in



process to prepare a detailed roadmap to achieve it.

Further Khajuria said that As a part of an initiative to promote the export of Indian Woolen Products, the Council organized participation of member-exporters in various international trade fairs and exhibitions during 2022-23 under Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme in France, Dubai, Sweden, USA, Italy, Morocco, Japan, Spain & UK details are mentioned in the agenda part. In addition WWPEC organized a successful organisation of RBSM in New Delhi in March 2023 along with an impressive fashion show. WWPEC also organised/attended the following Capacity Building Programs to encourage new Entrepreneurs to pursue for exports as a business and issues faced by the industry.

Kishatwar (J&K) on 29th September, 2022 organized by JKPTPO in association with DGFT.

Export Awareness Workshop at Kathua (J&K) on 11th November, 2022 organized by JKPTPO in association with WWPEC.

Interactive workshop on 'Marketing Linkage for Wool Growers of Kashmir', Srinagar on 20th November, 2022 organised by Central Wool Development Board in association with Directorate of Sheep Husbandry Dept. Kashmir and WWPEC.

Export Awareness & Capacity Building Workshop for Woolen Manufacturers in Amritsar on 30th March, 2023

Export Awareness & Capacity Building Workshop for Wool Manufacturers in Jammu on 31st March, 2023.

Sumir Dhir, vice chairman, presented vote of thanks

SMVD Gurukul dedicates 'Sanskrit Play' on World Sanskrit Day

JI NEWS SERVICE

KATRA, AUG 31: To mark the occasion of World Sanskrit Day, students of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Gurukul presented an impressive Sanskrit play at Auditorium of Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra for commemoration and revival of the ancient Indian language.

World Sanskrit Day, also known as Vishva-sanskrita-dinam, is an annual event focused around the Sanskrit language that aims to promote its revival and maintenance. Every year on Sawan Poonrimsa in the Hindu calendar, World Sanskrit Day (also known as Sanskrit Diwas) is observed.

While extending greetings on the World Sanskrit Day, Mahamandleshwar Shri Swami Vishveshvaranand Giriji Maharaj, Hon'ble Member, SMVDSB & Chairman, SMVD Gurukul said that "Bharatasya Pratishtita Dve Sanskritam Sanskritatitha" which signifies that India's pride is from Indian culture and Sanskrit. He added that the efforts being made by the Shrine Board for the preservation of Devanari Sanskrit through Gurukul are commendable and it is a matter of great pleasure that the students of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Gurukul are celebrating World Sanskrit Day by dedicating Sanskrit Play on the occasion. He also congratulated the Chairman, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor Sh. Manoj Sinha), Sh. Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer and management of SMVD Gurukul for their sincere efforts in preserving and promoting



Sanskrit Day - 2023
SMVD GURUKUL CELEBRATES WORLD SANSKRIT DAY

Sanskrit language in the entire region of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sh. Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer also extended his greetings on auspicious day underscoring that from the last 13 years the Gurukul is paving the way to develop the students with high moral values well accustomed with the Modern, Traditional, and Spiritual Education for the strong spiritual-cultural foundation of J&K and the affiliation of Gurukul with Central Sanskrit University, New Delhi are some of the important step towards revival of Sanskrit in J&K and connecting students with science and spirituality. Under the constant guidance and directions of Chairman, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (Lt. Governor, JKUT Sh. Manoj Sinha) and close monitoring of Mahamandleshwar Shri Swami Vishveshvaranand Giriji Maharaj, Member, SMVDSB and Chairman of the Governing Council, the Gurukul has earned a name not only at regional level but has proved its metal at National level as well by showing its excellence

in imparting quality education and exuded confidence that very soon it will emerge as a centre of excellence for imparting education in Sanskrit / Vedic studies. He also said that we must not only strive to nurture but also seek to preserve the country's rich cultural heritage and legacy based on Sanskrit and vedic education in a well-coordinated manner in tandem to become Vishva Guru once again in next 25 years which is being recognised as Amrit Kaal.

Noteworthy, that Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Gurukul was conceptualized as a project by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board with the aim of promoting traditional Sanskrit / Vedic knowledge in tandem with conventional education. It is pertinent to mention that the students studying from class 6th to Shastri in this fully residential institution established by the Shrine Board in 2010 are being provided education, boarding, lodging, books, uniforms etc. totally free of cost by the Shrine Board.

Green Rakhi Celebrated at Department of Botany, JU



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: To express love, care, and unity with the environment, Department of Botany, University of Jammu organized a distinctive event on the occasion of 'RakshaBandhan' during which students, research scholars, and faculty members came together to tie traditional protective threads known as 'Rakhis'

toplants. This symbolic gesture extended to various important medicinal plants such as the sacred Tulsi, historic Magnolia, Chinara, S a n d a l w o o d , Rudraakash, Mahua, Putranjiva, Peepal, Chandani, Sita-Ashok. As the participants tied the Rakhis, they also made a commitment to safeguard and preserve nature and its resources, acknowledging the urgency of

addressing climate change for a healthier future. While tying the Rakhi to a temperate plant-Chinara tree presently growing in the Botanical garden, Prof. VeenuKaul, Head of the Department of Botany, expressed her enthusiasm towards the safeguard of plants and wished for luxuriant growth of the species in the Botanical Garden. She briefed the students

that many societal festivals inherently connect humanity with nature. The sustenance of life on our planet is owed to plants, which serve as the fundamental well-spring of essentials, therefore, their significance should be acknowledged throughout our journey of life.

Further, Dr. Harish Chander Dutt emphasized upon the traditional activities of tribal people in sustainable use of forest resources. He also stressed upon the recent discovery of plant sensors which help them in sensing different positive and negative energies from the surroundings and their respective responses. Among those in attendance were Dr. Geeta, Dr. Skarma, Dr. Romica, Dr. Sapna, Dr. Sajjan Thakur, Mr. Nitan along with research scholars, MSc students, non-teaching staff, and the gardening team of the Department.

Mockery with religious beliefs of Hindu community, replicas of Shivling installed on Delhi streets



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: The recent incidents of insensitive treatment towards the religious sentiments of Hindu community have drawn sharp criticism from the Shiv Sena party. The placing of Shivling replicas on the streets of the national capital, Delhi, has been considered a mockery of the Hindu faith and has sparked outrage among the Hindu populace.

Manish Sahni, President Shiv Sena (UBT), Jammu & Kashmir, stated, "The continuous disregard for the religious sentiments of the Hindu community is alarming. Starting from the mismanagement during the annual Shri Amar Nath Yatra, where devotees were left disheartened due to the premature ending of the pilgrimage, to now disrespectfully displaying Shivling replicas on the streets of Delhi, it is

clear that there is a pattern of undermining the Hindu faith." Addressing a press conference held at Party's state office in Jammu, Manish Sahni expressed his concerns regarding the recent incidents. He further highlighted the placement of replica Shivlings in Dhola Kuan area of Delhi, as part of the ongoing beautification drive prior to the G20 summit, as a deliberate act of disrespect towards the religious beliefs of

the citizens. Sahni stated, "The act of displaying Shivling replicas in the form of decorative fountains in Dhola Kuan is not only an insult to the symbol of 'Shivling' but also a disregard for the religious sentiments of the nation's people. Such actions are shameful and need to be rectified promptly."

In response to these incidents, Sahni has sent a memorandum to the Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, urging him to intervene and put a stop to the actions that hurt the religious sentiments of Hindus.

The Shiv Sena party has demanded an immediate halt to any disrespectful acts that undermine the faith of the Hindu community. The party emphasized the importance of respecting religious sentiments and calls for strict actions to rectify the situation.

Indian army hold Chai Pe Charcha with Sarpanchs & Panchs



JI NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, AUG 31: An opinion maker meet to repose the bonding with Indian Army and to discuss the tribulations of the locals was organised by Tain Rashtriya Rifles on 31 August 2023 at Sial Sui Kalakote wherein approximately 120 members of the surrounding villages enthusiastically participated and contributed for the success of the event DDCs BDCs Sarpanchs Panchs Ex-Servicemen & other opinion makers participated with passion and contributed in sharing the actions being initiated for development of the villages and forthcoming events to including elections Thakur Rameshwar Singh DDC Dhangri Anita Thakur, DDC Kalakote Social Activist Yashu Vardhan

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The endeavour of conducting Chai Pe Charcha aims at reaching the locals in an informal gatherings as part of an outreach programme The influencers requested Army to organise similar meetings in future to foster better Civil Military relationship

Uproar Against Toll Plaza and Smart Meters: Dogra Front & Shiv Sena Lead Protest for Jammu's Cause



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: The establishment of the Sarore Toll Plaza and the installation of malfunctioning smart meters have ignited a wave of protest in Jammu. Led by the prominent voices of DOGRA FRONT & SHIV SENa, residents have united to voice their strong dissent against these decisions that carry profound implications for their daily lives.

In a resounding display of unity, workers and supporters from DOGRA FRONT & SHIV SENa took to the streets of Gandhi to make their objections heard loud

and clear. Their resolute stance is centered around the demand for the removal of the contentious toll plaza and a halt to the ill-fated implementation of prepaid meters.

As passionate chants reverberated through the air, protesters presented a united front, asserting that both the toll plaza and the prepaid meter initiative disregard the interests of the local populace, resulting in unwarranted financial burdens and an encroachment upon their rights.

President Mr. ASHOK GUPTA, at the forefront of this movement, passionately appealed to the authorities for a reevaluation of

their decisions regarding the toll plaza and the smart meter implementation. He underscored the potential adverse impact of these decisions on the community's welfare and well-being, making a heartfelt case for safeguarding the residents' rights and interests. This collective demonstration serves as a powerful testament to the community's unwavering determination to uphold their rights and to hold those in power accountable for decisions that significantly affect their lives.

The presence of the toll plaza has also taken its toll on the condition of nearby roads, a concern that has been exacerbated by the ongoing construction of the Delhi Amritsar Katra expressway, resulting in longer commute times for travelers. Additionally, the imposition of high electricity bills upon the common citizens has sparked a significant outcry. The demand for rebates and a complete overhaul of the billing system has gained traction.

49 Battalion of CRPF Hosts Successful Medical Camp for Local Community in Ganderbal



J I NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUG 31: Demonstrating unwavering dedication to community well-being, the 49 Battalion Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) from Srinagar Sector organized a highly successful medical camp in the Badampora area of Ganderbal district. The event garnered immense support from both the local school management and residents, marking a resounding triumph.

The medical camp, inaugurated by Sh. Jaidev Kesar, DIG of North Range Srinagar, CRPF, in the presence of Sh. R. K. Nigam, Commandant of the 49 Battalion CRPF, commenced at 10:30 AM and extended its services throughout the day, catering to essential healthcare needs across all age groups. The dedicated 49-member medical team from the 49 Bn included two doctors, a pharmacist, and two nursing assistants, who tirelessly attended to a total of 340 patients registered in the OPD.

All medical services and medications were provided entirely free of charge, underscoring the CRPF's profound commitment to the community's welfare. The response and gratitude from the local residents were overwhelming, with prominent individuals lauding the CRPF for its noble initiative. Sh. R. K. Nigam, Commandant of the 49 Battalion, and his team actively engaged with the locals, fostering a strong sense of community connection. Expressing heartfelt appreciation, Sh. R. K. Nigam, Commandant of the 49 Battalion, extended his gratitude to the local community and administration for their wholehearted support, which played a pivotal role in the resounding success of the medical camp.

Coinciding with Rakshabandhan, local school girls added a special touch by tying rakhi threads to CRPF jawans, offering prayers for their well-being and safety.

The positive impact of this initiative was palpable as the local residents passionately praised the CRPF's efforts and fervently requested the continuation of such noble endeavors in the future. The 49 Battalion CRPF remains resolute in its commitment to community service and eagerly anticipates organizing more impactful events that contribute significantly to the welfare of the people.

"Mourning the Tragic Passing of AEE Gurmeet Singh: J&K BJP Minority Morcha Demands Swift Investigation

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: At the very outset, Ranjodh Singh Nalwa - president of J&K BJP Minority Morcha - would like to tell you all that we are really perturbed over the 'mysterious' death of AEE Gurmeet Singh at Baramulla in Kashmir. He was really a nice person and gentleman to the core. I extend my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and pray for peace to the departed soul. AEE Gurmeet had left house at Baramulla on the evening of Friday but he did not return home after that. His body was recovered on Tuesday from a barge in Baramulla district which came as a shock for the people of J&K, especially the community members.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters here, Nalwa, who was flanked by his team of minority morcha members, expressed solidarity with the family of AEE Gurmeet and emphasised the need for unraveling the mystery behind his death at the earliest. He assured the family that the BJP minority morcha would stand by them in this hour of grief. Nalwa said that the horrendous incident that occurred resulting in the death of Gurmeet Singh, needs to be thoroughly probed by a high-level team specially formulated for the investigation and the culprits be booked at the earliest. He also requested the Hon'ble LG of Jammu and Kashmir, Sh. Manoj Sinha, to personally ensure that justice is meted out in the shortest possible time. Nalwa said that Paramjit Singh, President DGPC Baramulla who had been assisting the family of the deceased as well as the authorities in tracing the deceased, had been continuously in touch with him and had informed him that the authorities had immediately swung into action in trying to trace Gurmeet Singh. Drones and dog squads had also been put to use for the same. While appreciating the role of police department and the administration, Nalwa also thanked members of the local tanzeems for supporting and standing by the family in their time of need. Nalwa called upon the people of the UT to maintain peace and communal harmony as the efforts of Modi government in bringing peace to Kashmir have begun to yield fruit and at this juncture it is the need of the hour to defeat any nefarious designs of external forces hell bent upon disrupting peace in the region by spreading rumors and misinform-

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RPHQ Rajouri bids a fond adieu to Inspector Mohd. Ashraf Magray after 34 years of service

J I NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, AUG 31: The Rajouri Police Headquarters (RPHQ) organized a warm farewell function to honor Inspector Mohd. Ashraf Magray, who is retiring on August 31, 2023. Inspector Magray has had a distinguished career in the police department, having joined as a constable in the Executive Police in district Kathua in 1989. Over his 34-year career, he served in various police wings and districts, steadily progressing through the ranks to become an Inspector.

The farewell event took place at RPHQ Rajouri and was attended by a gathering of his colleagues, officers, and officials from RPHQ Rajouri and District Police Rajouri. Notable attendees included Dy Inspector General of Police Dr. Mohd Haseeb Mughal IPS, SSP Rajouri Sh. Anirpal Singh IPS, SP Hqs Sh. Vivek Sheikhar JKPS, DySP Hqs. Sh. Mudassar Hussain JKPS, DySP DAR Sh.



Purapkar Singh JKPS, DySP Ops Sh. Shanmukh Kumar JKPS, Sh. Parvez Alam, SO RPHQ, Sh. Sunil K Dhar, Sh. Aejaz Ahmed SHO P/S Rajouri, Insp Kirtan Bhushan, and Insp Ashfaq Mughal, among others. During the farewell function, the retiring officer's contributions and dedicated service were praised by his fellow officers. As a customary gesture, a welfare gift of Rs. One lakh was presented to Inspector Magray by the DIG RP Range. This tradition of present-

ing welfare gifts to retiring officers upon their superannuation is well-known within the Police department. Inspector Mohd. Ashraf Magray expressed his gratitude to the Jammu and Kashmir Police ranks in general and RPHQ Rajouri in particular for their continuous support, affection, and cooperation throughout his career. The event concluded with the presentation of personal gifts to the retiring officer and concluded with a vote of thanks and group photographs with him.

Modi Govt leaving no stone unturned to provide succor to people: Dr Parneesh

J I NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUG 31: Dr Parneesh Mahajan, Convener Department of Training, BJP J&K, asserted that the BJP Government led by PM Narendra Modi is working proactively to bail out the population from hardships caused by the rising inflation and cut in LPG prices by Rs 200 per cylinder in domestic category is testimony to the fact as PM has given gift to peo-

ple on Raksha Bandhan and Onam festivals promising sigh of relief.

In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP functionary cited the decision of the centre to slash domestic LPG rates by Rs 200 per bottle, which as per him is unprecedented showing the Modi dispensation's concern towards people as lately due to certain limitations, the government was forced to hike the prices of this essential commodity including domestic LPG.

He said that at present, the price of an LPG bottle weighing 14.2 Kg is Rs. 1103 and after the new rates implementation on Wednesday the same will cost Rs 903, which will make a real big difference showing Government's concern towards people's woes.

He said that the move is aimed at providing relief to households all across the country and is likely to provide succor to the people confronting inflation.

JKBC holds selection process amid agency blacklisting concerns

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: In a recent development, the Jammu & Kashmir High Court, under the jurisdiction of Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi, has issued a significant directive regarding the ongoing selection process for various positions conducted by the Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB). The Selection comes in response to a petition filed on behalf of aspirants who had responded to advertisements for Junior Engineer (Civil) positions within the Jal Shakti Department and Sub Inspector roles within the Home Department.

The petitioners expressed concerns about the selection process being carried out by M/s Apteck Limited, an agency that had been previously blacklisted due to alleged irregularities and malpractice. The petitioners requested that the court intervene and prevent the examinations from being conducted through the blacklisted agency. Furthermore, they sought the appointment of an alternate agency with a clean track record for conducting Computer-Based Test Mode (CBTM) exams. The court took cognizance of the petitioners' claims and observed that appointments to public posts must adhere to constitutional principles, specifically Articles 14 and 16, which relate to equality and equal opportunity. The court stressed the importance of a fair and reasonable selection process that ensures an unbiased opportunity for all aspirants.

It was highlighted that an earlier incident involving Merit Trac Services Pvt. Ltd., another agency contracted by the JKSSB, had led to malpractice issues, including the leakage of exam papers during Junior Engineer and Sub

Inspector exams. These exams were subsequently canceled due to the compromised nature of the process.

Taking into account the petitioners' concerns, the court directed the JKSSB to halt the ongoing selection process until a final decision could be made by the Government. Furthermore, the Chief Secretary was tasked with making a decision based on the recommendations provided by a Review Committee that had been established by the government in response to the petition.

The court's decision reflects a balance between ensuring fairness in the selection process and addressing apprehensions raised by the petitioners. The Review Committee's report is expected to play a crucial role in shaping the future course of action. The court refrained from using its extraordinary jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Indian Constitution, given the government's steps to address the concerns raised by the petitioners.

This ruling by the Jammu & Kashmir High Court emphasizes the significance of maintaining the integrity of the selection process for public employment, even as the government undertakes investigations into malpractice allegations involving past examination processes. The outcome of this case could have far-reaching implications for the transparency and credibility of selection processes conducted by government agencies.

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CUK's DMS and IIC jointly organise entrepreneurship fest 'Tabsur-BizTALK'

J I NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, AUG 31: The Department of Management Studies (DMS) in collaboration with the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), Central University of Kashmir (CUK) organised an Entrepreneurship Venture Fest (Tabsur-BizTALK) at varsity's Green Campus here on Thursday. Scores of stalls containing eatables, clothing and other merchandise were erected by the alumni and students of the university which were thronged by the students from different departments, faculty members and other staff.

Addressing the participants, Dean School of Business Studies, Prof. Fayaz Ahmad Nikta, said, the aim of holding the fest is to bring the students out of the classroom and acquaint them with the experiential learning. "Such activities are significant for the holistic development of the students, pursuing professional programmes" Prof. Fayaz Ahmad Nikta said. He asked the students to come out of their comfort zones and use innovative methods and ideas to start the entrepreneurial units. "The Government of India has launched several schemes for promotion of entrepreneurship and those intending to start their ventures can avail these, thus becoming job creators", he further added. He congratulated the faculty members and volunteers for making the event a grand success.

Speaking on the occasion, Head Deptt of Management Studies, Prof. Abdul Gani, described the venture as of, by and for the students. "The department has invited alumni who have achieved significant success in their business ventures so that they will inspire and encourage the students pursuing studies in the university, to take up the same", Prof. Abdul Gani said. He said the objective of organising such events is to provide a suitable platform to the students to showcase their hidden talent. Prof. Gani said the department is already inculcating entrepreneurship skills and mind-set among the students, which has



also been envisioned in the NEP-2020. Prof. Gani thanked the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A Ravinder Nath and Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Shahid Rasool, for their proactive approach in, allowing the conduct of the event.

I/c Controller of Examinations, Prof. Farooq Ahmad Mir, Dean School of Life Sciences, Prof. Muhammad Yousuf, Director Research and Development, Prof. Farooq Ahmad Shah, Director, Nunar Campus, Prof. Abid Hameed, faculty members, administrative staff and other functionaries of the university were present on the occasion.

Asst Prof. Dr. Mir Insha proposed the vote of thanks. Students Ms Areeb and Mr Muhib conducted the programme.

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Don't rub salt into our wounds; shun divisive politics if you can: GLR to Mehbooba

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: Former MLC & JK UT spokesperson of BJP Girdhari Lal Raina asked PDP Chief Mehbooba Mufti to stop rubbing salt into the wounds of the Displaced Community.

The community has not forgotten the Divisive, disruptive & confrontational politics of PDP, its founder and Mehbooba Mufti Sayeed, who continues to use acrimonious narrative for narrow political gains; said the former MLC. He reminded PDP the role played by its founder

during 1986 Anantnag communal attacks on the minority community of Kashmiri Pandits. Even then the general secretary of his party at that time had criticised Muftis for hateful role played during that period. Healing touch policy for terrorists and heating touch policy for the Displaced Community is still fresh in the memory of the Displaced Community; he added. No amount of white washing can erase these bitter recollections, stressed GL Raina. He recollected how continued hangover of the invader's mentality was responsible for overturn-

ing the age-old spirit of togetherness, syncretisation and tradition drawing strength from its shared heritage in Kashmir society. Mufti family and PDP have contributed and in fact continue to contribute to undermine and attack that tradition, Ex MLC emphasized.

Girdhari Lal Raina - Prabhari of Kashmir Displaced District (KDD) condemned the studied silence of PDP Chief on issues like was plundering of Pandit houses in 1989-90 under the watch of her father who was Minister of Home Affairs during that consequential period.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY
"An eye for an eye will only make the world blind" - Mahatma Gandhi

India's support can steer Lanka towards recovery

MAJ GEN ASHOK K MEHTA (RET)

JINDRAH IMAGES

ISRO on a roll, eyes milestone mission of sun

The ISRO scientists are on cloud nine after achieving, what is described as, remarkable and unprecedented milestone when an unmanned Chandrayaan-3's lander Vikram touched down on the unexplored south pole of the moon last week. India became the first country which has successfully managed to make the soft landing of any lander module on moon's uncharted South Pole which has water reserves that could help make a permanent lunar base possible. It was almost four years ago, when India had an agonising case of 'so near and yet so far' as Chandrayaan-2's lander 'Vikram' crashed into the lunar surface minutes before the scheduled touchdown, even as its orbiter had been deployed successfully. This is now a remarkable milestone in India's ambitious but low-budget space programme. The ISRO seems to be in a mission mode as it eyes another watershed feat. The launch of the country's first space-based observatory to study the sun is scheduled for tomorrow (September 2). Aditya-L1 is set to lift off aboard ISRO's heavy-duty rocket, the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle or PSLV. Thereafter, it will be placed in a halo orbit around the Lagrange Point 1 (L1) of the sun-earth system. The solar probe vehicle would take about four months to travel to its observation point, a distance of about 1.5 million km from earth. The L1 Point is a spot in space where the nearest celestial entities' gravitational forces cancel each other out. This helps an object remain in equilibrium. A spacecraft put in orbit around the L1 point gets a continuous clear view of the sun. The NASA and the European Space Agency have previously placed probe vehicles into the solar orbit to study the sun. This would be the first such mission for India. Aditya-L1 will study the solar characteristics and their impact on earth as well as the overall space weather conditions. Studies will be undertaken to observe solar flares as well. The observatory will carry seven payloads. It has been four years after painstaking and tireless efforts of the space organisation, ISRO scientists that 'Vikram' landed without a hitch this time. The make-or-buy '17 minutes of terror' passed off smoothly as the lander fired its engines at the right time and the right altitude, using the right amount of fuel. ISRO's phenomenal success has come against the backdrop of the recent failure of Russia's Luna-25 moon mission that crashed into the Moon after it spun into an uncontrolled orbit. At that point of time, ISRO scientists declared that it would have no impact on ISRO's Chandrayaan-3 lunar venture. A succession of successful missions (Aditya-L1) is expected to bolster India's reputation, providing a certification of space readiness that could prove to be transformational for ISRO and associated firms. The low-cost model and an abundance of highly skilled engineers are also likely to work to India's advantage. A joint mission with Japan is planned to send another probe to the moon by 2025 and an orbital mission to Venus within the next two years. ISRO is on a roll. There is no stopping India's ambitious space programme now. The ongoing feats are a big slap on the face of those elite group nations who mocked India's space mission efforts. The recent achievements have put India in a select group of nations which are successfully exploring space and other planets.

SRI Lanka's rulers have historically relied on India for security and on China for economic assistance. Last year, the reverse happened, with China staying aloof during Sri Lanka's economic crisis. Last week, Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe was on his first visit to New Delhi since assuming office last July after the then President Gotabaya Rajapaksa was ousted by a people's uprising amidst an economic collapse that saw India emerging as the saviour. Wickremesinghe was here to thank India, his country's too-close-for-comfort big neighbour. India came up with timely monetary assistance of \$4 billion. When Colombo had sought military aid with its back to the wall in Jaffna in 2000 while battling the LTTE, India had provided it \$500 million. While a \$3-billion International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout will help Sri Lanka tide over its economic woes, it's the political situation that has not really changed. Although the Rajapaksa — the victors in the war — have been hounded out, their party, the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP), still calls the shots. Six-time Prime Minister Wickremesinghe, the lone nominated MP of the United National Party, was elected by the parliament as President with the support of SLPP MPs. There is a perception that the President and the government lack political legitimacy as geopolitics has trumped geopolitics. The provincial council and local government elections have not been held for more than four years as the government fears an electoral rout. While the

President's term ends in November 2024, the parliament's tenure will expire in 2025. Through Article 21A has restored constitutional council, the powers of the President (restored by Gotabaya) have not been curbed as promised. At the Human Rights Council's March session in Geneva, Sri Lanka made renewed promises on addressing war crimes and human rights violations as a part of national reconciliation. Wickremesinghe had promised to resolve the Tamil National Question, first by February 4, 2023, and then by the year-end. His latest offer of implementing 13A (13th Amendment to the constitution) sans police powers was rejected by the Tamils. Before the Wickremesinghe visit, Sri Lanka's Ambassador in New Delhi Milinda Morogoda had admitted that its debt trap was of its own making and that India had helped in getting the IMF loan. On July 8, House Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena thanked India for saving Sri Lanka and preventing a bloodbath during its unprecedented economic crisis last year. In 2022, India extended a multi-pronged assistance of \$4 billion to Sri Lanka through multiple credit lines and currency support, in line with India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy. Sri Lanka's payback has been stingy, especially after its standoffish behaviour in cancelling the India-Sri Lanka-Japan joint venture in the East Container Terminal (ECT) at the Colombo Port, delaying the Trincomalee oil tank farm deal and the Sampur renewable energy project. It crossed a red line in awarding a contract to a Chinese firm to construct a hybrid solar and wind project off the coast of Jaffna; it later rescinded the decision and gave the project to India. The West Container Terminal at the Colombo Port was later given to the Adani Group, which also won the controversial wind farm contract in Mannar that rocked the parliaments of both countries. Another ticklish issue was Wickremesinghe initially refusing but later permitting a Chinese surveillance ship, Yuan Wang 5, to dock in the veritably China-owned Hambantota Port. In 2013, a Chinese nuclear submarine (Colombo) berthing in the Colombo Port had caused a ruckus. Sri Lanka's economy has shrunk by 7 per cent and will contract by another 3 per cent this year. The IMF-imposed unpopular measures, such as cutting subsidies, increasing taxes and privatising state enterprises, have flattened the economy. Integrating the Sri Lankan economy with that of India can steer Colombo towards recovery. At his briefing to the media on the outcome of President Wickremesinghe's visit, Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra said the vision document for economic partnership highlighted multi-connectivity — land, air, maritime, energy, power, trade and financial transactions. Kwatra added that negotiations on the Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement would resume so as to replace the existing trade deal. He refused to comment on the West Container Terminal given in lieu of the cancelled ECT, referring to the involvement of private players. The new framework agreement on Trincomalee is based on the previous

agreement of January 2022 for making it the regional energy hub. The joint development of 61 of the 99 oil tank farms by the Lanka Indian Oil Corporation and the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation is included in a 50-year development plan. Wickremesinghe has appointed former CDS Admiral Ravi Wijegunaratne as Managing Director, Ceylon Petroleum Corporation, and Chairman, Trincomalee Petroleum Terminal. The strategic Trincomalee harbour is highly valued by India and a long-term presence is vital to keep China at bay. Beijing's interests in the region extend to the Indian Ocean and, hence, it has invested in projects at the Colombo Port and Colombo Port City and has a 99-year lease on the Hambantota Port. At this month's India CEO Forum, Wickremesinghe spoke about fostering long-term relations between the two countries and aligning Sri Lanka's path with India as it had undergone an economic transformation and it was now 'India time in the Indian Ocean Region'. Speaking to France24 this month, he said: "Lanka is neutral; there is no military agreement with China and we will not allow the use of our soil for any threat against India." The Indian Ocean may not be India's Ocean, but geography enables both India and Sri Lanka to play a vital role in its peace and stability. Prime Minister Narendra Modi encapsulated the bilateral relations: "We believe the security interests and development of India and Sri Lanka are intertwined. And, therefore, it is essential that we work together keeping in mind each other's safety and sensitivities."

Manipur Govt has let down people, it must go

NEERA CHANDHOKE

It took a disturbing video clip of two women from the Kuki-Zomi community being stripped by Meitei men and forced to walk naked amidst a leering mob for Prime Minister Narendra Modi to utter a few words after nearly three months of complete silence on the violent turmoil in Manipur. Over 150 people have died, churches have been set on fire and thousands have fled their homes for refugee camps. The nation, said Modi, is feeling ashamed. Certainly, we should feel shame when we witness the degradation of women in the times of war as well as peace. We should be ashamed of our silence that skirts the horrors our fellow citizens experience day after day. We should be ashamed of the way we have been reduced from participative citizens to an audience which watches the spectacle of blood, much like the crowds that excitedly viewed public executions in the medieval period. We let down our fellow citizens during a crisis. Indeed, we should be ashamed. But the Central and state governments should also be ashamed of their failure to prevent bloodletting, rapes and assaults on such a large scale. The people of India elect governments and bestow them with enormous power so that their basic right to life and liberty is protected. How can power-holders ignore the

ineradicable scars inflicted on their people? There is enough cause for them to feel shame. Studies of collective violence tell us that riots do not erupt suddenly or out of nothing. The transition from simmering discontent to violent acts always involves a trigger: the people who instigate violence, those who provide weapons and those who mastermind the shedding of blood. Above all, collective violence simply does not happen if the government does not want it to happen. The police and intelligence agencies, which are tasked with protecting citizens, should be able to read the indicators of impending violence: rumours, hate speech and stockpiling of weapons. It is surprising that in the age of the surveillance state, the state government could not prevent violence that was unleashed on the people of Manipur. The failure to do so speaks poorly of the competence of those in power, of their refusal to accept responsibility and of their lack of accountability to the people who have voted them to power. In the history of India, there have been leaders who have accepted responsibility. On the night of August 25, 1947, in a small town of Sheikhupura (near Lahore), which had a mixed population of Muslims, Sikhs and Hindus, massive clashes erupted between the communities. Twenty-four hours later, hundreds of people had been savagely murdered.

Parts of the town were set on fire and Sikhs preferred to take shelter in a gurdwara rather than hospitals. Historian Alex von Tunzelmann, in her book Indian Summer, says that the sight of the injured Sikhs in the gurdwara was appalling. The hands and feet of men and women had been cut off and firearms reduced to rusted, fly-covered stumps. Babies and little children had been wounded. When Nehru visited a few days later, he found himself sick with horror at the stink of spilt blood and burnt flesh. He wrote to Mountbatten in deep depression: "I suppose I am not directly responsible for what is taking place in Punjab... But in any event, I cannot and do not wish to shed responsibility for my people. If I cannot discharge the responsibility effectively then I begin to doubt whether I have any business to be where I am." Nehru toured the violence-affected areas and tried to control the riots. He tried to persuade Muslims not to leave their homes and appealed to those who had left to come back to India, with the assurance that they would be provided security. Today, do we see any political leader on the streets, appealing for the cessation of violence? Do we see any of them accepting responsibility for the harm done? It is true that Manipur is no stranger to violence. The struggle

between insurgents and the Government of India is overlaid by discord between hill tribes and the people of the Valley — the Meiteis. The ubiquity of violence has taken a heavy toll on Manipuri society. Poets portray the dejected faces of mothers, of young men and women who have been picked up either by the security forces or by rival armed ethnic groups. Tayenjam Bijoikumar Singh has written about renowned theatre director Ratan Thiyam's powerful play Kurukshetra Peerang, which dwells on the futility of war and the endless search for peace. At the end of the play, the actors light oil lamps to signify enlightenment: "Wars bring only destruction... An enlightened Panchali vows to arm herself with Dharma and wipe away tears from the eyes of the multitude of anguished mothers whose valiant sons had been felled in the battlefield of Kurukshetra." Thiyam's entire career as a writer and director of plays has been wracked by sorrow at the plight of his beloved state, Manipur. The ongoing violence that has taken countless lives, rendered people homeless and wiped out the dignity of women is beyond compare. It's time the CM heading the state government resigned (or is sacked) and the Centre made serious attempts to bring an end to the bloodshed that has scarred the region.

Nurse Letby case and the idea of being evil

MUKESH KAPILA

JUSTICE James Goss called the killings "cruel, calculated, callous, cynical" as he awarded nurse Lucy Letby 14 life sentences recently for the murder of seven infants and the attempted murder of six others in England. Their broken families serve life sentences, too — of enduring pain and distress. Profound questions are triggered by Letby's admission, "I am evil". What did she mean? Many serial killers precede her. Harold Shipman killed 218 elderly patients, midwife Miyuki Ishikawa slaughtered 103 newborns and the notorious Charles Sobhray killed many tourists before he was arrested in India. Psychiatrists, philosophers, criminologists and theologians speculate endlessly on the nature of evil. But we sense it instinctively. I felt it on seeing thousands of bloody corpses in Rwanda (1994), acres of mass graves in Srebrenica after 1995, or hundreds of burning villages in Darfur

in 2004. Contrastingly, I did not sense evil after the Indian Ocean tsunami that killed around 2,30,000 people in 2005. Evil is, therefore, not due to a wrathful god but human-made. It is present in the bottomless darkness and despair when all decency and humanity are extinguished. Why do people commit evil deeds? Psychiatrists will be kept busy studying Letby's mind, but studies of other mass killers indicate no clear pattern. Most are average people, just like us. Philosopher Hannah Arendt, who resisted the Nazis, talks of the "banality of evil". It lurks in us all, awaiting the right opportunity to express itself. Countless demagogues, from Hitler to Cambodia's Pol Pot, have relied on this to urge their followers to follow them. Judge Goss described Letby as "intelligent and knowledgeable" and "certainly not crazy, however perverted her conduct." In my interactions with war criminals — from Afghanistan to

Sierra Leone — I also found them chillingly sane while executing their fiendish schemes. Conversing with genocide-indicted Presidents — Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and Omar al-Bashir of Sudan — shocked me, such was their compelling incitement to evil. That is logical: anyone can lash out randomly, as we know from the 600 mass shootings that trouble the US each year. But to orchestrate mass evil requires exceptionally intelligent people, whether hospital killers or genocide perpetrators. How do we tackle evil? Traditionally, punishment has five purposes: deterrence, public protection, rehabilitation, retribution and restitution. How could this work for Letby? Her permanent incarceration means that rehabilitation is pointless. And she has nothing to offer parents in restitution, even if their horrendous losses could be financially compensated. The public protection argument has little substance — the nurse was

only a threat to fragile infants in specialised settings and got removed from that, although too late. Her sentencing will not deter others. Therefore, Letby's life sentences signify retribution. Society expects her to be banished forever, such is the desire for vengeance. The UK has no capital punishment, else she would have surely been hanged. But execution provides no deterrence: 53 countries retaining the death penalty are not less vulnerable to evil. Is awarding 14 whole-of-life sentences the way to tackle evil? Talking away all hope of release — however improbable — is inhumane under international law. That's one reason why former Liberian President Charles Taylor received a 50-year sentence from the Special Court for Sierra Leone for crimes against humanity. He can at least hope for freedom when he is 114 years old. The International Criminal Court's guideline specifies a maximum sentence of 30 years.

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Uorfi Javed reveals getting lip fillers since she was 18

Uorfi Javed, who has been having a tough time after opting for undereye fillers recently, shared a long note talking about her journey with fillers in the last few years. Talking to Instagram on Monday, Uorfi posted a series of her photos giving a glimpse of her face after she opted for fillers. In the first photo, one of Uorfi's eyes was red. In the next picture, Uorfi smiled looking at the camera. She was also seen with lip fillers in a few photos. All the pictures were clicked by Uorfi herself. Sharing the pictures, Uorfi captioned the post, "Sharing with you all my lip filler journey. I've been getting lip fillers from the age of 18. I didn't have that much money back then but I always felt my lips were too thin and I wanted bigger fuller lips. I went to dermatene we're ready to do it for less and these were the results at times! I had

to get them dissolved and mind it it's the most painful thing ever!!" She also added, "I'm not telling people to not get them, but in fact what I'm trying to say is just be careful while getting fillers or Botox. I still very much have lip fillers just that I know what suits my face and I know now less is more. Encouraging everyone to thoroughly research before going to any doctor. I actually revoked (recommend) fillers to everyone, if you have some insecurities about your face or body instead of hating yourself or your face it's just better to opt for fillers or surgeries but but from a very good doctor only." Reacting to the post, fans thanked her for her honesty. A person wrote, "To come out that clean and real being in this profession needs guts!!! @urfi! A comment read, "Thank you for being honest and real. And for



people saying accept yourself for who you are. It's her body and if she likes it so be it. She doesn't recommend fillers or surgery to anyone. She's

saying if they want to go for it, choose a good doctor. Natural is the best yes but if it doesn't make you happy then why not."

Shafaq Naaz on Avinash Sachdev denying their relationship: 'He has dated so many people, may have slipped his mind'



Weeks after Avinash Sachdev refused to acknowledge his past relationship on Bigg Boss OTT 2, Shafaq Naaz has now called it "disappointing and hurtful." Speaking to ETimes in a new interview, Shafaq said Avinash Sachdev should have respected the dignity of their relationship and shouldn't have lied about it. Avinash and Shafaq were said to be dating sometime ago.

Shafaq is hurt. Shafaq told the daily that watching Avinash deny their relationship was disappointing and hurtful. "Avinash should have respected the dignity of our relationship and not trivialised my feelings by lying. Being in a relationship is not something to feel ashamed of. Probably, he has dated many people, so our relationship may have slipped his mind, but I remember it clearly since it was my first serious relationship and heartbreak." She also recalled that they started dating eleven years ago when they were shooting for their show together, Teri Meri Love Stories.

Miley Cyrus opens up about gruelling 12-hour-work schedule from Hannah Montana days



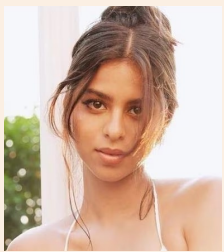
Miley Cyrus is looking back at her younger days and sharing the gruelling work schedule of over 12 hours from the time she was filming Hannah Montana. In the fifth edition of her TikTok videos promoting the recent single Used To Be Young, the singer opened up about her hectic work day from when she was just 12 or 13 years old. Miley recounts hectic schedule. Miley revealed that as a child actor, she had to wake up at 5:30 a.m. on a Friday to get her hair and makeup done for a whole day of at least eight separate interviews. It also included shoots and meetings, with 6:15 p.m. being the last starting point for the last meeting. Saturday began for Miley Cyrus from 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. as she recalled how she was booked for the day due to several unspecified activities. The only off would be Sunday, after which she had to start filming Hannah Montana again the following Monday. Miley concluded by adding, "I'm a lot of things but lazy ain't one of them. So... I do think this girl deserves a little endless summer vacation."

Miley on why she stopped touring. Miley had recently opened up about why she stopped touring a few months ago. "That's what people don't really understand about touring — is the show is only 90 minutes, but that's your life. If you're performing at a certain level of intensity and excellence, there should be an equal amount of recovery and rest."

Suhana Khan responds after Shah Rukh Khan calls her 'comfortable and pretty' behind the camera

A busy schedule has not stopped Shah Rukh Khan from championing his daughter Suhana Khan's latest shoot. Shah Rukh, who will be in Chennai today to launch the audio of Jawan, took to Instagram Stories to post a sweet note for Suhana. Reacting to the gesture, Suhana also responded on her Instagram Stories.

What Shah Rukh said. Shah Rukh posted a BTS picture of Suhana from a recent shoot where she was seen with a cute cat. Shah Rukh wrote, "Lovely to see you in my favourite place Suhana Khan...in front of the camera. Looking comfortable and pretty. Literally glowing. So proud of every you! Uh! But your co-star, the cat maybe needs a bit of a coaching in facing the



camera. Haha." Suhana reposted the same picture on her Instagram Stories

and wrote, "I love you Shah Rukh Khan and I'm so excited for what's coming next but I think the cat is purr-fect."

On The Arches. Suhana Khan is all set to make her acting debut with Zoya Akhtar's The Arches. Based on the popular American comics of the same name, the film will debut on Netflix India on December 7. A few days ago, the cast of The Arches, including Khushi Kapoor, Vedang Raina, Mihir Ahuja, Aditi Dot, Yuvraj Menda and Agastya Nanda, announced the release date along with a live billboard on Mumbai's Western Express Highway. Sharing the video, Suhana wrote, "The Arches are all set to arrive on December 7th!!100DaysToGo." Suhana also posted a new day of the

film on her Instagram. She wrote, "100 days till you meet The Arches!"

Jawan audio launch. Meanwhile, Shah Rukh Khan is all set to release the audio album of his next Jewan in Chennai on Wednesday. Directed by Atlee, Jewan stars Shah Rukh along with Vijay Sethupathi, Nayanthara, Priyamani, Girija Oak, Sanjeeta Bhattacharya, Lehar Khan, Aaliyah Qureshi, Ridhi Dogra, and Sunil Grover. Deepika Padukone stars in the film in a special appearance. So far, three songs from the album, composed by Anirudh Ravichander, have been released, including Zinda Banda, Chaleya and Not Ramaya Vastavaiya. Jewan is slated to release in cinemas in Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu on September 7.

Jawan advance bookings open in Mumbai: Here's when and where you can watch Shah Rukh Khan's new film

Shah Rukh Khan fans have been eagerly waiting for a lot of things Jewan. His fans in Chennai are looking forward to the film's audio launch, where the superstar will make an appearance. His fans in Dubai are waiting for him to arrive in the city for the trailer launch at Burj Khalifa on Thursday. But his fans in Mumbai have got some relief in the form of the film's advance booking, that opened on Wednesday.

Where to watch Jewan. BookMyShow opened the advance booking for Jewan, but only in Mumbai in Hindi, that too in just two theatres. The two theatres currently available for booking seats are in PVR: Infinity, Malad and PVR ICON: Phoenix Palladium, Lower Parel. The shows are available in both 2D and IMAX 2D, though the latter is available only in PVR ICON, Lower Parel.

When to watch Jewan. Fans can currently book for any show of Jewan between September 7 (Thursday) and September 10 (Sunday). The film will enjoy a long opening weekend, thanks to the holiday of Janmashtami, which is celebrated widely in Mumbai. The earliest show of Jewan in Mumbai, as of now, is at 7:45 am at PVR: Infinity, Malad. There are shows peppered throughout the day, leading up to the last show at 11:40 pm in PVR ICON, Lower Parel.

Palak Tiwari named the first Indian womenswear ambassador of a popular clothing

Palak Tiwari has been scaling heights since her debut with Salman Khan's Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan earlier this year. Leading clothing brand US Polo Assn has signed her as a brand ambassador. In fact, she'll be the first Indian brand ambassador of its womenswear.

Palak bags her first big brand. The official Instagram handle of US Polo Assn shared a video of Palak in many of their womenswear and wrote in the caption, "We are proud to announce our association with the sensational PALAK TIWARI (@palaktiwari) as our first womenswear brand ambassador for U.S. Polo Assn. Get ready for a journey of elegance, sport and style with U.S. Polo



Assn. Womenswear shirt with a buttoned-up skirt, and a white top with knee-length white denim. Palak reposted the video on her Instagram Stories along with a horse emoji and a red heart emoji. Palak was first seen in Punjabi popstar Hardy Sandhu's popular music video of

Bijlee Bijlee. She later made her debut in Bollywood with Farhad Samji's action romance Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan, which starred Salman Khan and Pooja Hegde in lead roles. The film, despite releasing on Salman's trademark festival of Eid, wasn't a success at the box office.

Palak is rumoured to be dating Ibrahim Ali Khan, budding actor and son of Saif Ali Khan and Amrita Singh. The two are often seen on movie dates and at parties together, but they have denied being in a relationship. Palak is the daughter of actor Shweta Tiwari and her ex-husband Raja Chaudhary. Shweta also has a son Reyansh, 6, from her second marriage with Abhinav Kohli.

Bigg Boss OTT 2's Falaq Naaz reacts to Nischay Malhan's roast video

Actor Falaq Naaz remains one of the most talked-about contestants of this season's Bigg Boss OTT. She was evicted during the last Weekend Ka Vaar episode, hosted by Salman Khan. Freshly out of the Bigg Boss house, Falaq sat down for a chat with Hindustan Times and answered some questions about her stint on the reality show. Apart from talking about her equation with Avinash Sachdev, Abhishek Malhan and Pooja Bhatt, she also answered some direct questions from viewers.

There's so much that has

happened in the house between you and Avinash. Will you see Avinash outside the house whenever he comes out?

Falaq Naaz: Definitely a yes! The bond is really beautiful. We met in the house. Throughout this journey, he remained constant, understood me, and stood beside me in all situations. There was a time when both of us had no one by our side. Sabne hum logo ko alag chor diya tha (Everyone had left us out). Maybe they had their personal reasons regarding the game. At one point, we only had each other. It was a difficult but

beautiful time, we created a bond between you and Avinash.

A lot is being written about Avinash's past relationship. Does that bother you?

Falaq Naaz: Honestly, sabke past hai iss duniya me, koi yaha pe nahi hai jiska koi past nahi hai (Everyone has a past). Right now I am not thinking a lot. I think you must be knowing that I have asked him for some time. I am not ready for anything as of now. But, the bond is there and the care is there. He will meet me when he will be out (laughs). Some time back Abhishek

Malhan's brother Nischay Malhan posted a roast video and commented on you and your family, including the Tunisha Sharma death case. Did you get time to see it?

Falaq Naaz: No I haven't seen it. Basically he roasted people in the Bigg Boss house, including you...

Falaq Naaz: I don't know who is his brother. I only know Abhishek. I don't think even he would appreciate his brother commenting upon such a sensitive topic. A bond was created with Abhishek in the house, although it took us some

time, even weeks. But, we had started to understand each other and developed a brother-sister bond.

Unfortunately, I had to exit. Mujhe nahi lagta jab Abhishek bahar ayege woh iss video k liye apne bhai ko shabashi denge (I don't think he will appreciate his brother). Everyone has their own perspective. You cannot sit, judge people and their bond in the Bigg Boss house until you know them in real life.

But, koi baat nahi yeh unka karna hai (It's his decision). He must have thought it was the right thing to do. But, I don't



Digital J&K Week 2023 Tech Expos hosted across Jammu Division on inaugural day

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 31: Setting the stage for week-long promotional activities, Digital J&K Week commenced across Jammu division with the hosting of Digi Mela, which was virtually inaugurated by the Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta.

At Udhampur: To promote Digital services in the district, the Digi Mela was organized by District Administration Udhampur at Riwayat Banquet Hall Udhampur. District Development Council, Chairperson Lal Chand was the chief guest.

BDC Chairman, Balwan Singh, DDC Member, Puran Chand and Senior functionaries as well as general public attended the mela.

At the onset, ADC, Udhampur Joginder Singh Jasrotia briefed about the various digital services and other e-services in the District.

The chief guest expressed happiness over the initiative to organise such digital mela and to bring services at the doorsteps of masses. He added that the "Digital India" campaign was launched by the government of India to promote usage of technology and its interface for the welfare and transparency in official functioning.

At Reasi: District Administration Reasi organized the Digital Mela in the DC Office complex today, which witnessed enthusiastic participation of school students and people from all walks of life.

The event began with a live telecast of inauguration of Digital



J&K Week by Chief Secretary Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta. DDC Chairperson Sarf Singh Nag was the chief guest on the occasion.

As many as 25 stalls were put up by different departments, Banks, BSNL etc. to create public awareness about 289 online services launched by the government. The Chairman inspected the stalls and enquired about the services being delivered to the general public through online mode. He asked the line departments to put in extra efforts to spread awareness about the online services among the general public so that the real aim and objective of the initiative is realized in letter and spirit. The Digital J&K Week will continue till September 6th.

At Samba: The eagerly awaited Digital Week celebrations commenced in District Samba with the grand inauguration of DigiMela in the presence of esteemed guests, including the DDC Chairperson, Keshav Dutt Sharma, DC Samba, Abhishek Sharma, SSP, Benam Tosh.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC Chairperson said during the

campaign. The departments provided on spot e-services being offered by them, including Adhar enrollment, Golden Cards, services of Revenue Dept, Holistic Agriculture Development Schemes, RDD Schemes besides other services that can be availed online by the public. Special attraction of the event was ADB-HUT Doda stall, where people were imparted awareness about different initiatives by extending technical help to the applicants for registration and availing online services.

Ved Prakash Gupta urged the people to avail the benefits of these initiatives that have eased the process of availing various government services. At Kathua: District Administration Kathua hosted the inaugural event under the Digital J&K Week-2023 celebrations at Government Degree College Hiranagar, which witnessed enthusiastic participation of people from all walks of life.

The event began with a live telecast of inauguration of Digital J&K Week by Chief Secretary J&K Arun Kumar Mehta Virtually. The proceedings were attended by officers and Officials of district administration Kathua virtually besides a large number of people at Hiranagar.

As many as 37 stalls were put up by different line departments, agencies, banks etc on the GDC Campus to create public awareness about over 1000 online services launched by the government. The week-long event will showcase citizen centric IT initiatives that have helped in bringing about greater transparency in governance and ease of living for

citizens besides generating awareness about digital solutions and new technologies. At Ramban: Digital J&K Week 2023 commenced in district Ramban amid huge public participation. Different departments imparted awareness to visitors about the online services at their stalls. District level function of Digital J&K Week was held at district headquarters. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ramban Harbans Lal along with officers, PRIs participated in the inaugural function which was virtually inaugurated by the Chief Secretary Jammu and Kashmir Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta.

The "Digital J&K week" is also being celebrated in Subdivision Gool, Banihal and Ramso besides various tehsil and blocks of the district. At Kishtwar: The Digital Week celebration began with the hosting of a digital Mela in District Kishtwar, under the overall supervision of Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav.

The inaugural day witnessed massive public participation, along with PRIs, District Officers, students, and civil society members. During the event, 18 departments set up stalls depicting various online services offered by them. The resource persons of the departments motivated the public to avail the benefits of the same and handed over pamphlets containing information about the online services of their departments.

In the mela, awareness skits and Nukkad Natak were presented by School students to raise awareness about the government's digital initiative. On the occasion, SSP Kishtwar, Khalil Ahmed Poswal, delivered an insightful lecture on cybercrimes and cyber security, shedding light on the evolving challenges in the digital realm. He emphasized the importance of awareness and proactive measures to safeguard individuals and organizations from the escalating threats in the cyber landscape. Poswal's expertise in the field provided valuable insights to the audience, fostering a better understanding of the need for robust cyber security practices.

At Poonch: The three-day Digital Week Mela, organized by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, commenced today at the bus stand in Poonch district.

Deputy Commissioner of Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary was the Chief Guest and the event witnessed the active participation of district officers and departments and a large number of locals. The Mela aimed to showcase the wide range of e-services available to the general public, promoting the utilization of digital platforms and encouraging the community to benefit from government schemes.

Throughout the day, different departments including Social Welfare Department, CSC, the Revenue Department, PO ICDIS department, the Assistant Labour Commissioner Department, the health department, the Agriculture Department, banks, the Employment Department etc showcased their e-services and utilized the platform to provide services to 512 visitors.

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GDC Ajas organises Mega "Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan" event under NAPDDR



JJ NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, AUGUST 31: The Government Degree College (GDC) Ajas today organized a mega "Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan" event under National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) in collaboration with the District Administration Bandipora, District Social Welfare Office Bandipora and District Drug De-Addiction Centre (DDAC), Bandipora.

The event aimed to raise awareness about the harmful effects of substance abuse and promote a drug-free society witnessed a remarkable turnout of participants, including students, staff members etc.

The event was presided over by

Principal of GDC Ajas, Prof. (Dr.) Parveen Kousar.

A pivotal highlight of the event was the presentation delivered by a team of Drug De-Addiction experts from the District Drug De-Addiction Centre (DDAC), Bandipora.

The "Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan" event proved to be an impactful platform for participants to gain valuable insights into the complexities of substance abuse and its detrimental impact on individuals, families, and society as a whole.

The experts' presentations shed light on the available avenues for seeking help and guidance for those struggling with addiction, emphasizing the importance of support networks and profession-

al intervention. Participants had the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions, address queries, and exchange ideas related to drug de-addiction and the path towards a healthier lifestyle. The event fostered a sense of community involvement and a shared commitment to creating a society free from the clutches of substance abuse.

Following the programme, a spirited anti-drug rally was organized within the college campus with a remarkable turnout of participants, including students, staff members, and team of Drug De-Addiction experts. The rally aimed to create a visible and impactful demonstration of unity against drug abuse.

The participants marched through the campus carrying placards and banners with powerful slogans and chants. Some of the notable slogans included: "Say No to Drugs, Say Yes to Life!", "Choose Freedom, Not Drugs!", "Healthy Mind, Drug-Free Life!" These slogans encapsulated the spirit of the rally and effectively conveyed the message of the event to onlookers and passers-by. The event was effectively moderated by Dr. Ashaq Hussain Parray, the Convener of the Seminar and Debates Committee.

JU Dept. of Buddhist Studies organised an interaction with the Tibetan Parliamentary delegation

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 31: Department of Buddhist Studies organized an interaction session in function with the Tibetan parliament delegation namely Shri Dawa Tsering, Mrs. Yeshe Dolma and Ven. Lama Tenpa Yarphal, in which the Registrar Professor Rahul Gupta University of Jammu was the Chief Guest. Professor Shohab Inayat Malik Head of the Department of Buddhist Studies delivered the welcome address. In his speech, he spoke about the recent situation in Tibet and said the people should be aware of the problems of Tibet. Tibetan parliament minister Shri Dawa Tsering said that historically Tibet was an independent nation having a defined territory, distinct population, and governments and maintained diplomatic relations with its neighboring countries. Geographically Tibet existed as a buffer state for more than two thousand years between two Asian Giants, India and China under occupation by China in 1959. Further, he said that Tibet and India have a millennia-old



history of friendly coexistence and cultural exchanges. They have been neighboring countries with rich ancient as well as contemporary civilization ties. There has never been, in past history, any sort of territorial boundary between India and China. However, such a boundary has now come into being and that boundary continues to remain a subject of dispute and behind those boundaries are our Tibetan brothers and sisters who continue to suffer under the subjugation and repressive policies of China. Mrs. Yeshe Dolma spoke and urged the students, and faculty to express their concerns and raise

their voices over the human rights violations in Tibet at all the available platforms.

Professor Rahul Gupta, Registrar University of Jammu said that we are happy to see the prominent figure of Tibetans come here to Jammu University and talk about the problems of Tibetans. Further, he said that we should be united against the expansion policy of China. A vote of thanks was delivered by Dr Vivek Sharma among those who were present including Dr Rajesh Sharma, Dr Chaman Lal, Dr Tsering Tundup, Dr Ekta Kumari, Mr Sanjeev Manmotra, Mr Rajinder Sadotra and others.

IIM Jammu to hold a three day Orientation Programme for Integrated Programme in Management

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 31: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu will be holding a holistic 3-day Orientation Program for the 3rd Batch of Integrated Programme in Management from 01st Sept to 4th Sept 2023 at its state-of-the-art permanent campus at Jagti, Jammu. The three days holistic orientation programme is meticulously crafted to provide the students with a well-rounded introduction to their academic journey, fostering personal growth, and enhancing their understanding of various facets of education and life. The idea associated with this Orientation Program is to acquaint the incoming students with the culture, academic oppor-

tunities, ethos, and general rules of IIM Jammu. The programme will help in facilitating a welcoming environment for the new aspiring students and their families to meet and have open communication with the faculty, staff, senior students, and all key activity heads of the Institute under one roof. Each day of the Orientation Programme will commence at 6:00 AM with 'Maximize Happiness and Mindfulness' sessions conducted by Mr. Sahil Mehra, Yoga Guru. It is imperative to build strength, awareness as well as harmony in both mind and body. The programme will be formally inaugurated on 01st Sept 2023. Dr. Mittal Kamble, Chairman, BOG, IIM Jammu, will deliver the inaugural presidential

address. Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, will deliver the welcome address. The orientation programme will also be featuring a session on Academics at IIM Jammu by Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu including various interactive and enriching sessions by the faculty and officers of IIM Jammu.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu mentioned that, the three-day holistic Orientation Programme of IIM Jammu will feature a wide spectrum of interactive sessions, workshops, and engaging activities. The comprehensive itinerary is designed to equip the new batch with essential skills, knowledge, and values needed to excel in their academic pursuits and beyond.

approach to streamline the admission process, ensuring convenience and a seamless experience for the newly admitted students.

An essential aspect of this admission process was the rigorous online scrutiny of documents to verify the eligibility and qualifying credentials of allocated candidates. NIT Srinagar played a pivotal role in this process by ensuring that candidates met the necessary criteria and confirming their seat allotments.

To facilitate a smooth transition for the newly allotted candidates, NIT Srinagar announced its physical reporting schedule on July 24, 2023. The institute went above and beyond by providing transportation facilities from the Airport and Tourist Reception Centre (TRC) to the NIT Srinagar Campus.

Deputed counters were set up at both locations, adorned with NIT banners, to guide and assist

the incoming students and their parents. A meticulous survey was conducted to identify suitable accommodations for students and their families. A list of nearby hotels offering discounted rates was made available on the institute's website, allowing parents & guardians to make informed choices about their stay.

Moreover, parents accompanying the students were provided with on-campus accommodations for a limited period. The registration process was designed to be comprehensive and efficient, ensuring that students completed all necessary formalities in a single day under one roof.

The institute's visionary approach brought together various registration counters under one roof, including Hospital, Sports, Computer Services Centre (CSC), Library, Bank, Institute Accounts, Hostel, and Mess Counters.

NIT Srinagar completes B.Tech admissions for year 2023

JJ NEWS SERVICE

Srinagar, Aug 31: National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar has successfully completed B.Tech admissions for the year 2023 in a smooth and efficient manner.

The admissions to various B.Tech programs across the nation, including prestigious institutes such as IITs and NITs, are administered by the Joint Seat Allocation Authority (JOSAA). The 2023 admission cycle witnessed six regular rounds of seat allocation by JOSAA, commencing on June 30, 2023, and concluding on July 28, 2023. Following this, two special rounds were conducted by the Central Seat Allocation Board (CSAB) to allocate remaining seats across different institutions.

DC Srinagar reviews implementation of Mission Poshan, Mission Vatsalya and Social Security measures

92267 beneficiaries benefited under various social welfare and ICDS schemes



JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR AUGUST 31:- In order to review the implementation of welfare schemes run by ICDS & Social Welfare Department and extension of benefits of different Government schemes in District, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammed Ajaz Asad here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a Project wise appraisal of the implementation of beneficiary-oriented schemes including Supplementary Nutrition Programme, Immunization, Referral Services, Pre School Education, Nutrition & Health Education and Health Checkup implemented by Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) Programme in Srinagar District.

While reviewing the functioning of ICDS, the Chair was apprised about the functioning of the ICDS and targets achieved so far in improvement of Nutritional Status of Children from 0-6 years, Adolescent Girls, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers under POSHAN Abhiyaan through a detailed PowerPoint presentation.

The DC also reviewed implementation of Poshan Abhiyaan, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) and Ladli Beti.

While reviewing the Status of Poshan Projects for 2023-24 in Srinagar, Batwara, Khanyar and Eidgah Projects, the DC was informed that as many as 33651 beneficiaries are being provided Nutrition in Srinagar District through 1183 Anganwari centers

review of the progress achieved by the Social Welfare Department in the implementation of National Social Assistance Program, Integrated Social Security Scheme, Scholarships, Prosthetic Aid and State Marriage Assistance (SMAS) like schemes launched for privileged, vulnerable, down trodden and weaker sections of society.

The District Social Welfare Officer, Srinagar through a PowerPoint presentation apprised the DC about the functioning of the Department and targets achieved so far. He informed that as many as 31471 pension cases (beneficiaries) have been registered under revised guidelines in Srinagar District under Integrated Social Assistance Scheme (ISAS) through which a monthly pension of Rs. 1000 is given to old age BPL persons, having age of 60 years for men and 55 years for women, persons having disability 40% or more and widows, divorcees and destitute having meagre source of income beneficiaries categories.

The meeting was also informed that as many as 14147 cases verified in the District are being provided scholarships under different categories including Post Matric Scholarship to Minority Students, Merit Cum Means Scholarship to Minority Students and Pre Matric Scholarship to Minority Students.

Similarly, under the State Marriage Assistance scheme, 1077 cases have been sanctioned and payments were disbursed among the beneficiaries. Under the scheme every household girl of marriageable age belonging to PHH/AY category is eligible to receive marriage assistance of Rs 50000 after fulfilling eligibility conditions.

With regard to providing prosthetic Aids to the physically disabled persons, it was given out that during the current year 32 Motorized Tricycles, besides Hearing aids, Wheelchairs have been distributed among the beneficiaries of the District.

Likewise, the DC also took appraisal of UDD Cards (Unique ID for Persons with Disabilities) and was informed that 6792 UDD cards have been issued to beneficiaries in the District as on date.

and expenditure of Rs 1.57 crore has been made during current financial year till date.

The DC was informed that under Ladli Beti Scheme, the financial assistance is being provided to beneficiaries through Jansangam portal and as on date as many as 5342 applications have been received of which 5022 applications stand forwarded to higher authorities for approval.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner stressed on timely extension of benefits of different Government schemes to all genuine beneficiaries to ensure holistic development and adequate nutrition for pregnant women, mothers and children in the District.

The DC also emphasized on improved Nutrition & Health status of child 0-6 years, Reduce incidence of mortality, morbidity, mal-nutrition and school drop-outs.

He also laid stress on enhancing the capability of the Mother and Family to look after the Health, Nutrition and Development needs of the Child to promote child development.

The DC stressed upon the Officers to take comprehensive measures to reach out to all eligible beneficiaries, besides making the Welfare schemes easily accessible to the people so that maximum beneficiaries of the district can acquire the benefits of all the Government launched welfare schemes. He also asked the officers to conduct capacity building programmes for Anganwari Workers in order to make them behave with registered children in a compassionate manner.

Similarly, the Deputy Commissioner also took a detailed

Director JKEDI conducts extensive tour of Shadab Karewa; reviews progress of vital developmental projects



JI NEWS SERVICE



JI NEWS SERVICE

SHOPIAN, AUGUST 31: Director, Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, who is also the Prabhari Officer of Shadab Karewa, Shopian today conducted a comprehensive inspection of various developmental projects in the area.

The primary objective of this inspection was to evaluate the progress of important initiatives, with a primary focus on the ongoing construction of a 50000 Gallons water service reservoir at Mir Mohalla and the laying of

water supply pipes falling under the ambit of the Jal Shakti Department.

During his visit, the Director closely examined the construction of the water reservoir at Mir Mohalla which holds paramount importance in ensuring a consistent and reliable water supply for the residents of the tail end areas of Shadab Karewa.

While reviewing the ongoing works, Bhat emphasized the significance of completing this vital infrastructure before the onset of winter.

He stressed on the essential role, the reservoir would play in ameliorating water scarcity issues

in the area.

The Prabhari Officer also assessed the progress of the water supply pipe laying project, an integral component of the Jal Jeevan Mission. It was reported that a commendable milestone has been achieved, with 3 kilometers of water supply pipes successfully laid out of the targeted 5 kilometers. He urged the concerned agencies to expedite their efforts to accomplish the remaining portion of the project before the onset of harsh winter.

As the winter season draws near, the focus must shift towards ensuring the prompt completion of these projects.

This will guarantee enhanced and enduring amenities for the residents of Shadab Karewa, said Bhat. He added that the administration remains resolute in fulfilling the aspirations of the community.

The Prabhari Officer also paid a visit to Government High School, Shadab Karewa where he interacted with the students. During this interaction, he motivated the students to cultivate self-reliance and nurture an innovative mindset from a young age.

These qualities, he emphasized, would enable them to effectively tackle life's various challenges.

Bhat also traversed various other developmental initiatives within the Shadab Karewa region and interacted with local officials, engineers, and community members to gain insights into the ground-level implementation of these projects.

Chairperson DDC, DC inaugurate Digital Week Campaign at Shopian

Chairperson DDC flags-off Digi-Van for general awareness on online services

JI NEWS SERVICE

SHOPIAN, AUGUST 31: The Chairperson, District Development Council (DDC) Shopian, Bilqees Jan and Deputy Commissioner, Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb today inaugurated Digital Week Campaign at Mini Secretariat, Shopian amid a vast gathering of public, students and PRs.

Chairperson DDC and DC inspected the stalls, installed by various departments disseminating the awareness regarding various government services available online.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that the Digital Week campaign will showcase citizen centric online initiatives and serving the government to the public, aimed at bringing transparency and ease of living for citizens.

He said now the people of the district can avail the schemes of each and every department at the click of the button.

The programmes and initiatives launched are part of the government's efforts to bring ease, transparency & convenience in public service delivery, DC added.

On the occasion, the Chairperson DDC also flagged-off

Digi Van, aimed at creating awareness on digital services and spreading information regarding Digital India campaign and making the people aware about benefits they can achieve through digital systems.

Digital Week programmes shall be held across all the blocks, panchayats, schools and colleges of the district. President, Municipal Council Shopian, Subhash Koul, JDM, Khurshid Ahmad Khatana, SDP, Zainapora, Mushtaq Ahmed, ACR, Shahbaz Ahmed Bodha, ACD, Hiral Ahmed Jeri, District/Sectoral Officers were present along with other officials.

Financial Literacy Camp organised at panchayat Sarora-Marh



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 31: A "Financial Literacy Camp" was today organised by the Chief Accounts Officer, District Public Office, Jammu in collaboration with Jammu and Kashmir Bank and with the assistance of Sarpanch Panchayat Sarora in Block Marh. Vinod Sharma, Compiler described about the latest GP Fund Rules and Circular about G.P Withdrawal, State Life Insurance (SLI) which is mandatorily

for every Government Employee and Deposited Linked Insurance (DLI) for those who have not submitted the DLL. The Jammu and Kashmir Bank, representatives from Social Welfare, Aadhaar Center and CDPO/ICDS were also invited to enlighten the General Public about their well-being.

Rahul Dev, Assistant Manager, J&K Bank, Tehsil Marh apprised the participants about different schemes of the Bank. In response, many individuals, present in the camp, raised different queries

regarding the schemes and the officer resolved/cleared them on the spot. Pir Mubashir, Operation Manager, Aadhaar Centre also interacted with the folks of Sarora. He briefed the public of Sarora about how Aadhaar is linked with the numerous Government schemes and their benefits to the General Public. Sonia Sharma, Supervisor, Social Welfare briefed the people about the schemes and scholarships of the Department at National, UT, District etc. levels.

Dalvir Singh from Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) educated the public about the schemes of the department. Furthermore, he responded to the various queries about the area. Pankaj Sharma, Panchayat Accounts Assistant shared his experience working as PAA to manage/implement the various financial implications in the Panchayat. Later, Reena, Chief Accounts Officer, concurred the camp with the annotations on the importance of the G.P. Fund, Tax Rebate, Financial Implications,

Director Agriculture kick-starts sowing operations at floriculture section Lalmandi Srinagar

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 31: Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today kick-started sowing operations of winter annual flower seeds at floriculture section Lalmandi Srinagar.

Speaking on the occasion, Director Agriculture underlined the importance of the floriculture development scheme. He said that there is vast potential in this sector keeping in view the varied agro-climatic conditions in the region.

Director Agriculture said that under Holistic Agriculture Programme Government has approved a mega project to boost floriculture in the region.

He asked the farmers to come forward and avail benefits from



different initiatives by the department and contribute to the overall agriculture income of their families.

He said educated youth should adopt floriculture on commercial lines and avail benefits from the departmental schemes/projects.

He directed the concerned officers to increase awareness among the farmers regarding the floriculture development scheme and organize regular training sessions for farmers in order to make them aware of modern trends in the floriculture sector.

Digital J&K Week 2023 inaugurated at Town Hall Pulwama

JI NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, AUGUST 31: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom on Thursday inaugurated Digital Week at Town Hall Pulwama and flagged off Digi-Van for dissemination of Digital Services across the district.

The DC while addressing the occasion laid emphasis on adherence to PSGA (Public Service Guarantee Act) timelines so that the real motive of Digital Governance is achieved and public

visit to offices is minimised.

Further, Educational Institutions were advised to form Digital Clubs as students will act as Catalysts for dissemination of information and they will be the forerunners of Digital Governance, DC added.

The DC stressed on convergence of schemes like HADP (Holistic Agriculture Development Plan) with Digital Governance so that a corruption free environment is created emphasizing that Digital Governance is synonymous with Corruption Free

Governance. While inspecting the stalls of various departments, the DC instructed them for wide dissemination of services being offered to the public.

Dr. Basharat urged the people to avail the benefits of these initiatives and emphasised on "Digital Hai to Sahi Hai- Nahi Hai to Galat Hai".

He said that during the week long celebrations events will be held across the district and information will be disseminated so that Digital Empowerment is achieved.

ADDC discusses strategies for implementation of "Ayushman Bhava" campaign at Ganderbal

JI NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, AUGUST 31: The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Ganderbal, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani today convened a meeting to discuss and strategize the implementation of the "Ayushman Bhava" campaign in the district.

At the outset, Dr. Afroza Shah, Chief Medical Officer Ganderbal gave a detailed presentation of the

campaign, indicating a focused and time-bound approach to achieving the objectives of the campaign that will provide all health related benefits and access to healthcare services to beneficiaries.

The meeting discussed the planning and execution of a campaign related to the Ayushman Bhava which is a flagship healthcare initiative of all health schemes aimed at providing

health coverage to all sections of society, role of BMOs and District Program Management Unit in execution of a campaign at grassroot level.

Interacting with the officers, ADDC asked them to strategize and align efforts among various stakeholders to effectively implement the Ayushman Bhava flagship to maximize its benefits for the residents of Ganderbal district.

DDC Chairperson kick-starts Digital Week celebration at Ganderbal



Mega digital mela held at Mini Secretariat Ganderbal

J I NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, AUGUST 31: The District Administration Ganderbal today facilitated live streaming of the launching of Digital Week in the UT of J&K by Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta.

In this regard District Administration Ganderbal organized a mega digital mela in the lawns of Mini Secretariat which was presided over by the Chairperson, District Development Council (DDC) Ganderbal, Nuzhat Ishfaq.

Present Municipal Council Ganderbal, Altaf Ahmad, PRI members besides ADDC

Ganderbal, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani; ADC Ganderbal, Mehraj-u-Din Shah, CPO and other district officers were present on the occasion.

Stalls were set up by different departments at the venue aimed at creating awareness regarding online services launched by the government and providing online services on the spot among the general public.

Meanwhile, Chairperson DDC along with other dignitaries inspected the stalls and enquired about the online services offered by the departments.

The first day of the Digital Week witnessed immense public response

online services delivery.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal gave a crux of the activities to be carried out during the week at district, sub-division, block and Panchayat levels. He informed that awareness programs will also be organized in schools and colleges to generate awareness regarding online services besides essay competitions, painting competitions and other activities related to e-governance would also be held in education institutions.

He also appealed to the citizens of Ganderbal to join these celebrations for availing online services and receive awareness about the services.

Later, sanction letters under various schemes including PMAV-G, Old Age Pension, RBA certificates, ST certificates, Revenue certificates and other sanction letters were distributed among the beneficiaries by the Chairperson DDC and other dignitaries.

Meanwhile, Nuzhat Ishfaq flagged-off a digital van from the DC Office for dissemination of awareness about online services across the district.

He further informed that the district administration has collaborated with various departments to ensure smooth coordination and support for the pilgrims throughout their journey.

SSP Bandipora Lakshay Sharma, officers from district administration, volunteers besides senior citizens of the town were present on the occasion.

DC Bandipora flags-off pilgrims towards the Sacred Cave

A spiritual journey unveiled, first of its kind arrangements made by the District Administration: Dr Owais

J I NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, AUGUST 31: The much-anticipated Chota Amarnath Yatra was resumed after a gap of almost a decade at Bandipora, marking a spiritual journey to the revered Chota Amarnath Holy Cave.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmed flagged-off the procession of devoted pilgrims, who had gathered from various corners to seek blessings and embark on the sacred pilgrimage.

The Chota Amarnath Yatra holds immense significance for the devout, as it provides an opportunity to pay homage at the holy cave, which is considered to be an abode of Lord Shiva in the woods of Arin Dardpora, Bandipora. Pilgrims were eager to embark on the spiritual journey.

and especially at Dardpora village, which is the start point of the yatra.

Dr. Owais extended his best wishes to all the pilgrims embarking on this spiritual journey. He prayed for their pilgrimage to be blessed with safety, peace, and an abundance of divine experiences.

The DC informed that the 15 kilometer long Yatra will take place through the Arin-Dardpora route via Shamthan and finally to Chota Amarnath Cave.

He further informed that the district administration has collaborated with various departments to ensure smooth coordination and support for the pilgrims throughout their journey.

SSP Bandipora Lakshay Sharma, officers from district administration, volunteers besides senior citizens of the town were present on the occasion.

Programme on Drugs Abuse Awareness & Prevention held at Anantnag



J I NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, AUGUST 31: An awareness programme on Drug Abuse and its prevention was held at SRJ Higher Secondary School Anantnag to generate awareness among the parents of the younger

During the awareness programme, Experts/ Resource Persons spoke about the harmful effects of Substance Abuse among youth.

They also discussed measures required to curb the burning societal issue.

The participants, particularly the parents, were also sensitized about the means to prevent the spread of drugs in the district to save the precious lives and families from destruction.

The Role of Parents in handling Substance Abuse was also highlighted in detail.

On the occasion, Secretary DLSA, Tabasum Qadir; A Hamid, Principal SRJ HSS, District Social welfare officer Anantnag, Malik Muzaaffar and other experts shared their expertise and professional knowledge and proceeded on early identification and signs of drug abuse, impact of substance use and disorders of families and children.

During the programme, different cultural events were also held regarding Nasha Mukht Abhiyan.

Later, certificates and mementos were distributed among the participants for their role in spreading awareness about drug menace among the masses.

MP Rajya Sabha, Er. Gulam Ali Khatana chairs review meeting at Pulwama



J I NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, AUGUST 31: Member Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Er. Gulam Ali Khatana today chaired a meeting to review the progress of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and other development works in Pulwama at Circuit House, here.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom, SSP Pulwama, ADDC Pulwama and other District and sectoral officers attended the meeting.

The chair took department wise extensive review and stressed for enthusiasm and dedication amongst the officers and a problem solving approach.

MP stressed for switching over to renewable sources of energy and for exploring and utilising the religious tourism potential of the District.

The DC informed the chair that work on various Development Projects is going on

Administration Pulwama not only has acted against the Drug peddlers but also focussed on rehabilitation of individuals.

CPO Pulwama apprised the chair about ongoing development projects of the district and the implementation status and progress under Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). He highlighted the achievements, special initiatives, best practices of the District Administration under different schemes.

Member Parliament appreciated the efforts of District Administration headed by DC Pulwama for making significant improvements in social, economic and development indicators of the District.

He asked all the officers to remain in touch with the people, pay regular visits and organise camps in all the remote and far flung areas so that the people can avail maximum benefits of the schemes meant for the welfare of the people and act as a friend to the applicants with a problem solving approach.

Director Employment inaugurates 03 Months Skill Development Course in Baramulla

25 candidates to undergo three months free of cost Skill Training



J I NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, AUGUST 31: The District Employment and Counseling Centre (DE&CC) Baramulla in collaboration with CIIT Govt Polytechnic College Baramulla today organized an inaugural session of 3-Months long Skill Development Training Course on 'Electric Vehicle Repair' to facilitate the aspirants to enhance their skills.

The training programme was inaugurated by Director

along with monthly stipend of Rs 1000.

Moreover, a robust monitoring mechanism has been put in place by the department to ensure the skill training being imparted under the programme is up to mark.

On the occasion, Director Employment, J&K highlighted the importance of such initiatives to bridge the skill gap and talked about the role which the Employment Department is playing in guiding and empowering the youth in securing sustainable employment.

The department is actively reaching out to the unemployed youth and is guiding and hand-holding them on their path towards securing a sustainable livelihood by organizing Job Fairs, Career Counseling Sessions, Awareness Camps, Implementing Self-Employment Schemes and more recently Skill Training Programs.

Director Employment also motivated students to take advantage of the programme and learn with all zeal and zest.

Empowering School Libraries: DIET Doda organises 3-Day Workshop

J I NEWS SERVICE

DODA, AUGUST 31: To rejuvenate and enhance the management of school libraries, the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) Doda organised a comprehensive three-day workshop.

The event, held from August 28th to August 30th, 2023, took place at the DIET Doda ICT Lab. Impressively, out of a target of 50, 49 participants actively engaged in the workshop.

The inauguration of this vital workshop was conducted by Varinder Singh, Head of DIET Doda and featured Kismat Singh, Lecturer at DIET, as the resource person.

The success of this initiative was made possible with the dedicated contribution of Zalkia Khusnar, Librarian at DIET, Musarat Jahann, Senior Lecturer at DIET and Hans Raj, Librarian GDC Doda.

The primary objective of this workshop was to sensitize participants about the strategies neces-



sary for revitalizing and managing libraries that have fallen into disuse and dormancy. A

Additionally, the event aimed to raise awareness about fostering interest and motivation among children to cultivate a habit of reading within the library's serene environment. Participants were also enlightened on how to transform the library into a hub for recreation, amusement, and learning. Emphasis was placed on the pivotal role of librarians in sparking curiosity, exploration, investigation, and learning through access to high-quality books within the libraries.

The active engagement and commitment displayed by the participants ensured the workshop's effectiveness and success.

They assured to implement the guidelines and training modules provided during the workshop in their respective educational institutions with enthusiasm and dedication. This workshop undoubtedly marks a significant step towards rejuvenating the role of libraries in the education system of Doda.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-AUCTION NOTICE

The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction for various lots over Firozpur Division as per detail given below:-

Auction Catalogue No. :- EAFZR-CTG23-4 Dated 30.08.2023
Auction Start :- 15.09.2023 at 11:30 A.M.

Name of work	GMU/SMU	Stall No.	Location	Reserved for
DAV College Jalandhar	GMU	Stall No. 2	PF No. 1	All
Mukatsar	GMU	Stall No. 2	PF No. 1	All
Makhu	GMU	Stall No. 1	PF No. 1	All
Gangsar Jaiton	GMU	Stall No. 1	PF No. 1	All
Firozpur City	GMU	Stall No. 1	PF No. 1	Women
Lohian Khas	SMU	Stall No. 2	PF No. 1	Other Backward Class (Women)
Lohian Khas	SMU	Stall No. 3	PF No. 2/3	Schedule Caste (SC)
Kapurthala	SMU	Stall No. 1	PF No. 1	Minorities (Women)
Kot Kapura	SMU	Stall No. 1	PF No. 1	Minorities (Widows & War Veterans)
DVA College Jalandhar	SMU	Stall No. 1	PF No. 1	Schedule Caste (SC)
Sullianpur Lothi	SMU	Stall No. 1	PF No. 1	Other Backward Class (OBC)
Dhandari Kalan	SMU	Stall No. 1	PF No. 1	Minorities

For other details please visit Railway website www.irreps.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 2897/2023

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No:- 770-W/169/WA-1/FZR/95-2023-24-ADEN-JRC, 194/2023-24-ADEN-LDH & 195/2023-24-ADEN-LDH acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.irreps.gov.in with closing date-21-09-2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/bid up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Bid System

Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date / Time
30.08.2023	07.09.2023	21.09.2023

S. No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender
1.	193-2023-24-ADEN-JRC	Repair and Maintenance of Bridges in the section of ADEN/JRC
	2994104.84	Advertised Value (Rs.) Validity of Offer Period of Completion 60 Days 12 Months
2.	194-2023-24-ADEN-LDH	Repair and Maintenance of Bridges in the section of ADEN/LDH
	3964418.24	Advertised Value (Rs.) Validity of Offer Period of Completion 60 Days 12 Months
3.	195-2023-24-ADEN-LDH	Special repair to doors and windows sunshade in category No 1 to 13 of LDH in the jurisdiction of ADEN/LDH
	4479921.68	Advertised Value (Rs.) Validity of Offer Period of Completion 60 Days 12 Months

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 2707/23

JAMMU MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
PROJECTS DIVISION
e-NIT No 28(P) of 2023-24

For and on behalf of The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, the Executive Engineer, Projects Division, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) invites online tenders on **Percentage basis** from registered class of Contractors/Firms as per the prescribed format for the works shown here under:-

S.No	Name of work	Advertised Amount (In lacs)	Tender Fee In Rs.	EMD In Rs	Class	Time for completion
28(P)	Installation of 05 No's Focus Lights at Entry Gate on Circular Road near Tawi Bridge, Sidhra	51,235/-	600/-	2% of the Adv. Cost	D/ Electrical	20 Days

Approval No.:- AAA/JC/W/203 of 2023-24, Dt.:- 24-08-2023

Head of Account:- G.I.A 2023-24

- The Complete bidding process will be online
- The bids shall be uploaded in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> upto **09-09-2023 upto 1400 Hrs**
- The bids received will be opened on same day or any other day convenient to the tender opening Committee

No.:- JMC/PD/23-24/Tech/1057-64
Dt.:- 29-08-2023

DIP/J-2631-P/23

JAMMU MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PROJECTS DIVISION

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR (UT)
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE, REASI

Headquarter: Reasi email: itreasi@gmail.com Phone: 01991-244050 Website: www.itreasi.co.in

Subject: Expression of interest.

It is to inform for general information of Govt. as well as private Institutions/organizations located in the District Reasi/ adjoining districts that District Skill Committee, Reasi is going to start the short term training courses to the unemployed youth under SANKALP scheme as per District Skill Development Plan lying available in the office of Superintendent, ITI, Reasi. As such, concerned are requested to please furnish the proposal to this Institute for imparting NSQF aligned Skill Development Training to the unemployed youth for initiating further necessary action.

NO:ITI/Rsi/2023-24/350-52
Dated: 29-08-2023

SD/- SUPERINTENDENT, (CONVENER DSC) INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE, REASI

DIP/J-7604/23

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

e-mail : xenfcjammu@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No.20of2023-24

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	Strengthening of existing protection work or extension of stud at TawiVihar colony Sidhra along left bank of river Tawi near house of Sh. S.S Baloria	15.00	30000.00	45 Days	1000.00	A,B,C&D
2	Protection work to Boundary wall on left side near Central Jail KotBhalwal Jammu.	08.00	16000.000	30 days	500.00	A,B,C&D

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

Important Dates

- Date of Publishing of Tender Notice : 31-08-2023 (04:00Pm)
- Date of downloading Tender documents start : 31-08-2023(04:00 Pm)
- Bid submission start date : 31-08-2023 (06:00Pm)
- Bid submission end date : 20-09-2023 (04:00 pm)
- Date and time of Bid opening : 21-09-2023 (12:30 PM)

- The complete bidding process will be online.
- The tenders shall be received on-line on or before **20-09-2023 upto 04:00 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 **21-09-2023** or any other date convenient to the tender opening authority.
- 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).**
- 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.
- 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/2261-72
Dated: 29.08.2023
DIP/J-7650/23

SD/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION JAMMU

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECH RURAL DIVISION JAMMU
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No 96 of 2023-24 (JMM)

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of J&K UT, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Rural Division Jammu, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from the reputed/registered firms/individuals for the below mentioned work:-

e-NIT No. & Date.	Name of work	Est. cost (in Lakh)	Cost of document / tender fee (in Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit	Bid validity
e-NIT No. 96 of 2023-24 (JMM)	Providing, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of IS reputed make pumping machinery along with other allied electrical and electro-mech. works at WSS Dhammi Jhajar Kotli under Jal Jeevan Mission.	26.50	1000/-	2% of the est. cost	180 days

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

Position of AAA : Accorded

Position of T.S : Sanctioned

Date of Publishing: 29/08/2023.

- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from **29/08/2023 (02:00 PM)**
- Clarifications can be had from **29/08/2023 (02:00 PM) to 31/08/2023 (02:00 PM)**.
- The Bids shall be deposited on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from **31/08/2023 (14:00 P.m) to 12/09/2023 (02:00 P.m)**.
- The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer PHE (M) Rural Division Jammu. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table and shall be payable at Jammu. The cost of tender documents should be in form of Treasury challan in favour of Executive Engineer PHE (Mech.) Rural Division Jammu. **No exemption on account of Tender fee will be allowed.**
- The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover.

SD/- (ER. NARINDER SINGH) EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECH. RURAL DIVISION JAMMU

DIP/J-7654/23

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECH RURAL DIVISION JAMMU
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

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SD/- (ER. NARINDER SINGH) EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECH. RURAL DIVISION JAMMU

DIP/J-7654/23

Digital Week Celebrations 2023: DC Bandipora inaugurates Mega Digital Mela at Bandipora

Launches 'PARVAZ' Mobile App; says 200 plus Citizen Centric Services available through online mode in the district

BANDIPORA, AUGUST 31: In an initiative towards digital empowerment, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad Thursday inaugurated a spectacular Mega Digital Mela at Bandipora, which is being conducted as a part of Digital Week Celebrations 2023.

The event marked the launch of the 'PARVAZ' mobile application, designed by District Administration Bandipora, a pioneer platform to provide easy access to government schemes and services for the people of District Bandipora.

The event witnessed the participation of government officials, including ADDC Bandipora Ali Afsar Khan, Nodal Officer Coordination Mohammad Ashraf Hakak, JD Planning Intiyaz Ahmad, educationists, senior citizens, technology enthusiasts and media personnel.

The Mega Digital Mela featured 35 informative workshops/stalls and demonstrations aimed at enhancing digital literacy among attendees.

The DC, during the inaugural ceremony, expressed his enthusiasm for the objectives of the mega event. He stated that the Mega Digital Week is our commitment to embrace technological progress and to improve various sectors of our society. He said that presently, there are more than 200 citizen centric services available through online mode in the district.

Dr Owais said that the weeklong event shall foster digital literacy, encourage the utilization of e-governance services and promote transparency in governance. He further said that the Digital Week serves as a platform for knowledge-sharing, networking, and collaboration among the stakeholders of technology and innovation. With stress on



encouraging entrepreneurship and fostering digital literacy, the event aims to position Bandipora as a hub of technological advancement in the region, he added.

The main highlight of the event was the launch of the 'PARVAZ' mobile application, which serves as a one-stop solution for citizens of Bandipora to access a wide array of government initiatives and services. The application features an intuitive user interface that simplifies the process of navigating through the various services, making it accessible even to those with limited technological proficiency.

Dr Owais, on the occasion flagged-off the vibrant and interactive School Education Jhanki, designed to replicate a digital classroom atmosphere. The jhanki provided an immersive experience of the potential of digital technology in revolutionizing the traditional education system.

A van playing awareness jingles was also flagged-off on the occasion to impart digital literacy across different markets and

regions of the district. Meanwhile, the DC inspected stalls set up by various departments to showcase their achievements in the digital world. The event brought together a multitude of digital exhibitors, including startups, tech companies, and educational institutions.

During the program, a musical band led by Rapper Aashu played different songs that enthralled the audience.

The songs depicting the new digital era were also played on the occasion, thereby imparting digital literacy in a unique and versatile manner to the audience.

It was given out that the week-long event will continue to feature workshops, seminars, and panel discussions, providing attendees, especially the student community, with opportunities to develop the understanding of digital innovation and its implications for various sectors.

It was also given out that District has set a target of saturating the usage of digital applications like DigiLocker and Mobile Dost.

DC kick starts Digital Week celebrations at Kupwara

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA, AUGUST 31: The digital Week celebrations-2023 were kickstarted today at Kupwara district with the inauguration of Stalls set up by various departments showcasing their digital /Online services by District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan at playground of Govt. Higher Secondary School Kupwara . The event witnessed massive participation of public, PRIs and students.

During the event, different departments put up their stalls depicting varied online services offered by them. The resource persons of the departments motivated the public to avail the benefits of the same.

The resource persons also highlighted the e-governance initiatives launched by the government to promote transparency, accountability and responsive working culture in departments. Sensitizing the people about the objectives of the digital services, they maintained that the celebrations are aimed at making the



public aware of the digital initiatives of Government.

Mobile vans were also flagged-off today by AKTO Kupwara in collaboration with District Information Centre Kupwara disseminating the information regarding digital transformation.

The DDC on the occasion said that during the weeklong celebration, the citizens would be imparted awareness about online services being provided by different departments.

She also said that the Government has launched many digital services in all the major departments which will bring ease to the public and trans-

parency in delivery of services to the citizens. The DDC said that the e-services have greatly benefited the public and brought transparency in the working of public offices. The Week long activities 'Celebration of digital week 2023, a step towards 'Digital Empowerment of Citizens' are being organised w.e.f 31 August, 2023 to September 6th in the premises of Govt. Degree College Kupwara, Degree College Tangdhar, Degree College Langate, Degree College Kralpora, Degree College Sogam, and Environmental Hall and in all Panchayats of the district Kupwara.

B'la hosts multifarious events to kick-off the celebration of Digital J&K Week

Depths to adopt seamless approach for greater transparency in Governance: DC B'la



JJ NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, AUGUST 31: In an effort to enhance online service delivery mechanism and expand internet accessibility among citizens to bring all front-end government services online, the Digital J&K Week celebration today took-off with the hosting of Digi Mela-2023 at Baramulla.

On the occasion, a grand function was organized at Indoor Sports Stadium Baramulla where-in Deputy Commissioner (DC)

Baramulla, Dr Syed Sehriish Asgar in presence of Additional Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Zahoor Ahmad Raina, Assistant Commissioner Revenue and other concerned officers inaugurated the Digi Mela 2023 and took part in other series of activities at the venue.

The event witnessed massive public participation along with PRIs, students and civil society members.

Addressing the gathering, Dr Sehriish highlighted the objective

of celebrating Digital Week and said that the week-long event will showcase citizen centric IT initiatives that have helped in bringing about greater transparency in governance and ease of living for citizens besides generating awareness about digital solutions and new technologies. On the occasion, the DC said that a Digital Programme has been launched across J&K with a vision to transform J&K into a digitally empowered society. She also exhorted the concerned department heads to activate their online services and promote them by organizing campaigns in coordination with District Administration during celebrations of the Digital Week.

Later, Dr Sehriish paid inspection of various stalls installed by many departments including District Administration/Revenue Department, Agriculture, Horticulture, District Treasury, Motor Vehicles Department, District Industries Centre, banks and others to impart awareness to citizens about different government schemes and services being delivered through online mode so that they can avail benefits from all such public-centric schemes.

LCMA conducts demolition drive in several Srinagar areas

Warns of taking stringent action against taking construction work without permission



JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 31: The Enforcement Wing of Lake Conservation & Management

Authority Thursday under took a demolition drive in the areas of Chandpora Harwan, Dalgate, Nishat & WFR areas. During the drive, several illegal constructions were demolished/removed which include 01 2nd storey, 02 single storeyed structures, 01 single storey column structure, 01 Plinth and internal bathroom. Further legal action against the violators was also initiated.

People within LCMA Jurisdiction are time and again warned not to resort any illegal construction / encroachments within LCMA Jurisdiction. Further, before taking any construction work in hand they are requested to get proper building permission from the competent Authority, otherwise, strict action shall be taken against the violators.

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DC Kupwara reviews progress under Capex Budget, District developmental deliverables

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA, AUGUST 31: To review the progress of District Capex Budget 2023-24, CSS and deliverables for the year 2023-24, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan Thursday convened a meeting of the officers of different departments in the Meeting Hall of DC office, here. The DC took a comprehensive review of the District Capex Budget and progress of Deliverables of all the departments and directed the officers concerned to adhere to the timeline set by the government.

The concerned officers apprised the DC about the progress made so far and future action plan under Capex Budget and Deliverables. The DC directed CEO Kupwara, ACD, CMO and SEs of JJM and R&B to complete all tendering processes within two days and also review the progress of District Capex and UT Capex on a weekly basis. Regarding the



District Deliverables pertaining to Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry and Fisheries Department, the DC directed KVK Kupwara to make a nodal point of contact for these departments and also undertake proper hand holding of agriculture and allied departments on technical aspects. She directed all the HODs to nominate a Nodal officer for inter-departmental coordination and coordination with CPO office for speedy progress of the district deliverables.

On the occasion, DC directed SE JJM and Ex. Engineer PDD to make available water supply and electricity in transit accommodation

tions at Nutnoosa and Kulangam within one week's time.

The DC also directed all departments to put in extra efforts to further improve the Ranking of District Kupwara on the performance index and work in tandem with Synergy. She asked the functionaries to highlight their achievements, best practices and furnish the report regarding the achievements on a regular basis. The DDC also exhorted the departments to devise a viable framework and prioritize implementation of these deliverables so as to improve monitoring and assessment of performance at different levels.

Director YS&S inaugurates District Level Volleyball Tournney

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 31: Director Youth Services & Sports (YS&S) J&K, Subash C Chhibber today inaugurated Inter School District Level Volleyball competitions at Sports Complex Wazir Bagh here.

Student players of different Government and Private schools of Srinagar District are participating in the tournament.

Director YSS expressed his good wishes with the participants and hoped that they would put-in their best efforts in displaying a professional game.

"For students, sports are a proven powerful tool for character building and overall development. Sports play an essential role in the development and character-building of students. Beyond just



physical fitness, sports offer numerous mental and emotional benefits that can shape a student's personality and life skills" he further said. Joint Director Kashmir Waseem Raja and

District Youth Services and Sports Officer Srinagar, Gh Hassan Lone were present at the event. Some dedicated employees of the Department were also facilitated in the inaugural function.

Financial Literacy camp held at ZPHQ Jammu

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 31: A Financial Literacy camp was organized in the office of G.P. Fund Provincial Police Cell ZPHQ Jammu on the directions from Finance Department and Director General J&K Funds Organization.

Monika Hans, Financial Advisor/CAO of G.P. Fund Police Cell ZPHQ Jammu hosted the Literacy Camp along with A.Os and other staff members in the presence of Neeraj Gupta Bakshi, Director General Funds Organization J&K as the Chief Guest.

A large number of Accounts

Personnel and other police officials participated in the Camp. Apart from the interaction session, different issues were discussed which included G.P.F subscription, S.L.I, D.L.I and income tax.

The chief guest appreciated and asked to conduct more such camps in future also.