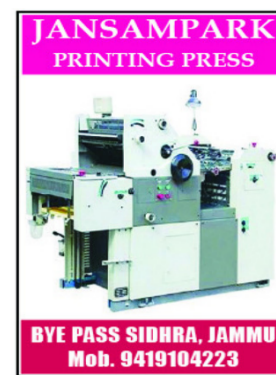




JINDRAH IMAGES



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Success of G20 belongs to 140 crore Indians not to individual or party: PM Modi in Lok Sabha



AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 18: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday credited 140 crore Indians for the success of the G20 Summit held here, saying it does not belong to any individual or a party. Initiating the discussion in Lok Sabha on "Parliamentary Journey of 75 years starting from Samvidhan Sabha — Achievements, Experiences, Memories and Learnings", he said the federal structure, diversity, and different state governments welcomed delegates the guests. He also said a summit of the Speakers of Parliaments of the G20 countries will be held soon. "The success of G-20 belongs to 140 crore Indians. This is the success of India, not of any individual, not the success of any party. The federal structure of India, the

diversity of India made it possible to host more than 200 meetings at 60 places to show the myriad colours of India," PM Modi said. He said everyone should celebrate this success, and India should be proud that the African Union joined G20 under its presidency. "I cannot forget the emotional moment when the African Union (joining G20) was announced, and the President of the African Union said he would probably cry while speaking," the prime minister said. Modi also spoke on the consensus achieved on the G20 declaration. He said many speculated a declaration would not come out of the G20 summit. "But this is India's strength, a declaration came with consensus." PM Modi said India has the G20 presidency till November. **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

Parliament's session may be short but is big on occasion, is of historic decisions: Modi

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 18: Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday that this Parliament session may be short in duration but is big on occasion, and is of "historic decisions". In his remarks to the media ahead of the five-day session, Modi noted that Parliament will move to the new building on Tuesday as he asked MPs to join proceedings with new enthusiasm while shedding old shortcomings, an apparent reference to frequent protests by **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

Lets move to new parliament building with new hope, confidence: PM Modi

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 18: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday paid tributes to "every brick" of the old Parliament building and said the MPs will enter the new building with "new hope and confidence". In his over an hour-long speech in Lok Sabha, Modi remembered the journey of India's democracy and said the last day in this heritage building should be dedicated to the over 7,500 parliamentarians who served in this building since Independence. Parliament will shift to the new building on the auspicious occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi on Tuesday. **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

LG chairs a high-level meeting to review developmental scenario

JJ NEWS SERVICE

Budgam, Sept 18: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha chaired a high-level meeting earlier today to review the developmental scenario in the Budgam District. The Lt Governor appraised the sector-wise implementation progress of Centrally sponsored and the UT Government schemes and the developmental projects in the district. The Lt Governor directed the district administration to explore new opportunities for Private investment in the hospitality sector to provide a boost to tourism and to



facilitate new industries. Youth engagement and Education are another two key sectors which require dedicated focus by the district officials, the Lt Governor observed while directing the Education department to prepare a roadmap to **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

Lt Governor's greetings on the eve of Ganesh Chaturthi

JJ NEWS SERVICE

Srinagar, Sept 18: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has greeted the people on the eve of Ganesh Chaturthi. In his message, the Lt Governor said, "On the auspicious occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, I convey hearty greetings and good wishes to all. The celebration **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

LG visits family members of Martyr DySP Humayun Bhat



JJ NEWS SERVICE

Budgam, Sept 18: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today visited the family members of Braveheart martyr DySP Humayun Bhat at their residence in Humhama, Budgam. **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

It is responsibility of citizens to contribute in development of J&K: LG



JJ NEWS SERVICE

governance. "We have traveled a long distance in the last three years in terms of speedy execution of projects within the stipulated period and eliminated the gap between the aspirations of people and the delivery by administration with dedication and commitment," the Lt Governor said. He said the UT Administration, under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister, is working diligently to ensure there is no scope for discrimination and corruption. Our policies have been formulated with the objective of ensuring living standards of common man are improved and deprived section of the society is empowered, he said. At Budgam, the Lt Governor paid homage to the martyrs of Police and Security Forces. "The UT administration is determined to create a fear-free, terrorism-free, corruption-free and future-oriented Jammu Kashmir. We salute our soldiers and police personnel who **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

SEC notifies schedule for preparation of 2nd supplement to Panchayat electoral roll

JJ NEWS SERVICE

Jammu, Sept 18: The State Election Commission Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir today notified the schedule for preparation of 2nd supplement to the Panchayat Electoral Roll, 2023 with 01-01-2023 as the qualifying date. According to a public notice issued here in this regard stated that the electors of the area can accordingly submit (File) claims and objections regarding additions, deletions, corrections and transpositions of entries in the existing Panchayat Electoral Roll to concerned EROS with effect from 20.09.2023 to 29.09.2023.



The notice said that the Electoral Registration Officers (EROS) shall get Panchayat Electoral Roll, 2023 displayed at prominent locations in Halqa Panchayat on 20-09-2023 (Wednesday) along with public notice. Besides, special camps would be held

at the Polling Booth Locations on 23.09.2023 (Saturday) and 24.09.2023 (Sunday). The Panchayat Election Booth Officials (PEBO i.e. VLW/MPW/GRS) along with the Assembly BLOS shall remain available at the Polling Booth Locations with the requisite Forms and Panchayat Roll, 2023 for guidance of the electors. The document further added that disposal of claims and objections by ERO would be done with effect from 30.09.2023 (Saturday) to 06.10.2023 (Friday). Again, publication of voter list with the supplement will be done on 10.10.2023 (Tuesday). The notice stated that as **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

Anantnag anti-terror operation enters sixth day, security forces use drones to pinpoint hideouts



JJ NEWS SERVICE

Srinagar, Sept 18: The operation to flush out terrorists holed up in the Gadole forest area of Jammu and

Kashmir's Anantnag district entered the sixth day on Monday with security forces using drones to pinpoint the hideouts for carrying **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

Three detained in Kishtwar for alleged terror links

JJ NEWS SERVICE

Jammu, Sep 18: Three over-ground workers (OGWs) of the banned Hizbul Mujahideen terror outfit were detained under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district on Monday, officials said. Touseef-ul-Nabi, Zahoor-ul-Hassan and Reyaz Ahmad were taken into custody under the law **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

4 chargesheeted for running fake employment racket in Jammu

JJ NEWS SERVICE

Jammu, Sept 18: Crime branch of Jammu and Kashmir Police on Monday filed a chargesheet against four persons for allegedly running a fake employment racket and swindling over Rs 41 lakhs from unemployed youth here, an official said. The chargesheet against Abdul Rashid Pandit and Zahoor Ahmed Bhat from Baramulla, and Mohd Ayub and Mohd Azam Melli from Poonch was filed in a local court in a case registered at Jammu crime branch in 2014, a spokesperson of the agency said. He said the case was registered following a written complaint that a large number of youth from Poonch were duped on the pretext of arranging jobs in various government departments. As per procedure in vogue, preliminary **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

While celebrating Chandrayaan, Space Technology also used in development projects: Dr Jitendra

JJ NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 18: While celebrating Chandrayaan success, India is at the same time also using Space Technology and its applications in various sectoral development projects, said Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Space and Atomic Energy, Dr Jitendra Singh while addressing a special session "Emulating Chandrayaan-3 Success in Biomedical Sciences". Space Technology today has virtually entered every Indian household, he said. Dr Jitendra Singh said Space Applications is being utilised in almost all sectors such as Weather Forecasting and Disaster Management, Smart City project, Infrastructure Development, Railway Tracks & management of unmanned Railway Crossings, Roads & Buildings, Telemedicine, Governance, and most importantly, the 'Svamitva' GPS land-map



ping. "It is in these last 7 to 8 years that we have shown the world how Space Technology & its scientific applications could be used for sectoral development... (We have to) make our boys and girls understand the huge enormous, collateral positives coming out of this. Now suddenly this technology has become available all across the country," he said, addressing the International Association of Pancreatologists in New Delhi. Dr Jitendra Singh said the landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the virgin South Polar region of the Moon demonstrated before the world India's technological capability and

talent through cost effective means. The evidence of Mineral Elements like Sulphur, Cobalt, Hydrogen and Water Molecules by Chandrayaan-1 mission is being looked up by the entire scientific community across the globe because they expect some new inferences. Dr Jitendra Singh said today India is laying down the targets such as on Climate Change, we have set the Net Zero target by 2070, and tomorrow we will be one of the major exporters of Hydrogen. "We have actually proved to the world we can meet you on your platform," he said, adding, "We are now no longer taking lead from

others, we are in a position to give lead to the rest of the countries. So India is now ready to lead, the world is ready to be led. Now it's up to us, how much capacity do we have to lead. And that is why it is giving esteem to each and every citizen." Dr Jitendra Singh further said, India's quantum leap in the Space sector has only been possible after Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi took the courageous decision to "unlock" this sector from the "veil of secrecy". With the unlocking of Space Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the common masses of the country have been able to witness the launch of the mega space events like Chandrayaan-3 or Aditya, some 10,000 students and common people came to see the Aditya launch and some 1,000 media persons were there during the Chandrayaan-3 landing on the moon. "We had everything, but we were possibly **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

90,000 visit Shankri Devta Mela in Udhampur, pay obeisance at Shiva Temple



JJ NEWS SERVICE

Jammu, Sept 18: Over 90,000 devotees paid obeisance at the ancient temple of Shankri Devta during a three-day temple fair in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district, officials said on Monday. The Shankri Devta mela concluded on Sunday night in Panchari block. "Over 90,000 people from different areas of the region flocked to the historic mela

and paid obeisance at the Shiva temple," the officials said. The Shankri Devta temple is situated on a hillock in Meer village in a scenic spot which is surrounded by meadows, lofty mountains and lush green forests. While addressing the gathering, District Development Council Chairperson Lal Chand and Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

Cyber Crime Investigation Centre SP to join NIA on deputation basis

JJ NEWS SERVICE

Jammu, Sep 18: Sandeep Choudhary, SP, Cyber Crime Investigation Centre for Excellence (CICE) of Jammu and Kashmir Police, was on Monday relieved from his post to enable him to join the National Investigation Agency (NIA) on deputation basis for a period of five years, an official order said. Superintendent of Police (SP), Special Crime Wing, Jammu, Anuj Kumar was given the additional charge of the post of SP, CICE till further orders, the order issued by Financial Commissioner-cum-Additional Chief Secretary, J&K home department, Raj Kumar Goyal said. The order said Choudhary, a 2012-batch AGMUT cadre IPS officer, is relieved from the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir to enable him to take **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

Balwan holds party workers meet

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 18: Senior Congress Leader and former MLA Thakur Balwan Singh held an impressive congress meet at Paloura and asked people to reject BJP for its failures of various fronts especially it's anti youth and anti poor policies.

Addressing the gathering in ward no 59, Ploura today, Th Balwan Singh said that BJP has utterly failed to address the issues of the people especially of the poor and youth besides depriving the people of J & K deprived of democracy for more than five years.

He said common man is suffering on all fronts especially on economic fronts due to its wrong economic & other anti Jammu policies. Common man is worst hit due to failures to control prices, give employment and check corruption and the dictatorship policies, where no voice is being heard. He said BJP is responsible for the strong arm methods of administration to crush every voice against injustice and



huge taxes through smart meters, toll plaza, property tax etc.

Senior Congress leader said that people are fed up but feel cheated and not only want to bring change but also want to teach a lesson to BJP.

People see Congress as the only viable alternative to BJP in Jammu region and Congress will emerge a strong force and form government in Jammu & Kashmir.

He said large number of leaders and workers from other parties have already joined Congress party and more and more are joining, who are welcome in the party to make it further stronger. He said this while welcoming Shri Kuldeep Kumar a prominent political and social activist in to the party in the meeting organized by Congress leaders Smt. Santosh Manhas, Th Hoshiar Singh & others.

BJP VDG cell discusses, raises issues

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 18: BJP VDG cell district Jammu and District Samba under the leadership of Basant Raj Thakur, BJP VDG Cell State Convener held a meeting at BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

J&K BJP General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul and former Deputy Chief Minister Dr. Nirmal Singh, BJP All Cells Incharge Rakesh Mahajan addressed the meeting.

Library Incharge Kulbhushan Mohtra, and BJP leader Ramesh Katoch were also present in the meeting, in which hundreds of VDG members participated. The meeting witnessed the applause by all regarding the release of the VDGs remuneration besides threadbare discussions on their other issues.

Basant Raj Thakur, while speaking thanked to party High command



as they resolved the long pending issue of remuneration of the VDG members. He also raised certain issues of VDG members like without salary members should be engaged with salary policy. VDG of Rajouri and Poonch should be engaged with the same policy. He also asked for the VDG's insurance policy, their CP fund policy and for the Retirement benefits.

Senior party leaders, listen patiently to all the issues regarding Village Defense Groups members and assured them that the BJP fully supports genuine demands the put forth by every person and deputa-tion. He said that party stands by their all justified demands and the senior party leadership would certainly raise their issues on the appropriate platforms.

Kavinder Gupta lauds PM's address at the special session of Parliament



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 02: Kavinder Gupta, senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader and former Deputy Chief Minister has lauded the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for according equitable significance to the old as well as modern values in the society. He expressed this while responding to the remark of the Prime Minister while addressing the House during the last session in the old building. The Prime Minister remarked "We may go to the new building, but the old building will also

inspire generations to come. This is an important chapter of India's journey." It is an occasion to recollect and reminisce the parliamentary journey of 75 years of India before the proceedings are shifted to the newly inaugurated building," he added.

Addressing media persons here today that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's conversation with the media before the new Parliament session has undoubtedly set the record straight and shut the mouth of the opposition who had raised a lot of hue and cry over the construction of the new

Parliament Complex. This is evidenced by the fact brought forth and presented nicely by the PM when he said that though the decision to construct this building was taken by a foreigner, yet we can never forget that it is the people of this nation who invested hard work, sweat and money in the construction of this building which is a sacred historical monument for all the people across Bharat. Recalling PM's tweet "The strength of India's democracy is that a child from a poor family living on the railway platform reached Parliament," Kavinder

stated that most of the coveted positions including that of the President are held by the ordinary commoners yet extraordinary in their efficiency. This is the beauty of the spirit of democracy in Bharat, he asserted.

Kavinder Gupta stated that it is an irony of this nation that the opposition parties and their leaders never appreciated the achievements of the incumbent Modi led Govt be it the successful conclusion of G20, which the PM himself acknowledged being the success of not any individual or party, but that of the 140 crore populace of Bharat. He added that Indians will be proud of having successfully facilitated the African Union's becoming a permanent member of the G20 during Bharat's presidency.

The senior BJP leader hoped that opposition parties will play an active role in the new Parliament building and give up the habit of walkouts and wasting the precious time of the highest temple of Democracy.

Indian Army Announced Completion of 15 Days Electrician Course



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 18: Indian Army announced the successful completion of 15 days comprehensive Electrician Course on 16 Sep 2023 which was conducted with effect from

02 Sep 2023 to 16 Sep 2023 at Village Kuchhal of Kishtwar District of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Electrician Course, a cornerstone of providing quality vocational education, spanned 15 days and encompassed a wide

range of essential skills and knowledge in the field of electrical work. This program attracted 26 dedicated individuals of Village Kuchhal and nearby areas who were eager to embark on a rewarding career in the electrical

industry. The participants were recognized for their outstanding performance and dedication to excellence during the Electrician Course. Proficiency certificates were awarded to all participants and also encouraged them to apply the knowledge gained to contribute to the growing demand for skilled electricians.

This initiative by Indian Army was highly appreciated by the youth and populace who thanked Indian Army for providing such unique platform for creating opportunities. The conduct of such training will go a long way in helping the unemployed youths of the area to find gainful employment and to be bread winners for their families.

Felicitation of Gref & Tunnel Workers on Engineers Day at Dharmari

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 18: On the occasion of Engineers Day the Indian Army organised a felicitation of GREF & Tunnel workers at Dharmari. Engineer day is observed to commemorate the great work

of engineers and to encourage them for improvement & innovation.

The day urges all of the engineers in the country especially civil engineers to take Sir M Visvesvaraya as a role model in accomplishing their tasks and

contributing a lot for the countries development.

Therefore, to celebrate the occasion the Indian Army organised an interaction with GREF & Tunnel workers. A total of 15 GREF persons and 05 Tunnel workers attended the event.

The event was used as an opportunity to discuss agenda of common interest and express their aspirations for development of the country. The event inspires the youth to become engineers through passion and dedication.

Safexpress unveils largest logistics park, Boosting trade and unlocking business potential

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 18: Safexpress, India's leading door-to-door express distribution company, has unveiled its groundbreaking logistics park in Srinagar. As the largest logistics park in Srinagar, this state-of-the-art facility is set to revolutionize the logistics industry, driving seamless trade operations and unlocking immense business potential in the region.

Spanning across an expansive area of 60,000 square feet, the logistics park offers unparalleled infrastructure and capabilities.

Designed to withstand all weather conditions, the park features a 16 feet wide cantilever shed, guaranteeing 100% operational reliability. Additionally, an 80 feet concrete truck docking road has been constructed to facilitate smooth truck movement within the premises. With dedicated docking facilities for 18 trucks, the park ensures swift loading and unloading operations, streamlining logistics processes.

This significant investment by Safexpress signifies a major milestone for trade and commerce in Srinagar.

The launch of Safexpress' logistics park aligns perfectly with Srinagar's sustained economic growth. The region has witnessed significant development, particularly in the Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) industry, service sector, and Green revolution businesses.

Safexpress, with its extensive network and comprehensive logistics solutions, is uniquely positioned to cater to the growing needs of businesses in Srinagar and beyond. As the largest and strongest logistics network in India, Safexpress covers all pincodes across the country, ensuring seamless door-to-door express distribution through surface and air modes.



The launch of the logistics park is a testament to Safexpress' commitment to delivering logistics excellence and ensuring the success of its customers. The company offers a wide range of innovative supply chain services, including express distribution, third-party logistics, and consulting. With a focus on value-added logistics, Safexpress empowers businesses across various industries, such as apparel, healthcare, technology, publishing, automotive, FMCG, and consumer electronics.

Safexpress, with its unmatched expertise and robust network, is perfectly positioned to cater to the growing needs of businesses in Srinagar and beyond. With 307 area offices, 55 cargo airport connectivity, and 42 3PL locations, Safexpress has established itself as the industry leader. Its extensive network covers all 31288 serviceable pincodes, ensuring comprehensive supply chain and logistics services across the country. Safexpress operates an impressive fleet of more than 10,000 GPS-enabled vehicles, enabling efficient and timely deliveries. The company's dedication to customer satisfaction is evident through its 2415 direct routes, with a route departing every 36th second. Having played a significant role

in India's economic growth for over two decades, Safexpress remains committed to contributing to the country's progress. With a total warehousing area of over 18 million square feet, Safexpress provides 24x7x365 days' live network-enabled supply chain and logistics services to more than 5000 corporate clients. Safexpress is renowned for its operational excellence, leveraging its extensive fleet and unmatched distribution network to cover every square-inch of India.

The launch of Safexpress' largest logistics park in Srinagar marks a pivotal moment for the logistics industry in Srinagar. With its state-of-the-art facilities, strategic location, and unwavering commitment to customer satisfaction, Safexpress is poised to accelerate Srinagar's economic growth and drive trade in the region.

About Safexpress: Safexpress is India's leading door-to-door express distribution company, providing innovative logistics solutions through surface and air modes. With a vast network spanning across the country, Safexpress ensures comprehensive supply chain services to diverse industries. The company's mission is to deliver logistics excellence and contribute to India's economic growth.

Anganwadi Workers and Helpers concerns genuine, govt forcing them to protest: Ganesh



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 18: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K Youth Wing activists led by J&K President Ganesh Choudhary today joined protesting Anganwadi Workers and Helpers over their honorarium rates, delayed payments, lack of incentives for services in Covid-19 and inadequate facilities. Speaking on the occasion, Ganesh while extending his party's support to their genuine cause expressed serious

concern over disparities in their honorarium rates compared to those of workers in other States and Union Territories as they are currently receiving only Rs 5100 demanding parity with their counterparts across the country.

He also highlighted delayed disbursement of the honorarium emphasizing the need for timely payments to meet their essential needs without undue financial strain. Ganesh also raised con-

cerns about pending liabilities from 2019 in certain Districts/Blocks. He said while mobile phones have been provided to workers for uploading relevant information, the absence of data charges presents a challenge requesting govt to release of Rs. 300 per month to cover data expenses. Ganesh further said that Anganwadi centres are also facing issues with basic infrastructure. The lack of facilities such as matting, gas stoves,

and furniture has hampered their ability to provide efficient services. He appealed for the provision of necessary infrastructure to enhance the centres' functioning. Ganesh regretted that despite playing a crucial role in serving communities during the Covid-19 pandemic, Anganwadi workers and helpers have not received incentives like other departments. He expressed disappointment that they have not been compensated or appreciated for their dedication and efforts. Ganesh urged govt for reconsideration of the recent HR Policy to address the concerns of the workers and helpers aiming for the improvement of their working conditions and overall welfare. "Their concerns are genuine but the government has turned a blind eye to them. They are being forced to hold protests for the past several months," he added.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"An eye for and eye will only make the whole world blind." - Mahatma Gandhi

JINDRAH IMAGES

HIGH INFLATION-A CAUSE OF CONCERN

India is heading for General elections to be held in April-May next year. During the last Parliamentary elections, the BJP-led Narendra Modi government had assured 'Ache din' to the people of this country. There is no doubt that the Central government has taken some unprecedented and tremendous decisions for the welfare of the people but high inflation remains a cause of concern for those sitting in the power corridors and the people who are directly reeling under it. If one goes by the reports, the country's benchmark inflation measure, the Consumer Price Index (CPI), grew at 6.8 percent in August, lower than the 7.4 percent print in July but higher than the 6 percent upper limit of RBI's tolerance band. Wholesale prices, as measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), contracted by 0.5 percent in August, making it the fifth consecutive month of contraction. Lest there is confusion, it is important to reiterate that the widely divergent trends in CPI and WPI are not a reflection of prices in wholesale and retail markets. The two indices have very different compositions. For a common man, food prices remain a key concern. In simple terms, inflation continues to remain a problem for critical food items such as cereals and pulses, and it is benign for non-food, non-fuel items. Since last year, quite unpredictable weather conditions have hit the production of vegetables, milk and cereals, thereby leading to inconstant prices of these products. A weak monsoon in several parts of the country and rising crude prices are likely to keep up the pressure on food prices. Food inflation was up 9.94 per cent in August, after a rise of 11.51 per cent in July. Vegetable inflation eased to 26.14 per cent from 37.34 per cent. The consumers have been feeling the pinch as it is directly burning a big hole in their pockets. Ironically, the growers are not the beneficiaries of the price escalation. Unfortunately, the government does not have any check or control over the prices of products in the market. Consequently, the middlemen continue to have a field day. The cost of lunch or dinner has increased significantly in the last few months. If one looks at the ratings agency CRISIL report, it was the high prices of tomato which led to increasing prices of cooked food at the restaurants or eating joints. The tomato crisis of July-August exemplified the inherent unfairness in the farming sector. The prices skyrocketed as weather variations led to crop damage. In north India, these touched Rs 300 per kg. These prices have now come down but it has left no major change in the prices of cooked food. The irony of the subject matter is that farmers remain the net losers if prices surge or crash. For the BJP government at the Centre, the high inflation is also the major cause of concern. They are now trying their best to rein in inflation and they should make it a priority if they really want to outscore the opposition in the next general elections.

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After Look West, Modi govt now Acts West too

BY SANJAYA BARU

In a curious departure from standard practice the Government of India agreed to sign on to what has been called the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC). The external affairs ministry's longstanding term for the region west of India has been West Asia. The reference to the "Middle East" suggests that the initiative was American. It need not have been. The regional signatories to this agreement, namely India, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, have not just adequate resources among themselves, but long-standing historical trading links for them to have implemented this sea-land connectivity project, along with the European Union, on their own. The United States did not even exist when Indians, Arabs and Europeans were busily trading among themselves across this space, from the ports of the Indian peninsula through the deserts of Arabia and on to the ports of southern Europe. By placing its stamp on the corridor project, the United States has merely asserted its geopolitical interest. The geo-economic roots of this sea-land link run deep into history. Historians have long reminded us of the Indian sub-continent's trade links with West Asia and Europe, spanning all the way from the ports of the Konkan to the markets of Venice. Every time I hosted a visitor to Hyderabad who would want to buy pearls, I would ask if the person ever wondered why landlocked Hyderabad is famous for pearls. Few ask themselves this question as they head to the city's pearl shops. The answer lies in the trading links between the Deccan and the Gulf, from where Bahraini and Iraqi pearls, and the famous Basra pearls, were shipped for sale in the markets of opulent Hyderabad. The trade ebbed and flowed with time but declined rapidly after Independence when India chose to pursue a more



inward-oriented development model that neglected trade opportunities. The opening up of the Indian economy in 1991 by Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao was initially followed up by what has come to be known as the "Look East" policy. Within a decade after India chose to "Look East", India's trade with the countries of East and Southeast Asia more than doubled. By 2001, the trade with this region, including the countries of the Asean bloc, China, Japan and South Korea, exceeded India's trade with the European Union. Having observed the success of the Look East policy, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh announced in July 2005 a "Look West" policy, with a focus on West Asia, including Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Oman, Kuwait and Bahrain. A meeting of what was called the Trade and Economic Relations Committee (TERC), chaired by the Prime Minister, and including the Cabinet ministers for external affairs, commerce, industry, finance, agriculture and the deputy chairman of the Planning Commission, authorised the launch of free trade negotiations between India and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). The Prime Minister noted at the time that the India-West Asia relationship was built not just on the more recent post-war and post-Cold War relationships, but on ancient economic and cultural links, on the one hand, and a new forward-looking equation with the region, on the other. The launch of nego-

tiations for an India-GCC free trade agreement would only be a starting point. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told members of the TERC: "The Gulf region, like Southeast Asia and South Asia, is part of our natural economic hinterland. We must pursue closer economic relations with all our neighbours in our wider Asian neighbourhood. India has successfully pursued a 'Look East' policy to come closer to the countries of Southeast Asia. We must, similarly, come closer to our western neighbours in the Gulf." This trade policy initiative was followed up with Prime Minister Singh inviting King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia as chief guest at the 2006 Republic Day parade. In the months that followed, the Indian Navy launched its own "Look West Policy" of increased maritime engagement of the Gulf states, recalling the longstanding maritime links that the subcontinent had with the Gulf. Defence relations were established between India, Oman and Saudi Arabia, with then defence minister A.K. Antony becoming the first Indian defence minister to travel to Riyadh in 2012. After the East Asian and Southeast Asian economies emerged as India's biggest trade partners, overtaking Europe and the United States, the GCC countries followed suit, with the UAE and Saudi Arabia emerging as major trade partners. Apart from the economic dimension to both these outreach efforts, there has always been a strategic

dimension which has now become the focus of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's new and important initiative, IMEC. Prime Minister Modi deserves compliments for his vigorous follow-up of P.V. Narasimha Rao's "Look East", with his own "Act East" initiatives, and now this follow-through of Dr Manmohan Singh's "Look West" with very robust "Act West" initiatives. However, while India has always taken pride in having its own equation with its wider Asian neighbourhood, an impression has now gained ground that in many regional foreign policy initiatives taken by India, the United States somehow manages to cast its shadow. If India's relations with East Asia are being shaped by US-led frameworks such as the "Quad", relations with West Asia are being placed within initiatives like the U2I2 (United States, UAE, India and Israel) and IMEC. It is not clear why India should appear as if the United States is chaperoning it around its own neighbourhood. I had many opportunities to interact with the representatives of the Gulf states during my tenure at the International Institute of Strategic Affairs, having an office located in Bahrain. Every so often I would be told by my Arab interlocutors how they preferred their region to be referred to as West Asia rather than the Middle East. Some dismiss this sentiment as an obsession with terminology. It is not. India has a view of the world from where it is located. Its economic and cultural links in all four directions go long back into history. One does not expect a government of the Bharatiya Janata Party to so easily replace West Asia with Middle East in what is clearly an important strategic outreach. (The writer is an economist, a former newspaper editor, a best-selling author, and former adviser to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh)

Top bizmen felled by hubris & lust...

BY KISHWAR DESAI

What has surprised many in recent months is that some corporate bosses in the UK are not behaving with the propriety they should be. Harassment at the workplace has been in focus with three high profile cases coming to light regarding behaviour of corporate bosses towards their colleagues — and yes, some of these allegations do appear to be sexual in nature. How can this happen one may ask — especially these days when so much has been written and said about the "me too" movement? If good behaviour is not possible — then surely certain exposure on social media should be a deterrent? And what about the rules at the work place? Bernard Looney, the chief executive at BP (British Petroleum) is the latest to resign over an investigation launched into alleged relationships he may have had with colleagues. This follows closely after Tony Danker, the head of CBI (possibly the largest business lobbying group in the UK) being fired over his behaviour at work, and then Crispin Odey, a Tory donor and hedge fund founder facing allegations from 13 women. He has been forced to quit from his own hedge fund.

All of this seems to belong more to the last century than this one. Today even little kids know there will be consequences if anyone (male or female) oversteps the line at the work place. But people at the top may imagine that they are immune. It is a sad moment indeed to think that some British institutions still do require basic freedom from bullying and harassment. Meanwhile, yes, it does seem the rate of inflation has come down but just a smidgen. At least, the Bank of England is not increasing interest rates. Enough damage has been done to house prices (falling) and mortgage rates (rising). But that has been the story much of this year. So as expected mental health issues are coming to light more and more and Generalised Anxiety Disorder (GAD) has many in its grip with over 6,35,000 young people, men and women, being in psychiatric care of some kind. While money is tight — the job market has also been tight for some time. Students are particularly impacted as there have also been strikes by college lecturers who have refused to grade exams. This has further delayed results, and so there is more uncertainty. Things are particularly tough right now for the young — and one can only hope that Christmas round the

corner will bring its usual cheer. Well, it's good to know that the "youth icon", Prince William, the Prince of Wales is off to the US. He is publicising his environmental prize, Earthshot. He raises money from eager and helpful donors (who no doubt enjoy the royal connection), but he has been dedicated to this task. After all, his grandfather, the Duke of Edinburgh, was and his father King Charles continues to be also active in promoting charitable causes. William is popular across the pond. But the question journalists are asking is whether he will encounter his brother Harry, who is disaffected with the family. Of course, Kate, the Princess of Wales, is even more disaffected with Meghan. Hence what people are looking forward to is not publicity for a good cause, i.e., the environment, but another fight in the family. If it does not happen, no doubt some cold vibes between the erstwhile "Fab Four" will be conjured up by our inventive media. It will provide a diversion from all the problems we are facing. We shall wait with interest! Cricket may be the religion in India but it is no longer here. It is football or soccer (to distinguish it from rugby), which is the mania. Back in the Sixties, professional clubs were locally owned and players were modestly paid. Fans

were fanatical about their teams. Now football is a massive business. Clubs are rich, players come from around the world and get paid thousands of pounds per week. Fans are, of course, there but, with social media, they constantly review their team's success and shout when they fail. One of the great football clubs of all time, Manchester United (ManU) illustrates this story. It was for many years the best club, not just in England but in Europe. It has an immensely loyal fan base. Once upon a time in the Fifties, it was bought by the local butcher. Now it is owned by an American family who bought it in 2005 for £790 million. Now they want to sell. Their fans deride them as the Club has not won any prizes for some years. Yet the name ManU is valuable. A Qatar family has offered £5 billion. The fans are impatient to get rid of the Glazer family but there is a lot more haggling going on. Just note however that whatever trouble the country may be in, there is a corner of England where the value of a club has gone up more than six times in 18 years. Not bad going! (Kishwar Desai, is the chair of the Arts and Cultural Heritage Trust, which is setting up the Partition Museum at Town Hall, Amritsar.)

Why stoop to sterile jokes on successful G-20 summit?

BY BIJU DHARAMAPALAN

Every year we celebrate Teachers' Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who was a distinguished philosopher, scholar, and the second President of India. He was also a prominent educator and believed deeply in the value of education. The significance of Teachers' Day lies in appreciating the immense contribution of teachers to society. Teachers are the main pillar that keeps our nation moving forward. They not only provide knowledge to the students but also groom next-generation citizens. The quality of the society can be deciphered from the contribution of good teachers. On teachers' day, students express their gratitude and respect for their teachers through various activities, such as organizing cultural programs, presenting cards and gifts, and delivering speeches. Many educational institutions also organize events and functions to

honour their teaching staff. In between these celebrations, we often forget the philosophy of education emphasized by Dr. Radhakrishnan. Teachers' Day is a time to reflect on the current education scenario in the country and the changing roles of a teacher. The educational philosophy proposed by Dr Radhakrishnan was by deeply rooted in the belief that education is not merely a process of acquiring knowledge, but a means to cultivate a holistic and enlightened individual. Radhakrishnan believed in the holistic development of an individual. He emphasized that education should nurture not only intellectual growth but also moral, emotional, and spiritual development. He emphasized the importance of teachers in shaping the intellectual and moral character of students. This emphasis on character formation was central to his vision of education. Unfortunately in today's education, teachers have taken a back seat in delivering moral values to students. The human touch between teacher

and student is hardly seen in their relationship. There was a time when a teacher donned not only the role of a knowledge provider but also a parent. They could even remember the details of family members of their students. Even if a student bunks off the class, teachers used to catch these fellows from movie halls and parks. But with changing times, this culture has drastically shifted, mostly because of the attitudinal change that happened to parents. Similarly, during earlier periods teachers not only discussed the syllabus but also many topics related to values in life. Most of the time these values get imbibed into the sub-conscious mind of the student that helps in grooming a good future citizen. Every student remembers these values taught by teachers till the end of life. With the mushrooming of private educational institutions, even the management and teachers forget the importance of values. The only thing these institutions focus on is to make students successful in competitive examinations and

making money. Even teachers have become corrupted because of this. They act in a partisan manner to satisfy the needs of the management, fearing loss of jobs. The hands of these teachers are tightly bound by the management and they don't enjoy the academic freedom their predecessors enjoyed two decades back. The higher number of crimes that involve educated people, and increasing malpractices in every sector by the educated people point to our faulty education system. When someone points out a corruption charge in society, be it against a politician or a government employee, it indirectly points to a teacher who moulded them. Value-based education is the need of the hour. Education coupled with moral values empowers individuals to make ethical decisions, even in complex or ambiguous situations for the betterment of society. (The writer is an adjunct faculty at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore; views are personal)

Planting saplings not enough adopt and nurture plants like kids: Jackie Shroff

Veteran film actor and social activist Jackie Shroff feels social media can play a bigger role in creating awareness about the burning issues particularly those related to the environment that the world is facing today. The actor who has been promoting sustainability and green living for a long time was recently roped in for the Planet India campaign which showcased powerful stories of India's climate and nature heroes.

In an exclusive interview with Aditya Kant and Chandrani Banerjee, Jackie Shroff maintained that while it was good that several volunteers and people from different cross-sections of life were coming forward to plant more trees, it was equally important that the plants are taken care of and looked after well.

Expressing his concern about the lack of awareness amongst the masses about the growing pollution, the actor feels that everyone needs to do his bit to make an impact and create a better world for the coming generations.

"Plants are to be looked after like our kids. It really hurts me when I see saplings and plants being discarded in the surroundings. Will we ever do this to our kids? The time has come when each one of us need to adopt plants in our surroundings like our children. We need to nurture them for our future generations," said Shroff.

Jackie Shroff will be highlighting the stories of young Indians who are rewriting the narrative of climate change. The campaign has brought together international and Indian filmmakers. These filmmakers will show



inspiring stories of how people and communities across the country are indulging in innovation and ingenuity

vis-à-vis the climate crisis. "Planet India is a way for us to get inspired by these amazing innovators," he adds.

Dali & Cocky Prince actor Kim Min Jae enlists in military

On Monday, actor Kim Min Jae officially joined the mandatory military service in South Korea. His agency, Nyam Nyam Entertainment, was quoted by Koreaboo, "Kim Min Jae will enlist in the military today. We ask for your warm support and encouragement to Kim Min Jae, who will faithfully perform his duties and return in good health." Kim Min Jae took to his Instagram handle and posted a photo of his hair that he cut off for the buzz cut, required in the military. In his next story, he also added, "I will return in good health." On the other hand, his agency also shared a photo of the actor enlisting in the army division. The actor's Dali and Cocky Star co-star Hwang Bo Ra penned a note for him on Instagram. She posted a glimpse of his



buzzcut look from their video call and wrote, "Ah, our Min Jae video called because today is his enlistment date. I felt like tearing up like I was sending my younger brother [off to the military] after seeing his buzz cut. I met him

through a project, but he's a younger brother I feel affectionate for. He's returning March 2025. After you return, let's sweep the Korean film [industry]. Love you, come back safely." Reportedly, the actor will be enlisting in the military band after completing basic military training.

Talking about his enlistment, the actor told fans, "Today, I have something I want to tell you directly. I think many people were curious, but I will enlist in the military on September 18 to fulfil my mandatory national defense duties." "I will be enlisting in the military band, and I feel very sad that I will not see you all for a while, but I am also excited and grateful because I will be able to experience and learn more through my time in the military. I will not forget the precious thoughts and

support you have given me and will return as a stronger person in order to repay your love," he wrapped up and promised to return stronger. Rumours about Kim Min Jae's enlistment were doing rounds for some time. Amid this, during the Dr Romantic 3 media conference in April this year, actor Han Suk Kyu first broke the news of Kim Min Jae. He said, "When I met Kim Min Jae during Season 1, there was a point where I told him, 'Hurry up, and go to the military,' but he is going to the military in July." Kim Min Jae who had not announced his enlistment plans, said, "I think this will become the last project of my 20s."

He later clarified to Soompi, "I'm not enlisting in July and the date has yet to be finalized. I think I'll go [to the military] within the year."

Rowoon exits group SF9 after nearly 7 years, pens note, apologises to fans: I may receive hate...

Rowoon debuted with SF9 in 2016. So far he has featured in School 2017, About Time, Where Stars Land, Extraordinary You, Tomorrow and Destined With You. SF9 member Rowoon has exited the group and will now "focus on individual activities including acting". As per Soompi, SF9's agency FNC Entertainment on Monday shared a statement about Rowoon and the group's activities. Later, Rowoon also penned a long note for fans and apologised.

The statement read, "Hello, this is FNC Entertainment. This is an announcement regarding SF9's activities. SF9, who debuted in 2016 and has been active as our agency's artist for seven years, came upon the expiration of their first contracts on September 18. All members of SF9 previously renewed their contracts with our agency, and they will now take another leap forward with eight members excluding Rowoon." "Rowoon will focus on individual activities including acting. Although the directions of their activities are different, Rowoon, who will remain as the ninth member of SF9, along with the other eight members will cheer each other on and each put in their full effort on their own paths in order to impress fans. We ask that fans continue to show lots of support for SF9 and Rowoon. Thank you," concluded the statement.

According to Soompi, Rowoon penned a handwritten letter on SF9's official fan cafe. He wrote, "Hello, this is Rowoon. I think I thought a lot about what words to start with. It honestly also feels a bit scary to write for the first time in so long. I think I've become slightly more familiar with being more strict on myself while taking on scheduled activities and taking on new challenges." "There was also frustration in not being able to solve big or small misunderstandings one by one, and while thinking that one day my sincerity would be delivered, the days passed by while I focused on the work I immediately needed to do.

Kim Kardashian scolds son Saint for showing middle finger to paparazzi



Kim Kardashian did not let son Saint get away with his rude behaviour recently, when they were both followed by paparazzi. As per a report by Page Six, when Saint, 7, made a rude hand gesture to photographers after leaving his basketball game in Los Angeles, Kim looked stern and scolded him immediately after.

Kim scolds Saint As per the Page Six report, Kim was seen walking with her son Saint after leaving his basketball game in Los Angeles on Friday. During this brief encounter with the photographers, Saint showed his middle finger to them.

This gesture did not escape the attention of Kim, who immediately made a stern reaction and scolded him. She also tried to cover his face with her hand. Kim wore a strapless top and paired it with high-waisted jeans for the day-out. Meanwhile, the 7-year-old was seen giggling right after holding up his middle finger. Even after Kim tried to cover his face, Saint could not stop giggling.

North West viral video Just a few days ago, it seemed like the other way around for Kim at the Beyoncé concert. A TikTok video went viral on the internet where Kim's daughter, North was captured scolding her during the concert. In the video North was seen eagerly waiting for her mother to take a photo with the superstar. She then noticed that Kim was engrossed in a conversation with Beyoncé's husband, Jay-Z. North was seen looking exasperated and this was caught on camera.

Allu Arjun spends some quality time with son Allu Ayaan

Allu Arjun spends some quality time with son Allu Ayaan Telugu superstar Allu Arjun, when in character, is known for his swag and attitude. But apart from his style, the actor also has a softer side which he revolves around his family, particularly his son Allu Ayaan.

Taking some time off to enjoy some quality father-son time, the 'Pushpa' star shared a picture of his son with what appears to be burgers and a coke in front of him. The post was accompanied by popstar Justin Bieber's iconic song 'Baby' playing in the background.

Allu Arjun took to his Instagram, and captioned the post: "DAD & SON TIME."

Though he has a busy schedule, the actor never wastes a moment to have some time with his family, always showing his softer side to Allu and his wife Sneha Reddy.

Allu Arjun is not entirely open about his personal life, though he does tend to share details when he can on social media.

Currently, the star is geared up for his upcoming sequel to his 2021 hit 'Pushpa: The Rise' with the new sequel 'Pushpa 2: The Rule', which is slated to come out on August 15, 2024.

Earlier, the actor had spoken about 'The Rule', saying that the film plans to be bigger and more exciting than the previous outing, complete with better action scenes, story-telling and a finale.

The Sukumar directorial is nearly finished with its filming process and is entering the post-production phase. Apart from that, the 'Sarrainodu' star is also planning to make his Hollywood debut at an unknown date and an unknown project.

Katy Perry claimed she knew the 'real truth' about Russell Brand years before expose

Katy Perry previously seemingly dropped a hint about undisclosed aspects of Russell Brand's life, claiming she knew the "real truth" about him, years before sexual abuse allegations against him emerged. In a 2013 Vogue interview, which has resurfaced amid the ongoing controversy around Brand, Perry discussed her marriage with the comedian, describing it as "controlling" and "hurtful."

Perry revealed that she was deeply in love with Brand when they got married in India on October 23, 2010.

However, their relationship lasted just 14 months, ending with a breakup text from Brand on New Year's Eve in 2011.

Initially, Perry blamed herself for the separation, until she discovered what she referred to as the "real truth" about Brand.

Perry shared her perspective on Brand's changing behavior during their relationship, stating that initially he sought an equal partnership.

However, he struggled with her taking on a more dominant role, particularly when she was in



charge during their tours.

Perry implied undisclosed information, hinting at something hidden, stating, "I felt a lot of responsibility for it ending, but then I found out the real truth, which I can't necessarily disclose because I keep it locked in my safe for a rainy day."

I let go and I was like, 'This isn't because of me; this is beyond me.' So I have moved on

from that."

What is the 'real truth'?

Perry did not specify the nature of this undisclosed truth, but speculations connected it with the recent allegations against Brands.

One of the unnamed accusers has come forward, stating that she experienced an emotionally abusive and controlling relationship with Brand when she was just 16, and he was 31.

She alleged that Brand assaulted her and repeatedly referred to her as a "child" during their romance.

Brand denied all of these "extremely disturbing" allegations in a video, clarifying that during his promiscuous period, which he extensively documented in his books, all his relationships were consensual.

Brand further emphasised his strong refutation of these "very, very serious" criminal accusations, noting that there are witnesses whose accounts directly contradict the narratives presented by the mainstream media outlets involved in what he perceives as a coordinated attack.

RANBIR KAPOOR SUITS UP FOR NEW ANIMAL POSTER; TEASER TO RELEASE ON THIS DATE

The team behind the upcoming action thriller film Animal has released a new poster featuring actor Ranbir Kapoor. Taking to Instagram on Monday, T-Series announced the release date of the teaser of Animal.

Ranbir stars in new poster of Animal

In the poster, Ranbir wore a blue suit as he smoked a cigarette while holding a lighter. He wore dark sunglasses and sported long hair as he looked away from the camera. The

date of the teaser release is September 28, 2023, at 10 am. The film, helmed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga, will release worldwide on December 1, 2023. Sharing the poster, T-Series captioned it, "He is elegant...He is Wild...You will see his rage on September 28th. Animal Teaser On 28th Sept @AnimalTheFilm #AnimalOn1stDec."

About Animal The film will hit theatres in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, and Malayalam. Animal is produced by

Bhushan Kumar & Krishan Kumar's T-Series, Murad Khetani's Cine1 Studios, and Pranay Reddy Vanga's Bhadrakali Pictures. This film also stars Anil Kapoor, Rashmika Mandana, Bobby Deol, and Tripti Dimri. The team of Animal wrapped up the shooting of Animal in July.

Why release date of Animal was delayed

Earlier, talking about the film's postponement, Sandeep had said in a video, "The only reason why we are

not releasing the film on August 11 is the quality. I am not going to explain to you how the post-production work of the film is being layered because it might bore you. For example, there are seven songs in the film and when the seven songs are multiplied by 5 languages it becomes 35 songs."

"35 songs, different types of lyricists, different sets of singers, it's going to take a little more time than what I have actually planned for. The kind of lyrical value that

we have achieved in Hindi, I need to give the same kind of lyrical value in all different languages and for that, I really need to spend time to get into all different languages. When it gets released I don't want to give the feeling that it is a Hindi-dubbed Tamil film or a Hindi-dubbed Telugu film.

So for that, we are taking time and there's no other reason. All I can promise you is that we will come with the best quality on December 1," he had added.



Chairperson DDC Kishtwar chairs Quarterly General Council meeting

Reviews sector wise physical, financial progress under District Capex, ADP, other plans



JJ NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, SEPT 18: Chairperson District Development Council, Kishtwar, Pooja Thakur today chaired the quarterly General Council Meeting here in the Conference Hall of DC Office Complex.

The meeting was attended by the DDC Vice Chairperson, Saima Parveen Lone; Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav; CEO General Council/ADDC, Sham Lal; ACR, Varunjeet Singh Charak; Joint Director Planning, Mohd Iqbal; DPO, Sunil Bhutyal all BDC Chairpersons, DDC Councilors, besides district and sectoral officers. Before the meeting started, a 2-minute silence was observed to pay tribute to local Martyr Rifleman Ravi Kumar and others

who recently sacrificed their life for the nation, and the father-in-law of the DCC Chairperson, who passed away last month.

At the outset, the CEO General Council, Sham Lal welcomed the members of the general council and apprised them about the objectives of the meeting.

The chairperson Pooja Thakur reviewed the sector wise physical and financial status of the works taken up under District Capex, Area Development Plan & DDC, BDC and PRIs plan for the FY 2023-24.

During the meeting, the council was apprised about the action taken report (ATR) of the grievances raised in the previous general council meeting. The officers of the concerned departments explained the progress on the grievances pertaining to their

departments.

The majority of the grievances have been redressed whereas redressal on the rest of the grievances is under progress and will be completed in a time bound manner, informed the CEO General Council during the meeting.

Also, during the meeting the block wise issues and grievances related to the various departments of PHE, Health, JPDC, Education, PWD etc were highlighted by the DDC and BDC members which were noted down by CEO General Council. The necessary directions were given to the concerned officers for immediate resolution of these highlighted issues.

Meanwhile, the Chairperson stressed upon the concerned executive agencies to expedite the pace on the ongoing developmental projects in the district and ensure the projects taken up under the FY 2023-24 are completed ahead of the ensuing winters.

She also stressed upon the executive agencies to mobilise the men and machinery at work place at full capacity to achieve the targets.

The DDC Chairperson exhorted upon all the departments to work in tandem to ensure the encumbrances which are hampering the developmental works are removed and projects are completed in a timely manner.

DC inspires trainees at ITI Rajouri Convocation Ceremony

Youth Empowered with Skill-Based Training

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, SEPT 18: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, led an inspirational Convocation Ceremony in the Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Rajouri, reinforcing the district administration's unwavering commitment to empower youth through skill-based training and education.

Among the others present were ITI Principal, Ujjawal Mahajan; Ashish Langer, Yasmeen Kouser, Dr Anuja Jasrotia and others from the region, whose presence added significance and encouragement to the event.

During the program, DC engaged with the trainees, fostering an atmosphere of guidance



and motivation. He emphasized the pivotal role of skill-based training in shaping the future of youth, highlighting the necessity of practical knowledge and hands-on experience.

The ceremony celebrated the excellence of top-performing trainees from various trades. This

acknowledgment not only underscores the institution's commitment to nurturing talent but also honors the remarkable achievements of these talented individuals. ITI Rajouri leads the charge in empowering youth by offering training in diverse fields, including a Technician course

in Mobile Repairing under the SANKALP initiative. This forward-thinking program aligns with the nation's vision of creating a skilled workforce and equipping youth with the tools they need to succeed in a rapidly evolving world.

The presence of Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal and his insightful words resonated with attendees, emphasizing the significance of skill-based education in transforming lives and strengthening communities. The ITI Rajouri Convocation Ceremony serves as a beacon of hope and opportunity for the youth of Rajouri, representing a significant stride toward a brighter and more empowered future.

J&K Pollution Control Committee celebrates 'World Ozone Day-2023'



JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, SEPT 18: The Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC), Kashmir celebrated World Ozone Day 2023 under the theme 'Montreal Protocol: Fixing the Ozone layer and reducing Climate Change'.

The event was inaugurated by Regional Director JKPCC Kashmir, Rafi Ahmad Bhat.

Speaking on the occasion, he deliberated upon the importance and significance of this day for

preservation of Ozone layer and stressed that while global efforts have yielded positive impact of Montreal Protocol leading to ozone healing. India too has played a proactive role in phasing out production and consumption of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS).

He said however, depletion in the Ozone layer is a serious issue and needs to be taken care of at individual as well as collective levels by creating and spreading awareness and adopting LIFE Mission (Life style for Environment). Speaking on the

occasion, Gazzala Hassan, Scientist "B" JKPCC underlined the importance and gave in-depth details of how Montreal Protocol achieved universal ratification, most successful environmental programs in action, and an international environmental agreement to protect Earth's Ozone layer by eliminating the use of Ozone Depleting Substances.

She brought the picture of the bad ozone that is created by human activities and stressed upon reduction of vehicular emissions, responsible for the ground level ozone conditions. Fayaz Ahmad Bhat Scientist 'A' of JKPCC delivered an insightful talk on the chemical phenomenon that lead to Ozone depletion and about the overall significance of Ozone layer. During the Event, a documentary related to the Subject was also run which was appreciated by the participants. Zahoor Ahmad, Scientist 'A' of JKPCC also delivered a speech and appealed for action by one and all.

Gandhi Jayanti: GDC Ukhral organises seminar on "Non-Violence as Weapon of Indian Freedom Struggle"



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 18: A one day seminar on the theme "Non-violence as Weapon of Indian Freedom Struggle" was today organized by NSS Unit of Government Degree College Ukhral to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The Department of Political Science, Career Counselling Cell and IQAC also collaborated in holding the event.

Prof. Zakir Hussain Naik, NSS Programme Officer and HoD Political Science, presented the welcome address. He highlighted that the objective of organising this seminar is to delve into the concept of Truth and Non-Violence as the potent force of Gandhi for the freedom struggle of India.

Around 15 students presented their papers on the occasion. All the participants expressed the view that the Non-violence was one of the greatest weapons of Gandhiji in liberating India from British colonialism.

Anand Singh, Army Officer from 12 RR was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

In his address, he emphasized upon the students to cherish the noble values of Truth, Love, Non-violence and Peace. He appreciated the students for their marvellous presentations and College Administration for organising this seminar.

The Principal of the College, Prof. (Dr.) Shallu Samy, presided over the function. In her presidential speech, she said that Mahatma

Gandhi was the most widely recognized figure of the Indian National Movement and saluted his role in the non-violent freedom struggle of India.

She impressed upon the students to pursue the values and thoughts of Gandhiji in their life which are based on truth and non-violence.

The best three paper presenters were given awards and the Certificate of Participation was given to all other participants. The Jury members for today's programme were Dr. Shafiq Ahmed Katoch, Prof Iftikhar Hussain Lone and Prof Suresh Chander.

The seminar was attended by all the teaching and non-teaching staff members of the college including Dr. Shafiq Ahmed Katoch, Prof Iftikhar Hussain Lone, Prof. Ishfaq Hassan Mir, Prof. Mushtaq Ahmed Hajam.

Prof. Suresh Chander, Convener Career Counselling Cell, presented the formal vote of thanks to all the guests and participants.

The proceedings of the program were conducted by Ishfaq Hassan Mir, while the technical support was provided by Akash Verma and Farooq Ahmed Katoch. The program culminated with recitation of the National Anthem.

DC reviews working of Cooperative Department in Rajouri District



JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, SEPT 18: To devise a vibrant action plan for the efficiency and impact of cooperative initiatives in the district, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, today led a detailed review of the functioning of the Department.

The review encompassed several vital aspects, including the establishment of new cooperative societies, the recovery of Non-Performing Asset (NPA) amounts from Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), and a thorough assessment of the implementation of various initiatives under the "Sehkar se Samridhhi" scheme.

The meeting provided a valuable platform for stakeholders to dis-

cuss strategies for the formation and strengthening of new cooperative societies. The focus was on creating a robust network of cooperatives that could foster economic growth, self-sufficiency, and equitable development within the district.

Another pivotal point of discussion revolved around the recovery of NPA amounts from PACS. The need for timely and efficient recovery mechanisms was emphasized to ensure the financial health and sustainability of these essential entities. Deputy commissioner Vikas Kundal also conducted an extensive review of the implementation of various initiatives falling under the "Sehkar se Samridhhi" scheme. These initiatives play a crucial role in uplifting the socio-

economic status of the rural population, and their effective execution is integral to the development of the district.

The comprehensive review session was marked by productive discussions, strategic planning, and a shared commitment to realizing the full potential of the Cooperative Department.

It reinforced the dedication of the district administration to promoting economic prosperity, rural development, and financial inclusivity.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Khurshid; Deputy Registrar Cooperative Societies, Adnan Rather; Assistant Registrars and Cooperative Marketing Managers.

Chairman DDC Jammu reviews working of health department

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 18: District Development Council Chairman, Bharat Bhushan today chaired a meeting to review the performance of the health sector in the district. DDC Vice Chairman Suraj Singh and other DDC members were also present at the meeting.

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chief Medical Officer delivered a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the steps taken to make every panchayat free of tuberculosis. It was stressed that individuals experiencing prolonged coughing should avail of free TB testing at local government health facilities.

During the discussion, the Chairman highlighted the need for the uninterrupted power supply system at Sub District Hospitals, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres and Health Sub Centres.

The issue of pending registration and the utilisation of ambulances was raised by several DDC members. In response, the Chief Medical Officer informed that the matter has been brought to the attention of the Regional Transport Officer and would be resolved shortly. The status of land acquisition



for establishing new Primary Health Centres and Health Sub-Centres was also reviewed. The DDC expressed the urgency of resolving this matter in collaboration with the Revenue Department and expediting the land transfer process.

All DDC members expressed their appreciation for the diligent work of the Block Medical Officers and their respective medical staff.

DDC member from Maira Mandrian, Suresh Sharma, raised concerns over staff shortage at Community Health Centre Maira Mandrian and CHC Chowki Choura. He also noted that CHC Chowki Choura has been designated as a 24/7 trauma hospital but was not functioning as such.

Additionally, he highlighted issues related to incomplete hospital infrastructure.

The Members also requested the stocking of anti-venom and anti-rabies vaccines in all medical facilities for the benefit of the local public. Other health-related concerns raised by DDC members were duly noted and addressed by the Chief Medical Officer, who assured appropriate action and follow-up.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Jammu, Ramesh Chander; Chief Planning Officer, Yoginder Katoch; Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Harbaksh Singh, along with other concerned officers from the Health Department and district administration.

Students of GDC Sunderbani take Swachhta Pledge

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 18: In continuation to Gandhi Jayanti celebration, NSS unit Government Degree College Sunderbani, in collaboration with Road Safety club of the College, organized

Swachhta Pledge to spread awareness and to reaffirm the need for a mass movement to adopt better sanitation and hygiene practices.

Students and staff of the college took part in the pledge. The program was organized under the

supervision of Dr. Mohd Azam and he appreciated the efforts of the members of all the committees for organizing the programme. Such programs sensitize masses and develop interest among the masses for making their locality neat

and clean. Thus clean India would be the best tribute India can pay to Mahatma Gandhi.

The programme was coordinated by Sheraz Kousser NSS PO, Prof. Beant Singh convenor Road Safety Club and Prof. Sham Lal.

Divisional Commissioner reviews developmental scenario in Udhampur District

Urges for rationalization of staff in schools, power supply reliability



JJ NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, SEPT 18: Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar today took a comprehensive review of the developmental scenario in Udhampur, including the execution of ongoing projects and proposed works under different programmes, here at a meeting.

The meeting, held in the Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex Udhampur, assessed the status of the flagship programs, schemes, progress achieved under the District Capex Budget, centrally sponsored initiatives, Area Development grants, land matters, and other pertinent concerns in the district.

District Development Commissioner, Saloni Rai, SSP, Dr. Vinod Kumar; ADDC, Ghan Shyam Singh; ADC, Joginder Singh Jasrotia and district heads of various departments attended the meeting.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner extended a warm welcome to the Divisional Commissioner and proceeded to provide a sector-wise PowerPoint presentation detailing the ongoing developmental initiatives, flagship programs, and schemes being executed by different departments in the district. She also presented updates on significant projects such as the Chenani-Sudhmahadev road NH-244, the Devika project, integrated tourist facilities at Mantalai and Sudhmahadev, Government Medical College Udhampur, and associated hospital, as well as financial progress under the district Capex Budget for 2022-23 and 2023-24.

ratios. The emphasis was on generating employment through sectors like Agriculture, Horticulture, and Animal Husbandry.

The progress of PMGSY and PWD projects was reviewed, with a directive to expedite work to meet government targets. Quality checks were emphasized to maintain project integrity.

District heads of various departments briefed the Divisional Commissioner on the status of schemes within their purview, with a continued focus on interdepartmental collaboration.

Finally, the Divisional Commissioner highlighted the importance of creating awareness about self-employment schemes among unemployed youth and encouraged departments to organize awareness programs for this purpose.

In a separate meeting, the Divisional Commissioner reviewed the working of Revenue department.

Attendees included Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Saloni Rai, SSP Dr. Vinod Kumar, ADC Joginder Singh Jasrotia, ACR Rafiq Ahmed Jaral, all SDMs, and Tehsildars.

The meeting included discussions on different aspects, such as digitization of Jamabandies, quality checks of digitized Jamabandies, digitization and georeferencing of cadastral maps/Mussavis, recreation of Mussavis, Swamitva status, online services, Revenue court cases in RCCMS, land transfer to BSNL, land acquisition cases, Capex review, encroachments, relief cases under SDRF, change of land use cases, and the status of public services under the Guarantee Act.

Tehsildars were directed to complete village-wise quality checks of Jamabandies within seven days, and ADC was tasked with clearing departmental enquiry pendencies within a month.

The meeting concluded with an emphasis on adhering to established rules, laws, and service delivery within stipulated timelines, as prescribed in the PSGA. SDMs and Tehsildars were instructed to prioritize the resolution of all pending cases.

Additionally, the JPDCL department was directed to improve power supply reliability, and the education department was tasked with rationalizing teacher-student

07 Days Divisional level Training programme under (NBHM) on Scientific Beekeeping concludes at Lalmandi Srinagar

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, SEPT 18: The seven days Divisional level training programme on Scientific Beekeeping under National Bee-keeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) organised by the department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Kashmir concluded today at Agriculture Complex Lalmandi Srinagar.

The concluding session was attended by Joint Director Extension, Joint Director Inputs, Director Rakhs and Farms, Chief Agriculture Officer Srinagar, Assistant entomologist, Beekeepers, students and other stakeholders.

Speaking at the concluding ses-

Programme aimed to provide practical training to the Participants & equip them with necessary skill in Beekeeping

sion, Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal expressed satisfaction and asked the participants to take maximum benefits from what they have learnt from the training programme and implement the latest technologies on their own units.

He said such programmes are aimed to provide practical training to the participants and equip them with necessary skills in Beekeeping.

Director Agriculture said that there is a vast potential in small scale agriculture cottage industries including Bee-keeping,

Mushroom cultivation and other allied activities in the overall development of the agriculture sector.

He highlighted the importance of organising such training programmes and impressed upon the concerned to make such efforts in coming times and ensure that more and more educated youth take part in such training programmes and benefit from the departmental initiatives.

Later, a certificate distribution ceremony took place where the certificates were awarded to the trainees who completed the programme successfully.

coordination among departments for conducting more awareness camps in the district and enrolling more youth for training and Credit linkage so that maximum youth are provided with benefits under various Self employment schemes.

He stressed upon both banks as well as sponsoring agencies to play a vital role for achieving the set targets under various sectors for setting up income generating units.

ADC also emphasized upon concerned for making sure placements of candidates after the completion of the training programme so that they could be able to earn their livelihood.

The meeting was attended by District Heads of allied Departments; Lead District Manager, Chief Agriculture Officer, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, District Officer KVIB, Cluster Head J&K Bank, District Programme Manager, NRLM and other Branch Heads of various banks and district officers.

DC Jammu forewarns strict action against unfair practices in ration supply

Reviews working of FCS&CA Department



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 18: Deputy Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya today reviewed the status of ration supply and delivery in the district here at a meeting with officers of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) department. Assistant Directors, TSOs and Inspectors were in attendance during the meeting.

During the meeting, the DC emphasised crucial elements in the ration supply chain, including the need for timely distribution, the exclusive use of electronic weighing machines, biometric verification, issuing purchase receipts, eliminating manual paperwork and vigorously implementing the One Nation One Ration Card initiative. The DC examined every step of the ration

distribution process, emphasising its significance for the public. The DC reviewed the status of all categories of beneficiaries such as AAY, PHH and NPHH.

The DC expressed serious concern towards allegations of unfair practices like pilferage, adulteration, and under-weighting. He made a commitment to carry out unannounced inspections and impose strict penalties, with a particular focus on maintaining accurate records.

Tehsil Supply Officers and Inspectors were entrusted with the responsibility to ensure fair practices within their respective areas of jurisdiction. Additionally, the DC emphasised the necessity of educating consumers about their rights, aiming to create awareness among the public.

03 Days Capacity Development Programme concludes at NIESBUD Centre Srinagar

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, SEPT 18: The three days Capacity Development Programme for existing entrepreneurs for scaling up their business activities under SANKALP concluded here at National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India, Srinagar Centre.

This was the second programme as part of the series of programmes to be conducted in Jammu and Kashmir in coming days.

Principal Government Polytechnic College (Women), Bemina Srinagar earlier inaugurated the



programme and also briefed participants about the importance of such programmes.

He also provided insights on the programmes conducted by NIESBUD in Jammu and Kashmir.

The programme was organized to support young entrepreneurs and educate them about sales, marketing and business communication.

The three days pro-

gramme covered the areas on e-commerce, market linkages, awareness regarding government schemes, entrepreneurship development, soft and hard skills, product value additions, bank linkages and application procedures for loans etc.

The experts from NIESBUD provided the basic expertise on how to overcome various challenges which the entrepreneurs are facing during market-

ing and packaging etc. Dr. Aijaz Mir representing NIESBUD, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India, in the UT of J&K, thanked the participants, the college administration and the experts for making the workshop a success and also assured further handholding and support for these entrepreneurs and other aspiring entrepreneurs in future also.

SWD hosts Camps for Social Welfare pension cases across Jammu District

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, SEPT 18: Social Welfare Department has organised special camps across the district to help the applicants of the Integrated Social Security Scheme (ISSS) Pension Scheme, which provides financial assistance to the elderly, widows, destitute and persons with disabilities. The camps aim to facilitate the applicants in completing their documents and verifying their eligibility for the scheme.

Deputy Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya is keeping a close eye on the day-to-day progress of these camps and has ordered that they be treated as a top priority. He visited one such camp at Parade Ground today and spoke with the public. He has instructed

the camp officials to assist the public with full sincerity in the spirit of public service.

According to the department, there were around 17,800 applications pending due to deficiency of documents at the applicant's end at the beginning of the special campaign.

The camps have been attended by thousands of participants, resulting in a sharp decline in the number of pendencies from 17,800 to roughly around 7,500. The department is not withholding any eligible application and upon full verification, applications are being approved instantly.

The camps are being organised tehsil-wise and block-wise at 23 locations across Jammu district from September 14 to September 21. Each Block Development

Officer office is hosting these camps, where the staff of the Social Welfare Department is providing guidance and assistance to the applicants. The tehsil-wise camps are being held at Parade Ground Jammu, Tehsil Office Gole, Panchayat Ghar Nadora, Panchayat Ghar Jagti and Panchayat Ghar Dansal.

The Social Welfare Department has appealed to the eligible persons to avail the benefit of these camps and complete their documents as soon as possible. The camps are running between 11 am and 4 pm in specified locations. The last date of the camp is September 21.

Further information about these camps can be obtained by contacting the respective tehsil or BDO office.

Saurabh Bhagat visits Baramulla; Reviews progress on state of the art CIIT institute



JJ NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, SEPT 18: Commissioner Secretary, Skill Development Department, Saurabh Bhagat, today paid a visit to Government Polytechnic College Kanispora Baramulla.

Commissioner Secretary was accompanied by Director Skill Development, Sudharshan Kumar, Joint Director Planning, M.Yosuf Rather and other concerned officers. He had comprehensive evaluation of the Centre for Invention,

Innovation, Incubation, and Training (CIIT), established in collaboration with the Government of India and Tata Technologies Limited. During the visit, Saurabh Bhagat was provided an in-depth presentation by the Head of Department at CIIT, Parvaiz Ahmad Bhat, elucidating the operations of 200 crore rupees CIIT facility, only the second of its kind in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Notably, the institute offers a range of technological courses including IoT (Internet of

Things), Innovation and Design, Mechatronics, Advanced Manufacturing, among others, with the primary objective of preparing students for the industry.

Commissioner Secretary was apprised of the institute's collaborations with esteemed institutions in the region, such as Kashmir University, Islamic University, and SSM College of Engineering, to extend training programs to their students. Commending the institute's efforts in skill development, Saurabh Bhagat emphasized the importance of the state-of-the-art training centre in Baramulla, geared towards providing advanced, job-oriented skill training in north Kashmir. He asked the District Administration officials and the institute heads to enhance admissions and expand the reach of skill training programs and the plan for the same to be framed and submitted to the directorate office in one week's time.

DLRAC meeting held at Shopian



JJ NEWS SERVICE

SHOPIAN, SEPT 18: A District Level Rural Self-Employment Advisory Committee (DLRAC) meeting for the first Quarter ended 30th June, 2023 was today held at Shopian to review the performance of the J&K Bank Rural Self Employment Training Institute Shopian.

The meeting was chaired by Additional Deputy Commissioner

(ADC) Shopian, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz. At the outset, Director, RSETI, Nazir Ahmad presented the progress of RSETI Shopian during the first quarter of FY 2023-24. RSETI Shopian has given training to 150 candidates during the quarter with a settlement ratio of 55 percent and credit linkage of 54 percent. This is against a target of 450 candidates for 17 different batches. Speaking on the occasion, ADC stressed upon better

DC felicitates newly Qualified JKAS candidates of Reasi District

JJ NEWS SERVICE

REASI, SEPT 18: In a momentous event, District Administration Reasi today organized an Interaction-cum-Felicitation ceremony for the brightest minds of the District, who qualified JKAS exam 2023.

On the occasion, Deputy Commissioner, Babila Rakwal, ACR Anshumali Sharma; SDM Mahore, Mazahir Hussain Shah and other officers interacted with the selected candidates who shared their experience about qualifying the prestigious Civil Services Examination.

The DC congratulated the selected candidates and expressed hope that their success would motivate others to aim high and achieve their goals.



The candidates who met the DC included Sadam Hussain from Dubri, Mohammad Anjum from Gangote, Arjun Singh from Chassana, Dr. Abhinandan Magotra from Pouni.

Fleet of 25 trucks carrying 1500 cattle along with 30 Nomadic families flagged-off from Anantnag

JJ NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, SEPT 18: In order to avoid traffic jamming on national highways due to the annual movements of the cattle during the Autumn season from Kashmir to Jammu Division, Tribal Affairs Department in collaboration with Sheep Husbandry Department & JKSRTC began transportation of Tribal people along with their cattle to their destinations in Jammu division.

In this regard, 25 trucks carrying 1500 cattle along with 30 families were flagged-off today



from Sarnal Anantnag by Ahmad Bhat. ADC Anantnag, Gulzar Speaking on the occasion, the ADC said that the novel initiative has been taken to ensure that no animal flocks move on national highways during the autumn season, adding that the process shall continue for a month in the first initiative and would be extended for another 15 days if need arises. District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Mohammad Rafiq Shah, who is designated as nodal officer said that 48k animals have been registered with the Sheep Husbandry Department Anantnag as on date for transporting to Jammu Division.

Ayushman Bhava, SBA campaign

Cleanliness drive, Health awareness camp conducted at GHSS Bijarni

JJ NEWS SERVICE

DODA, SEPT 18: As the part of the ongoing Ayushman Bhava campaign and to mark the celebration of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to achieve universal sanitation coverage, a health awareness programme and cleanliness drive was today organized by the staff of HWC-SC Bijarni (Block Ghat) in the local Government High School.

Besides the health staff, the programme organized under the supervision of Block Medical Officer Ghat, Dr. Ab Gafoor Ahmed, was attended by school staff students and prominent public of the area.

Alongside the Swachta Bharat Abhiyan, the participants were made aware about the ongoing Ayushman Bhava campaign launched by the GOI. They were imparted awareness regarding ABHA I'd, AB PMJAY Sehat, NCDs, TB/Anemia Mukht Bharat, IMI 5.0 Vaccination, Jan Sabha, Tele Consultation, Health & Hygiene etc. Moreover, Sewa Pakhwada cleanliness drive was also organized at HWC Sub Centre Bijarni.

The aim of conducting the programme was to instill a sense of

responsibility among the masses towards keeping the area clean and green besides to educate them about the various health schemes run by the GOI.

On this occasion, Faizan A Tramboo from the health department administered the pledge to the participants on Swachta Bharat Abhiyan and urged them to act as the ambassadors of the campaign in their areas.

The programme was jointly managed and coordinated by the Principal, Staff of GHS Bijarni and HWC- Sub Centre Bijarni, which ended on a positive note.

Sri Pratap College kick-starts Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, SEPT 18: Sri Pratap College kick-started Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations, with Principal of the College, Prof (Dr) Ghulam Jeelani Qureshi formally inaugurating the event.

The celebrations started with Cleanliness Drive of the College campus under the ambit of Swachhta Abhiyan.

During the opening ceremony, the Principal of the College deliberated



upon the Gandhian ideology of non-violence,

peace and cleanliness. He impressed upon the participants to take upon the responsibility of making the campus and the surroundings clean and green. 80 NSS volunteers and NSS programme officers participated enthusiastically in the cleanliness drive and collected 40 kgs plastic waste from the campus.

The waste was finally handed over to Srinagar Municipal Corporation for proper scientific disposal at their end.

YSS Ganderbal kicks-off Inter Zone District Level Kho-Kho competition for Girls

JJ NEWS SERVICE



GANDERBAL, SEPT 18: Youth Services and Sports (YSS) Ganderbal organized a spectacular Inter Zone District level Kho-Kho competition for girls at the picturesque ground of GCOPE Gadoora Ganderbal.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from all four zones of the district. The officials and the student players took a Panch Pran Pledge before the commencement of the event.

The competition was intense in which all the student players showcased their talent and had a fantastic experience while taking part in such competition.

The efforts of the meritorious teams were recognized by the senior officials of the department by felicitating them with the well-deserved trophies after the culmination of the activity.

Sports events like these play a crucial role in promoting fitness and teamwork among students.

5-Day Capacity Building Workshop for frontline workers of ICDS POSHAN takes off at Banihal

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, SEPT 18: Poshan (ICDS) Ramban in conjunction with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Foundation and supported by the J&K Association of Social Workers organised a 5-day transformative capacity-building workshop for the frontline workers of ICDS Project Banihal.

The workshop kicked off today in Banihal CDPO Office.

Ten nominated Master Trainers from the Banihal Poshan ICDS project are participating in the workshop.

The workshop's primary objectives include acquainting Trainers with the concept and significance of creating optimal learning environments and designing Anganwadi Centers (AWCs). Additionally, it aims to foster a comprehensive understanding of Free Play and the Four Corners approach, with the ultimate goal of equipping frontline workers to pre-

pare beneficiary children for school, thus enriching the local community. The workshop is being attended by Dr. Rashim Pal, serving as a Resource Person and ECCE Specialist, Upti, Project Manager from CII Foundation, Tariq Ahmed, Project Coordinator from CII Foundation, J&K Chapter, and Sajjad A Mandloo, Project Manager from J&K Association of Social Workers, along with other dedicated team members. The inauguration of workshop was led by Project Officer ICDS Ramban Jhangir Hashmi. He conveyed heartfelt appreciation to the CII Foundation for its dedication and support. "This workshop marks a significant milestone in the continuous development of our frontline workers," Hashmi emphasized.

Hashmi expressed unwavering confidence in the department's ability to build the capacity of these Trainers.

They, in turn, will be well-pre-

pared to disseminate invaluable knowledge and practical expertise to their fellow Poshan (ICDS) field functionaries in Ramban District, contributing to the betterment of our local communities. Later during a sensitisation session, PO Poshan (ICDS) Ramban, Jahangir Hashmi, sensitized CII Foundation experts, including Dr. Rashim Pal, Upti, Khurshheed and Sajad to the essential training needs of ICDS frontline workers in Ramban, underscoring the collective commitment to empowerment.

This transformative initiative builds upon a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with ICDS J&K in October 2022, marking the commencement of capacity-building efforts for Anganwadi frontline workers across three districts. Notably, out of the four projects adopted by CII Foundation in Jammu & Kashmir, two are rooted in Ramban District, with one each in Anantnag and Baramulla.

Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations: S.P College organizes Awareness programme on Psycho-Social Counseling for Youth



JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, SEPT 18: As part of on-going Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations 2023, the NSS Units of Sri Pratap College, Srinagar in collaboration with Mission Youth,

J&K today organized one day awareness programme on Psycho-Social Counseling for Youth on Mental Health and Drug Addiction, here.

The Resource Person for the event was Dr. Maria Zahoor,

Senior Resident at IMHANS. The event was formally inaugurated by Principal of the College, Dr. Ghulam Jeelani Qureshi who impressed upon students to take up the responsibility of removing the stigma and taboos associated with mental health issues. He urged the students to come forward and open up about any kind of anxieties they face.

The speaker of the event spoke at length about the identification marks of suicidal tendencies, drug abuse, Depression and other mental health disorders.

150 NSS volunteers enthusiastically participated in the event. Later the speaker had a one to one conversation with the students who were facing stress and anxiety related issues.

The event was jointly coordinated by NSS Programme Officers, Dr Javid, Dr Nadia and Dr. Raashid.

DC Srinagar finalises arrangements for smooth conduct of JKSSRB exams

Over 5000 candidates appearing in examination at various designated centers in District

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 18:- In connection with the JKSSRB OMR based written examination scheduled to be held in the month of September and October 2023, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex. At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner discussed

be put in place for the smooth conduct of the SSB forthcoming examination.

The examination is being held at various centers in the District in which over 5000 candidates are appearing.

During the meeting police department was directed to ensure adequate deployment of Police personnel. Similarly, Traffic Department to ensure proper traffic arrangements in and around the designated examination centres. While proper Escort be pro-

vided to the JKSSB for transportation of material to the exam centres through the Vehicles of RTO for transport of the material.

Likewise, PDD was asked to ensure uninterrupted power supply at the Centers.

During the meeting, it was decided that section 144 Crpc shall be imposed around the examination centres.

While supervisors and duty magistrates were also deployed to ensure smooth and hassle free conduct of examination.

DC reviews progress of JJM works in Kathua District



JJ NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, SEPT 18: Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rakesh Minhas today chaired a meeting of concerned officers and contractors to review the progress achieved under flagship Jal Jeevan Mission in the district.

At the outset, Superintendent Engineer Hydraulic R. K Gupta apprised the Deputy

Commissioner about the financial and physical progress achieved under the Mission.

The DC, while interacting with contractors executing the JJM work, emphasised upon them to complete all assigned works within stipulated timeframes. He further called upon the executing agencies to ensure no laxity in execution of the works and asked for penalizing the defaulters. Underlining the

need for quality asset creation within set timelines, the DC called upon the engineers to take PRIs on board for proper monitoring of the assets being created in their respective areas. He further called for speeding up the works to rule out any chance of carrying forward any financial liabilities.

Issues such as construction of Overhead tanks, slow sand filtration plant and Rapid Sand filtration plants remained the focal point of concern wherein DC passed directions to all concerned to mobilize men and machinery for achieving progress before the cut-off timelines. Earlier, SE Hydraulic gave a brief account of the works undertaken wherein he informed about the status of all allotted works, including OHTs, Regarding Slow sand filtration plant, Rapid Sand filtration plant. CPO Kathua Uttam Singh, XEN PHE Kathua and other concerned officers were also present.

Power shutdown

JAMMU, SEPT 18: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCJ Jammu has informed that the power supply to Battal Manwal, Jagnu, Ramnagar, Basant Garh and adjoining areas will remain affected on September 19 from 6 am to 11 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Bhudhal Town, Gabbar, Kewal, Phalni, Nagathub and adjoining areas will remain affected on September 19 from 7

am to 1 pm. Likewise, the power supply to City, Choudharynar, Gambhir, PWD and adjoining areas will remain affected on September 21 from 7 am to 1 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Thanamandi, Fatehpur, Behrote, Plangarh, Bawali, Shadra Sharief and adjoining areas will remain affected on September 22 from 7 am to 1 pm.

