



# JINDRAH IMAGES

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## AC approves filling up of left over vacancies in paramedical institutions after centralized counseling by J&K BOPEE is over

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

The Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, approved filling up of left over vacancies in paramedical institutions after centralized counseling by Board of Professional Entrance Examinations (BOPEE) is over.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

The Administrative Council approved filling up of left over seats for admission to M.Sc/ B.Sc Nursing, Post Basic B.Sc Nursing, B. Pharmacy Course and various Paramedical Courses in the Government



run institutions and Private Institutions in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir by the Institution itself, on merit basis strictly as per the eligibility criteria and Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) framed by the Government, after centralized counseling by the Jammu and Kashmir Board of Professional Entrance Examinations is over.

This has been necessitated because of the fact that majority of such seats in the Private

as well as Government Nursing and Paramedical Institutions remain unfilled and a representation in this regard was submitted by the promoters of the institutions. By virtue of SAC decision dated 30-7-2019, Health and Medical Education Department issued SRO-505 of 2019 dated 20-8-2019 vide which admission to Nursing and Paramedical courses offered by Government/ Private Institutions/ Universities

were to be made by J&K BOPEE on merit basis. Subsequently vide SRO- 640 of 2019 dated 24-10-2019, the notification SRO-505 of 2019 dated 20-8-2019 was to take effect from academic session 2020-21. Admissions were made by J&K, BOPEE but majority of seats in Government/Private Institutions remain unfilled.

The case was examined and the model in State of

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## LG Sinha inaugurates 4th Khelo India Games' snow sports event at Gulmarg



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
GULMARG, FEB 21

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the snow sports event of 4th Khelo India Games at the world-famous ski resort, Gulmarg today.

Nisith Pramanik, Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs & Sports and Home Affairs also graced the occasion.

The Lt Governor conveyed his best wishes to athletes from all over the country participating in different winter-sports disciplines. "It is a momentous occasion for more than 600 athletes who have been preparing for this spectacular event," he said.

He invited the athletes, team officials and sports enthusiasts to enjoy the warm hospitality of Jammu Kashmir, enjoy the thrill of Alpine Ski, Nordic Ski, snow Mountaineering competitions and also enjoy the incredible sights and cuisine of the paradise on earth.

"The 4th Khelo India Winter Games, over the next 4 days, will honor the hard work, skills, dedication and sporting excellence on ski slope and I am confident it will renew the spirit of brotherhood, peace and harmony among all the teams," the Lt Governor said.

At the inaugural ceremony, the Lt Governor highlighted the efforts of the government

to promote robust sports culture in cities and villages of the Union Territory.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji, a new era of sports has emerged in Jammu Kashmir. Renewed thrust on state-of-art infrastructure and allied facilities has given a huge impetus to sports sector, the Lt Governor observed.

Our talented sportspersons have proved their mettle in national and international sports events. Their achievements are inspiring the budding athletes to bring laurels to the UT and the nation, he said.

He also expressed

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## AC approves 5 special courts for trials under NDPS act

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, approved creation of 05 Special Courts along with posts for trial of offences under NDPS

Act along with supporting staff and infrastructure, one each in districts of Anantnag, Baramulla, Jammu, Pulwama and Srinagar in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeep Kumar Bhan-

dari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting. This has been done in compliance to the orders of High Court in case titled Thana Singh vs Central Bureau of Narcotics and High Court J&K in case titled Arshad Ahmad Allaie Vs UT of J&K.

A resolution of Committee

of Judges of J&K High Court have recommended that Special Courts must be created at least in those districts where pendency of NDPS cases is more than 500 which has also been approved by the Chief Justice. The step will have annual financial implications of Rs.4.65 Cr for the UT.

## High level Canadian delegation led by premier saskatchewan meets Dr Jitendra

**AGENCIES**  
NEW DELHI, FEB 21

A High-level Canadian Delegation led by Mr. Scott Moe, Premier of Saskatchewan province, today called on Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh and discussed bilateral collaboration as well as joint ventures in areas like Electric Vehicles, Cyber Physical System, Quantum Technologies, Future Manufacturing, Green Hydrogen Fuel, Deep Ocean Mining etc.

Welcoming the Canadian delegation, Dr Jitendra Singh said, 23 Lakh Indian diaspora are reinforcing Indo-Canadian relations and contributing to the development of both the nations.

Stating that India has among the largest Diaspora in Canada at 2.3 million, Dr Jitendra Singh



said, the presence of Indian diaspora in Canadian Parliament and even the cabinet is a testimony of our longstanding relation. He said, the diaspora which contributes positively to both countries, would act as a bridge between the two nations, as Canada is one of the most favoured destinations for Indian youth.

The Minister also informed the delegation that under Prime Minister Modi's lead-

ership, India established the 'Anusandhan' National Research Foundation, prioritizing research in areas of technology and science to foster and revitalize the innovation ecosystem with around 60-70% participation of the private sector. He also emphasized that the government is keen on opening arms to welcome non-governmental organizations to contribute

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## AC approves 50% hike in honorarium of Rehbar-E-Khel teachers

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

The Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, accorded approval to 50% hike in honorarium in favour of 2417 Rehbar-e-Khel(s) (ReK) physical education teachers of Youth Services and Sports Department.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

Earlier a High Powered Committee under Chief Secretary constituted for the purpose in the year 2021 have recommended

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## Rusted mortar shell recovered in Poonch

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

A rusted mortar shell was recovered by the Special Operations Group (SOG) of Jammu and Kashmir Police in Poonch district on Wednesday, officials said.

The mortar shell was recovered from a field in Habib Nagar area of Surankote in the border district during a search operation around 5.20 pm, the



officials said. They said the experts are examining the explosive

device which would be later destroyed in a controlled explosion.

## PM Modi to chair council of ministers meet on March 3

**AGENCIES**  
NEW DELHI, FEB 21

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair a meeting of the Union Council of Ministers on March 3, days before announcement of the Lok Sabha elections, officials said.

The meeting of the Council of Ministers is scheduled to be held at the Sushma Swaraj Bhawan in Chanakyapuri diplomatic enclave here, they said.

The Prime Minister has been chairing a meeting of the entire Council of Ministers from time to time to discuss



key policy issues, get feedback on implementation of various initiatives, and share his vision on matters of governance.

The Election Commission has begun reviewing the preparedness of various states for holding of Lok Sabha elections. The schedule for elections are expected to be announced sometime next month.

In 2014, the Election Commission had announced the schedule for the nine-phased Lok Sabha elections on March 5 and the results were declared on May 16.

In 2019, the poll panel had announced the seven-phase Lok Sabha elections on March 10 and the results were declared on May 23.

## Jmu-Sgr National Highway partially opened for Traffic; stranded vehicles being cleared

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

The 270-km strategic Jammu-Srinagar national highway was opened for one-way traffic on Wednesday afternoon after remaining closed for the past two days due to multiple landslides in Ramban district, officials of the traffic department said. The highway was closed for vehicular traffic on Monday morning after landslides and shooting of stones from the hillocks hit the highway, the only all weather road linking Kashmir with rest of the country, at over a dozen places, they said.

The officials said the opera-



tions to clear the debris from the arterial road at Dalwas, Peerha, near Peerha Tunnel, Mehad-Cafeteria, Jaiswal bridge, Trishul Morh, Seri, T2, Monkey Morh, Mom Passi, Gangroo, Hingni Marog, Kishwari Pather, Shalghari Rampari, Tabela and Chamalwas

were hampered by incessant rains and snowfall.

With improvement in weather this morning, the concerned road clearance agencies mobilized more men and machines and managed to partially open the highway

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## Weather improves after 3-day wet spell in J&K

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, FEB 21

The weather conditions improved on Wednesday after three-day wet spell however, despite the heavy rains and snowfall for three consecutive days, Jammu and Kashmir has received deficient rainfall of 39 per cent in the ongoing season from January 01, 2024 to February 21, 2024.

Pertinent, Jammu and Kashmir recorded prolonged dry spell from December 2023 to January 2024 end, leading to the water scarcity and simultaneous power paucity in the Union Territory.

However, the three-day wet spell continued in Kashmir parts from Sunday during

which Sonamarg, Gulmarg, and other areas received heavy snowfall.

The weather conditions have improved across Jammu and Kashmir today while the weatherman here has predicted dry weather conditions till February 27.

Nonetheless, the Meteorological department's (MeT) official data reveals that J&K has received a deficient rainfall of 39 per cent during January 01, 2024 to February 21, 2024.

As per the data, Srinagar, the summer capital of J&K has recorded 46 per cent as against the normal precipitation of 163.9 mm, it has received 88.5 mm during the period.

The large deficient rainfall has, however, been recorded

in Shopian where only 26.5 mm rainfall was received against the normal precipitation of 109.0 mm.

Ganderbal in central Kashmir has also recorded a deficient rainfall of 59 per cent as against the normal precipitation of 158.6 mm, it has received 65.4 mm during the period.

The other districts of Jammu and Kashmir except four including Bandipora, Baramulla, Rajouri and Ramban have recorded a deficient rainfall.

Bandipora and Baramulla are the only two districts where 123.8 mm and 173.9 mm rainfall has been received from January 01, 2024 to till date. Rajouri and

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## Tej Krishan Bhat posted as commissioner, survey and land records J&K

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

The General Administration Department (GAD), Government of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday posted Mr. Tej Krishan Bhat as Commissioner, Survey and Land Records, Jammu and Kashmir.

According to an order, In the interest of administration, Mr. Tej Krishan Bhat, JKAS, Special Secretary to the Government, Agriculture Production Department, is hereby transferred and posted as Commissioner, Survey and Land

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## DC reviews progress achieved under District Capex 2023-24 in Udhampur

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
UDHAMPUR, FEBRUARY 21

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Saloni Rai today chaired a meeting with line department officers to assess the physical and financial advancements under the District Capex Budget 2023-2024.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Mudassar Yaqoob Zargar, PO Poshan, Subash Dogra, Assistant Commissioner Development Dr. Ranjeet Singh Kotwal, Block Development Officers, and other District Officers.

The DC took extensive review of progress achieved under District Capex budget including Area Development Plan (ADP), Aspirational Block Development Programme



(ABDP), DDC, BDC, Untied, and PRI grants within the district.

The DC emphasized the need for expeditious completion of pending development works, directing Block Development Officers to ensure 100%

expenditure booking. The Executing agencies received instructions to adhere strictly to timelines, with an emphasis on conducting regular site visits to maintain uncompromised quality standards.

In a gesture of support and admiration for local entrepreneurship, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman Rather on Wednesday visited the business unit of Shaheena Begum, a 35-year-old dynamic entrepreneur and educated Self Help Group (SHG) member of the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) from Sonerwani Bandipora.

## DC Bandipora visits Business Unit of Shaheena Begum

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 21

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by ACD Bandipora Mumtaz Peer, BPM NRLM and other concerned. Shaheena Begum is a shining example of determination and business acumen, successfully managing multiple ventures with an estimated cost of 10.50 lakhs. Her ventures include a rice

mill, flour mill, masala mill, oil expeller, beekeeping, and poultry farming, showcasing a diverse and sustainable business

model. During the visit, the DC praised Shaheena Begum for her outstanding achievements and entrepreneurial spirit. He assured her of continued support from the district administration to further enhance her ventures and



entrepreneurial spirit. He assured her of continued support from the district administration to further enhance her ventures and

entrepreneurial spirit. He assured her of continued support from the district administration to further enhance her ventures and

entrepreneurial spirit. He assured her of continued support from the district administration to further enhance her ventures and

contribute to the local economy.

Shaheena Begum expressed her gratitude to the Deputy Commissioner and vowed to continue her efforts to expand her businesses and create more employment opportunities in the region.

Pertinent to mention here that, Shaheena Begum on Tuesday shared her inspiring journey of benefiting from NRLM SHGs with PM during a two way virtual interaction.

While interacting with the Prime Minister, Shaheena highlighted her journey from poverty to a Lakhpati Didi.

During the interaction program, the Prime Minister appreciated the hard work and determination of the Shaheena and also congratulated her for successful entrepreneurship taking advantage of government schemes.

## PM Vishwakarma scheme One Day seminar cum awareness programme held at Udhampur



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
UDHAMPUR, FEBRUARY 21

The District Industries and Commerce Department Udhampur, under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai, organized a seminar cum awareness programme on PM Vishwakarma Scheme for stakeholders. The event took place in the Conference Hall, DC Office Complex. IEDS Assistant Director, Rajesh Kumar initiated the session, providing a detailed presentation on the Registration process of the scheme. DK Tyagi, IEDS Assistant Director Officer from MSME DFO, Jammu, clarified various

aspects. Representatives from the CSC centre and the Ministry of Skill Development, Government of India, along with the Lead District Manager, shared insights into their departments' roles in PM Vishwakarma Verification and execution. ACD, Dr. Ranjeet Singh Kotwal, addressed the gathering, motivating participants and District Administration officers to enroll more potential beneficiaries for maximum benefits from the scheme. GM DIC, Kishor Kumar Katoch, shed light on the PM Vishwakarma scheme and extended a vote of thanks to all dignitaries and participants.

## Labour Commissioner reviews preparation for Shri Amarnathji Yatra-2024 Asks officials to gear up for timely, hassle free registration of Service providers

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21

Labour Commissioner, J&K Charandeep Singh Wednesday chaired a preparatory meeting regarding Shri Amarnathji Yatra-2024 with the Labour Department Officials here.

Deputy Labour Commissioner Jammu, Deputy Labour Commissioner (Central), Deputy Director (Planning), Assistant Labour Commissioners of Ganderbal, Srinagar, Anantnag, Reasi, Doda, Kishwar, Ramban, Udhampur and Rajouri besides other officials were present.

Detailed deliberations were held regarding the Action Plan-2024 for Registration of Service Providers viz Ponywalas, Palkiwalas, Pithuwalas and Dandiwalas who come from various districts of Jammu & Kashmir and facilitate the Yatries in



their journey to the Holy Cave of Shri Amarnathji from both the Pahalgam and the Baltal Axis each year.

The Labour Commissioner asked the officers and officials of the Labour Department to gear up for timely and hassle free registration of service providers for smooth conduct of the SANJY-2024.

"Labour Department has a significant role in the smooth conduct of the Yatra", Labour Commissioner, J&K said and added that Labour Department will be facilitating advance Registration of Service Providers both in their native districts and also at camps located in Ganderbal and Anantnag Districts besides ensuring timely and hassle free issuance of RFID Cards in their favour in coordination with the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) and concerned District Administrations.

Labour Commissioner instructed that as and when the dates for commencement of the Registration Process are finalized, the same shall be communicated to the service providers through the print and electronic media as well as social media. While emphasising on better coordination with other line Departments with regard to contractors and contract workers hired for different works for the Yatra-2024, the Labour Commissioner

said that line Departments being the Principal Employers are required to share the list of all such contractors engaged by them with the Labour Department so that interest of contract workers are protected in terms of wages, hours of work and other basic amenities. It was informed that during SANJY-2023, 32819 Service Providers were registered by the Labour Department including 15903 Ponywalas, 10023 Palki/Dandiwalas and 6893 Pithuwalas. Registration Camps for the purpose were established at Sonmarg, Kangan, Manigam, Gund, Gutlibagh and Baltal in District Ganderbal and Matigawran, Sallar, Khayar, Aishmuqam, Anantnag and Pahalgam in District Anantnag besides other district headquarters.

Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL Jammu has informed that the power supply to PHE Dansar, Railway Station Katra, Katra back, and adjoining areas will remain affected on February 22 and 23 from 11 am to 3 pm. Similarly, the power supply to Shiv Khouri, Bharakh, Ransoo and adjoining areas will remain affected on February 25 from 9 am to 2 pm. Likewise, the power supply to Upper Barnai, Lower Muthi, Paloura, JK Colony, ChandanVihar, PHE Roop Mahar, MES Rajouri Lines, Patoli, BSF Paloura and adjoining areas will remain affected on February 24 from 9 am to 1 pm. Similarly, the power supply to Keerian Local, Keerian Industry, CTM-1, CTM-2, Kathua-3 GMC and adjoining areas will remain affected on February 24 from 10 am to 3 pm.

## DC Ramban, SSP traffic inspects road clearance work on NH-44

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
RAMBAN, FEBRUARY 21

Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, along with Senior Superintendent of Police, Traffic, National Highway, Rohit Baskotra, led an inspection and road clearance operation on NH-44 today amid incessant rain and snowfall.

Heavy rain and snowfall triggered heavy landslides blocking the 270-km long highway between Nashri to Banihal, the primary all-weather road connecting Kashmir with the rest of the country.

The Deputy Commissioner personally monitored the road clearance operations at various locations and directed executing agencies to maintain roads for safe and smooth journey of the commuters. The DC informed that stranded vehicles are being cleared on priority on NH-44.

He further said that all priority-I link roads have been cleared for the traffic and restoration work on priority-II link roads is under progress on war footing for seamless connectivity.

The Deputy Commissioner said that public safety remains a priority for the administration. He sought people's cooperation in the ongoing restoration efforts aimed at restoration of essential services like water, and



power supply for public convenience.

The Deputy Commissioner also informed that all necessary arrangements have been placed across the district with regard to health emergencies and special focus is on leading to expecting mothers for their safety and medical help.

Closely monitoring the situation, the Deputy Commissioner instructed senior officers, including SDMs, Executive Engineers, PWD and PMGSY, Tehsildars, and

other essential department officials, to ensure regular essential services provision for the public. The administration is diligently working to expedite restoration, ensuring community well-being, he added.

Emphasizing the urgency, the DC directed Executive Engineers of PWD and PMGSY to prioritize restoration of link roads for vehicular movement. He asked them to deploy sufficient manpower and machinery to promptly clear landslides and prevent traffic disruptions.

Additionally, commuters have been urged to contact traffic control rooms before embarking on journey. In view of advisory regarding snow avalanche and intermittent shooting of stones, the public has been advised to stay indoors.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by PD NHAJ Parshotam Singh, SDM, Banihal, Rizwan Asgar, Executive Engineer PWD, Tehsildar Banihal, Imtiaz Ahmed, and other officers.

## Director Sericulture visits Kangan; promotes Silkworm Rearing, hand holding extended by deptt

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 21

The Director Sericulture J&K, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat today undertook a comprehensive visit to the tribal areas of Kangan in District Ganderbal under Public Outreach Initiative Programme.

The primary objective of the visit was to raise awareness about the facilities and incentives provided by the department to silkworm rearers and individuals of tribal areas interested in adopting silkworm rearing as a means of earning a dignified livelihood.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director Sericulture said that Silkworm rearing being in-house practice does not require large space, thus, making it accessible and advantageous for both general and landless farmers. He informed the public about the plethora of facilities being provided by the department which also include financial assistance for the construction of rearing sheds in a phased manner to the Silkworm rearers.

The Director visited various mulberry farms and nurseries in the district and inaugurated an extensive mulberry plantation drive by planting a mulberry plant at Degree College Campus, Kangan



in presence of Sadaf Nazir, Principal Degree College, Kangan.

On the occasion the Director informed that the department has a target of planting 10,000 Mulberry saplings in Kangan, Ganderbal as part of extensive mulberry plantation drive of the department.

Emphasizing the importance of mulberry plantation across J&K, he informed that Mulberry plants are indispensable for sustaining the growth of Sericulture Sector in J&K and keeping readily available mulberry foliage to Silkworm Rearers

for hassle free silkworm rearing.

Director Sericulture also inaugurated a 5-day Skill Development Training Programme at the Degree Collage, Kangan in District Ganderbal under Capacity Building Activities for Silkworm Rearers/Farmers. These skill Development Training programmes are being organized across J&K as part of the department's strategic plan for the year 2023-24 under the Holistic Agriculture Development Plan (HADP).

Moreover, he also informed that the depart-

ment is also organizing Exposure Visits of Silkworm Rearers/Farmers to Mulberry Farm Srinagar and Udhampur, besides the department facilitates such exposure visits outside U.T of J&K as well. In this backdrop, the department organizes special skill up-gradation programmes for college students in Tribal Areas for their skill up-gradation and awareness about various schemes of the Government.

On the occasion, as a token of encouragement the Director Sericulture felicitated silkworm rearers with tool kits.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal Degree College, Kangan highlighted the need of imparting skill up-gradation and awareness about various schemes of the Government. Moreover, she expressed her satisfaction that such programmes will go a long way in instilling a spirit of entrepreneurship among students so that they shall become self-sufficient and successful in their future endeavors.

Director Sericulture was accompanied by the District Sericulture Officer Ganderbal, Officers from Central Silk Board and the field functionaries of the department of District Ganderbal.



## Block Diwas

### DC Kulgam chairs public darbar at Manzgam

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
KULGAM, FEBRUARY 21

Continuing its endeavour to reach out to people and to provide governance at their doorsteps, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today visited far-off Manzgam area, where he presided over a grievance redressal camp under Block Diwas, a weekly public outreach programme. The programme witnessed overwhelming response of people from Avil, Aasnoor, Manzgam, Hallan and other villages who apprised the DC about their issue and grievances for early redressal.

Delegation from these areas demanded establishment of a receiving station at Manzgam, Augmentation of LT network, extension and proper restoration of Ahrabal canal, staff augmentation at PHC



Manzgam, government accommodations for Government offices, construction of drainage for Hallan road and various other developmental demands.

All the issues were listened to by the DC patiently, while some of the issues of immediate nature were

redressed on the spot.

Other issues and demands were noted for further action.

Addressing the occasion, the DC urged people to actively participate in Gram Sabhas to prioritize developmental works of their areas. He also

sought cooperation of people in making the Kulgam district clean and beautiful.

The DC also instructed Agriculture and allied departments for organizing special awareness cum registration camps under HADP to aware and register beneficiaries under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme.

Meanwhile, people of the area hailed the District Administration for timely snow clearance and restoration of the services.

Others who were present in the grievance camp included ADDC, Bashir Ahmad Wani; ADC Viqar Ahmed Giri; SDM, Noorabad, ACR, CMO, Tehsildar, BDO, Dy.SP and other officers.

### GCW Udhampur hosts Webinar to Celebrate International Mother Language Day

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
UDHAMPUR, FEBRUARY 21

The Department of English, Government College for Women Udhampur today hosted a webinar, to mark observance of the International Mother Language Day. The event aimed to celebrate linguistic diversity and promote the preservation and appreciation of mother tongues nationwide.

In line with this year's theme, "Linguistic diversity and multilingualism count for sustainable development," the webinar featured Dr. Devika Sharma as resource person from Department of Languages, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, Katra. She shared insights into the significance of preserving mother languages in the context of sustainable development on the topic, "Mother Language:

Dilemma and Delusion".

The participants were treated to engaging discussions on the cultural, social, and educational importance of mother languages, highlighting their role in fostering inclusivity and promoting intercultural understanding. Participants were encouraged to embrace and cherish their linguistic heritage while also advocating for the recognition and protection of minority languages.

"We are delighted to have facilitated meaningful conversations on International Mother Language Day," remarked Prof. Anjali Mahajan, Principal, GCW Udhampur. She further added, "Languages are not just means of communication; they are repositories of history, identity, and knowledge. By celebrating our mother tongues, we honor our roots and

contribute to a more vibrant and inclusive global community."

The webinar attracted a diverse audience, including students and faculty members, underscoring the universal relevance of language preservation and promotion. GCW Udhampur remains committed to fostering a culture of linguistic diversity and inclusivity, and endeavors to continue organizing events that celebrate the rich tapestry of languages and cultures around the world.

The organizing committee included Dr. Shivani Suri Verma, HOD, Department of English as the Coordinator of the event, Dr. Kamal Deep Kaur, Organising Secretary, Dr. Preeti Sharma, Co-organising Secretary, Dr. Rabia, Dr. Faheem, and Dr. Manmeet, faculty from the Department of English.

### DC Kupwara takes stock of snow clearance

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 21

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan today conducted an extensive tour of various areas of the district to take stock of the situation on ground after recent heavy snowfall.

During the visit, the DC paid a visit to Health & Wellness Centre (H&WC) Rawathpora and inspected various sections including OPD, IPD, X-Ray, Laboratory and other rooms of the hospital.

She also interacted with the patients, attendants and enquired about the health facilities being provided at the Health Centre. The DC checked the attendance of the doctors and hospital staff, and directed them to work with dedication to ensure people do not face any inconvenience in getting proper medical care.

She also took stock of the snow clearance operation on main road Kralpora-Chowkibal and inner links. She asked the concerned departments to ensure 100% snow clearance on all the links so that the movement of the people is not hampered, especially in emergency situations.

During the tour, Ayushi met several public delegations and heard their issues. She assured them of proper redressal of the genuine issues and directed the concerned officers to attend public grievances, on priority.

The DC issued, on spot directions to the concerned officers of KPDC, Jal Shakti, R&B and PMGSY for restoration of essential services in the areas including Trehgam, Kralpora, Shumnag, Panzgam, Rawathpora and Chowkibal.

Besides, she also directed for restoration of electricity and other essential services on priority basis in different areas of the district where these services are yet to be restored.

### DC reviews patient care services in Govt Medical College and Hospital Doda

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, FEBRUARY 21

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda Harvinder Singh today asked the management of the Government Medical College and Hospital Doda to foster patient care and provide best possible civic and other amenities to the people visiting the premier health institution.

During a visit to the hospital, the Deputy Commissioner stressed on the prescription of generic medicines, provision of adequate security arrangements in the hospital premises, provision of an ATM facility and addressing concerns related to parking, and potential incidents like molestation.

He was accompanied by Senior Superintendent of Police Javid Iqbal, Principal GMC Dr. Puja Vimesh, Chief Medical Officer Dr

Om Kumar, Tehsildar.

The DC talked to Medical professionals, UG Doctors, and representatives of the medical department. The purpose was to evaluate the functioning of the hospital, catering to the patients from across the District.

Several critical issues were addressed on the spot meeting, including effective implementation of the Ayushman Golden health card, status updates on Jan Aushadhi and many others.

The DC emphasized the need for a 24-hour ambulance service and urged the concerned officers to resolve internal issues in coordination with civil and police administration.

Medical students raised concerns about accommodation, library facility, security checking, payment of stipend and housing rent allowances, which were duly noted.

Additionally, gynecologists and pediatricians highlighted security concerns during their working hours, prompting the SSP Doda to assure comprehensive security arrangements by the district police.

While inspecting the Jan Aushadhi and Amrit Aushadhi Kendras, the DC emphasized prescription of standard medicines to patients and to ensure the availability of quality generic medicines.

The DC inspected various hospital wards and the drug store of the Associated Hospital, ensuring firsthand appraisal of the infrastructure and services provided.

Directives were issued to address all highlighted concerns promptly, aiming to enhance the overall healthcare experience for patients and medical professionals alike.

### ADDC Shopian chairs Mega Block Diwas at Gagran, Shopian

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SHOPIAN, FEBRUARY 21

The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone today chaired a mega Block Diwas at block Gagran Shopian under Public outreach initiative of the government, aimed to take stock of public grievances besides assessing development activities being executed in the district.

The Block Diwas witnessed an overwhelming response from the people.

During the programme, ADDC had extensive interaction with the participants who apprised him of their issues relating their respective areas. He also sought feedback from them on implementation of government schemes in their areas while enquiring about the impact of these initiatives on their lives. Highlighting the importance



of Block Diwas, Dr Nasir said that these public outreach programmes act as a bridge between the administration and the people, paving the way for enhanced growth and development in the district. The issues raised by the people of Reshnagri and Shopian during the programme include, construction of drains and by-lanes, installation of solar lights, playground at Devpora, construction of irrigation Khuls and seg-

regation sheds and other issues of public importance etc.

ADDC, while responding to the issues raised by the public, assured that all the issues will be taken up with the concerned authorities for an early redressal.

He said that Shopian district is witnessing development and progress at a fast speed and hoped that it will also become a top performing district not only in UT of

J&K but in the entire country.

ADDC affirmed that all public inputs from the block diwas would be recorded and integrated into actionable plans.

Assistant Commissioner, Development, BDO Shopian, BDO Ramnagri, officers and officials of Rural Development Department and other line departments, besides, people in large numbers participated in the said block diwas.

### Principal Secretary Finance presides over public outreach camp at Moughla Rajouri

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, FEBRUARY 21

Principal Secretary Finance, Santosh Dattatreya Vaidya, today presided over a public outreach camp at Moughla block in Rajouri district.

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat and other senior officers of different departments were present on the occasion

The camp witnessed significant turnout of residents from Moughla and adjoining parts who projected their issues and concerns seeking speedy redressal of the same.

Several issues were brought to the notice of Principal Secretary during the event, which inter alia included construction of roads from Badgai to Sagoon, from GHSS Moughla to Lano Kheter and from Kanchi Morh to Drear, augmentation of power infrastructure, installation of electricity poles, requirement of additional transformers, paucity of staff in educational and health institutions, dilapidated condition of roads, construction of bridge for Paltha in Treru, repair of road from Solki to Khabbar, expediting work on JJM schemes, sanctioning of 33 KVA Receiving Station for Terayth, inclusion of eligible left

out beneficiaries under PMAY-G, sanctioning GDC for Moughla, renewal of gun licenses, forest clearance issues, providing an ambulance for Moughla, sanctioning adequate funds under TSP, Gujjar Hostel for Moughla, subdivision status to Moughla, creation of separate post of Munsif Judge, construction of building for mobile school, J&K Bank Branch at Gai Bas etc. The Principal Secretary inspected the stalls established by various departments, highlighting their respective schemes and initiatives being implemented for welfare and development of common masses.

Addressing the event, the Principal Secretary said that the primary objective of holding these public outreach camps is to bridge the gap between the public and the government. These camps serve as a platform to engage with the public directly, listen to their concerns and gather feedback on various government schemes and initiatives.

"By establishing direct communication channels with the public, the government aims to create a more inclusive and participatory governance system. This enables the government to understand the needs and aspirations of the people and make the policy decisions



as per needs and aspirations of public at large", he maintained.

The Principal Secretary assured the people that their concerns would be given careful consideration, and appropriate action would be taken to address them effectively.

Regarding repair of old handpumps, the Principal Secretary directed the concerned officers from the Jal Shakti department to take effective measures to address this issue on priority.

He also urged upon the public to take advantage of various government schemes, like Ayushman Bharat meant for their welfare. He emphasized the importance of government's holistic agriculture development program in raising the living standards of farmers.

The Principal Secretary highlighted the development projects and initiatives undertaken by the government in Jammu

and Kashmir with emphasis on infrastructure, health, housing and education. He highlighted that the strenuous efforts of National Highways Authority of India and Public Works department have led to vast improvements in road connectivity and lowering of travel times in the region. The NHPC and Power Development department are executing several ambitious projects which will double the hydropower capacity by 2026, he added.

He also stressed on the importance of scheduled maintenance and quality operations to ensure the durability and robustness of the projects. He emphasized on user fees and metering of electricity and water connections for ensuring quality operation and maintenance.

The Principal Secretary highlighted the achievements of the government in tripling the tap water connections from about 5

lakh to over 14 lakh during 2018 to 2023, which has alleviated drudgery of a large number of households. He also stressed on the rapid upscaling of rural housing by Rural Development department under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

The Principal Secretary further spoke about the transformative developments in the health sector, such as the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) Sehat scheme, which has provided fully free and comprehensive health cover to the entire population of J&K. He also stressed on the rapid upscaling of medical and paramedical education which will provide more medical professionals for the UT.

He touched upon the major initiatives of Education and Social Welfare departments for early childhood education and nutrition. He highlighted

### DG Rural Sanitation conducts district-wise review of departmental activities

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21

Director General Rural Sanitation, Jammu and Kashmir, Anoo Malhotra, presided over a comprehensive district-wise review meeting on Wednesday. Assistant Commissioner Panchayats (ACPs) of all the districts participated in the meeting. The meeting focused on underlining the collaborative approach towards achieving the mission's objectives in a stipulated time.

The DG emphasized the pivotal role each district plays in the Swachh Bharat Mission- Gramin, urging ACPs to intensify their efforts to promote sanitation and hygiene at the grassroots level. The Director General meticulously analyzed the progress of ongoing initiatives, highlighting successful practices and addressing challenges faced by different districts.

The main thrust was laid on the implementation of the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP), inputs on draft on Operation and Maintenance (O&M) policy, IEC initiatives taken by the

directorates from time to time and its replication at District level, the status of process of land for developing Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTP), identification of Legacy waste sites and initiatives to develop them, functionality status of Segregation sheds and PWMUs, and self-certification under SGLR.

Malhotra stressed for strategic roadmap for the upcoming phases of the SBM-G, emphasizing the need for creative solutions to address unique challenges in each district.

During the interactive session, ACPs shared their experiences, providing insights into the ground-level implementation of the mission.

Director General encouraged ACPs to foster community involvement and ownership of the mission, highlighting the role of awareness campaigns and education in sustaining behavioral change.

The meeting concluded with a sense of shared commitment, as Ms. Malhotra expressed confidence in the collective efforts to elevate the SBM-G to new heights in Jammu and Kashmir.



## Langeh discusses Basti Sampark Abhiyan, Shri Guru Ravi Dass Jayanti celebrations



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Neelam Langeh, President of BJP SC Morcha, Jammu and Kashmir, and former MLA, held a meeting at the Party Headquarters in Jammu to discuss the Basti Sampark Abhiyan and the upcoming celebrations of Shri Guru Ravi Dass Jayanti.

During the meeting, Langeh emphasized the need to intensify the Basti Sampark Abhiyan in preparation for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. He urged the party workers to reach out to the marginalized sections of society and effectively communicate the initiatives and

achievements of the BJP government.

Furthermore, Langeh directed the party workers to celebrate Shri Guru Ravi Dass Jayanti with great enthusiasm and fervor in every district of the Union Territory. He stressed the importance of promoting unity, equality, and social harmony during these celebrations.

The meeting was attended by prominent party members including Balbir Ram Rattan, former Vice Chairman, Seema Devi, Morcha Vice President, Adarsh Jethiar, General Secretary, Rakesh Dev, Morcha Secretary, and Hans Raj Loria, Secretary.

## Delegation of Ex-Servicemen from Kishtwar calls on Lt Governor

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21

A delegation of Ex-Servicemen from Kishtwar called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan. The members of the delegation put forth various issues pertaining to the welfare of ex-Servicemen including establishment of Zila Sainik Welfare Office and dedicated Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme for Kishtwar.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

### AC approves filling up...

Punjab was also studied. Thereafter the Health and Medical Education Department took a decision to frame SoPs in consultation with Registrar, J&K, Paramedical Council. In consultation with GAD and J&K BOPEE, H&ME Department submitted the instant proposal for the approval of Administrative Council.

### LG Sinha inaugurates...

gratitude to Government of India, Union Sports Ministry, Sports Authority of India for their support and cooperation. Under PMDP, national and international level sports infrastructure has been developed in J&K, he added.

Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Youth Affairs & Sports, through a video message, extended his best wishes for the successful conduct of the Khelo India Winter Games event and encouraged the participating athletes to give their best in the tournament.

Nisith Pramanik, Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs & Sports and Home Affairs lauded the Lt Governor led UT Administration for developing sports infrastructure at grassroot level and setting a milestone for other states as well.

Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Dr Hina Shafi Bhat, Vice Chairperson, J&K KVIB; Maj Gen J. Fernandes, HAWS; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Vidhi Kumar Birdi, IGP Kashmir; Yasha Mudgal, Commissioner Secretary, Tourism; Sarmad Hafeez, Secretary Youth Services & Sports; Minga Sherpa, Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla, senior officials, representatives of Sports Authority of India and various sports organizations, prominent sports personalities and sports enthusiasts in large numbers were present.

### High level Canadian...

in technology development and support them.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, India is keen to develop research collaborations with Canadian R&D institutions and technology collaboration with Canadian industries especially focusing on the following areas such as Sustainable Energy Technologies (generation, conversion, storage and conservation), Environment and Clean Technologies, Bioeconomy, Bio-based materials for different applications, Food & Agri Technologies, Affordable Healthcare (including Pharmaceuticals and Bio-medical Instrumentation), Technologies for Advanced Manufacturing, Integration of AI and Machine Learning in all domains.

The Minister of Science and Technology categorically mentioned 'Global Biofuels Alliance' (GBA), an initiative by India as the G20 Chair last year, bringing together the biggest consumers and producers of biofuels to drive development and deployment of biofuels. The initiative aims to position biofuels as a key to energy transition and contribute to jobs and economic growth.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, National Hydrogen Mission (NHM) has been launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi while commemorating India's 75 years of Independence with an aim to cut down carbon emissions and increase the use of renewable sources of energy. It is a futuristic vision that can help India not only cut down its carbon emissions but also diversify its energy basket and reduce external reliance, the Minister added.

## Lagan Society for Art and Culture greets Padamshri Dr. S. P. Varma



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Lagan Society for Art and Culture greeted Padamshri Dr. S. P. Varma for achieving "Lifetime Achievement Award" by J&K Govt. (UT).

Government honored him to render his social services in the field of Peace and Harmony. He also organized and coordinated various National

Integration Camps, Aman Melas, Peace Marches, All - Faith Prayers, Seminars, Conferences, Workshops, Relief Camps, Gandhian Quiz Competition. We wish him more and more success in his future.

On the occasion, Sh. Rajesh Verma (President, LSAC), Adv. Sandeep Gupta (Patron, LSAC), Ms. Sonia Dogra (Treasurer, LSAC) and Dr. Jug Mohan Singh were present.

## 20-member delegation of Padari Tribe calls on Lt Governor

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha met the delegation of Padari Tribe at Raj Bhawan, today.

The delegation led by Sh Sunil Sharma, former Minister expressed gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Home Minister Shri Amit Shah and Lt Governor led UT Administration for Scheduled Tribe status to Padari tribe. The members of the delegation said, the historic decision has paved the way for the socio-economic empowerment of the community and it will create an enabling environment for the Padari Tribe to contribute to the development of J&K and the country. The Lt Governor said, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji is committed to inclusive development of every section of society with the mantra of Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas.

"Our effort is to create an inclusive and equitable society, empower the marginalised and ensure they enjoy the benefits of national development," the Lt Governor said.

Referring to the success of VAIBHAV fellowship programme, the Minister also mentioned PM Modi's invitation to India's diaspora to do research in India's premier institutions and contribute to its progress.

Mr. Scott Moe said that Canada and India relations have made great strides in recent years and have become truly multidimensional, spurred by a significant convergence of interests, mutual goodwill and exchanges.

He said, Science and Technology cooperation is one of the strategic pillars of the bilateral relationship between the two countries. Academia, Research Institutions and Industries of both countries have strong bonding and are playing the role of catalyst in our strategic research and development partnerships.

Mr. Scott Moe said that the relationship has grown between India and Saskatchewan, especially after opening their office in Delhi and strengthens their resolve to work with India and achieve collective growth.

Dr. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology and senior officers were present in the meeting who briefed the high-level delegation on India's progress in various emerging technology sectors.

### AC approves 50% hike...

hike in honorarium at 50% in favour of these Rehbar-e-Khel teachers.

The enhancement of honorarium in favour of ReKs will encourage them for further promotion and popularization of sports activities in the schools of UT of J&K.

### Jmu-Sgr National...

for one-way traffic this afternoon, paving the way for clearance of the stranded vehicles between Nashi and Banihal, they said.

The officials said the clearance operation was going on and the road is likely to be made trafficable for both ways by tonight.

Fresh traffic from both sides will be allowed on Thursday morning after a fresh review of the road condition, they said.

### Weather improves...

Ramban stations have also recorded nearly normal precipitation of 128.0 mm and 276.6 mm respectively. Meanwhile, the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway and other major roads continued to remain closed for vehicular movement for the straight day.

Officials said that the work on clearing the debris from Srinagar-Jammu highway is going on and the road will be thrown open for the traffic soon.

However, the flight operations resumed normally today. Earlier, 23 flights were cancelled due to bad weather conditions on Tuesday.

Moreover, five trains were cancelled in the morning today following which the services were resumed normally, officials said—(KNO)

### Tej Krishan Bhat posted...

Records (ex-officio Settlement Commissioner), J&K, with immediate effect, relieving Mr. Prasanna Ramaswamy G, IAS, Administrative Secretary, Revenue Department of the additional charge of the post.

## PM Modi ushered an era of developments, prosperity in J&K; stone pelting, infiltration nowhere today: Khatana

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

In the last about 10 years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ushered an era of developments and prosperity in J&K.

This was stated by senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Ghulam Ali Khatana in a press release issued to the media on Wednesday in Jammu.

The MP also said that Ayushman Health Card has ensured free of cost treatment to lakhs of poor while Ujwala Yojana has turned the kitchens of poor smokeless.

He further said that during previous regimes there was an era of strike calendars, stone pelting, violence, cross border firing and uncertainty.

"The political leadership of PM Modi has ensured drastic reduction in incidents of cross border firing, infiltration and terrorism while stone pelting has been com-

pletely finished," Khatana continued.

He further said that J&K now has better roads while tunnels have been made on Jammu-Poonch highway at Nowshera and Chowki Chora to make the hectic travel easy.

The senior BJP leader expressed confidence that in upcoming Lok Sabha elections BJP will easily win all the five seats from J&K and the one from Ladakh region with thumping majority as no one will prefer violence, strike calendars and terrorism over development and progress.

Khatana also said that BJP leaders are daily listening to the problems and issues of public at BJP headquarter in Trikuta Nagar and redresses them.

He asked the people of J&K and Ladakh to vote for BJP candidates in upcoming Lok Sabha elections to enjoy the fruits of good governance for the next more five years.

## M. K Ajatshatru condemns attack on media freedom in West Bengal

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

M.K Ajatshatru Singh, a senior BJP leader and former minister, expressed profound concern over the recent incident of attack on media freedom in West Bengal.

The incident occurred on Monday evening when a TV journalist reporting on the Sandeshkhali horrors was taken away by the West Bengal Police.

In a statement released here today, M.K Ajatshatru Singh firmly denounced the prevention of journalists from reporting on the atrocities committed against women in a state led by a woman Chief Minister. He emphasized that coercive action against journalists is not a new phenomenon in West Bengal.

"The stifling of freedom of expression in West Bengal is deeply regrettable and constitutes a threat to democracy, he said remarked that the Trinamool Congress (TMC) government is disregarding constitutional norms and concealing the truth.

He further added that it is deeply alarming that those responsible for the atrocities against women are being protected



while the media is being silenced under the leadership of a woman Chief Minister.

M.K Ajatshatru Singh called upon the West Bengal government to uphold the values of freedom of expression and allow journalists to carry out their duties without fear or intimidation. He emphasized the importance of transparency in addressing the safety concerns faced by women under the current administration.

He emphasized that the significance of protecting democratic principles and ensuring that the voices of journalists are not suppressed. He urged the authorities in West Bengal to take immediate action to restore media freedom and uphold the values of democracy.

## GDC Marh organises counseling session on career in Management, allied fields

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21

Career Counselling Cell, Government Degree College Marh, in collaboration with Triumphant Institute of Management Education Ltd Jammu. He deliberated in detail about the attractive job avenues that management courses offer. He demystified many myths surrounding MBA courses. He elaborated on how to prepare for entrance tests for MBA Programs. Later, an interactive session ensued where students cleared their doubts. In the end, a scholarship test was conducted to offer waivers to students who score well in tests helping them to have professional coaching support.

their academic and professional futures", he hoped The resource person of the event was Aryan Gupta, Centre head, Triumphant Institute of Management Education Ltd Jammu. He deliberated in detail about the attractive job avenues that management courses offer. He demystified many myths surrounding MBA courses. He elaborated on how to prepare for entrance tests for MBA Programs. Later, an interactive session ensued where students cleared their doubts. In the end, a scholarship test was conducted to offer waivers to students who score well in tests helping them to have professional coaching support.

## Inauguration of Intra-College Sports Tournament At GDC Nowshera



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
NOWSHERA, FEB 21

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) in collaboration with Department of Physical Education and Sports, Government Degree College Nowshera is organizing an intra college sports event in the category of Cricket, Table tennis, Volleyball and Badminton at GDC Nowshera. The event was inaugurated by Dr. K.K. Sharma,

Principal of the College.

In his address Dr K K Sharma wished students for their successful career and motivated students for their active participation in all kinds of sports event in order to remain physically fit and mentally healthy. Furthermore, he stressed on the cultivation of discipline in student life. All the esteemed faculty members of the college were also present.

## GDC Vijaypur hosts 2 Day Sports Meet Competition



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, FEBRUARY 21

A two day Intra College Sports Meet competition began today here in Government Degree College (GDC) Vijaypur under the banner of "Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan" and "Voting Awareness Campaign". The activity was organised under the supervision and guidance of the College Principal Prof. (Dr.) Vandana Gupta and delivered the welcome note.

Addressing the participants, she appreciated and encouraged students for active participation in the various sports events being organised by the sports committee of the college.

The Principal of the College also declared the sports meet competition open, organised to create awareness regarding

voting rights among the students and the staff of the college.

The Intra college sports competition started with a chess competition in which four teams of men and two teams of women took part. Volleyball competition was also organised in which three teams participated.

The sports meet was organised by Dr. Anoop Kumar Bhagat (Convener, Nasha Mukhti Abhiyan), Dr. Manoj Heer (Convener, Sports Committee), Dr. Jan Mohd. Wani (PTI) and co-ordinated by Prof. Anita Jamwal, Prof. Mamta Gupta, Prof. Ritu Bhagat, Prof. Poonam Kundan, Dr. Naseem Chowdhary (NSS PO), Prof. Rakesh Kumar, Prof. Mazid Malik, Dr. Priyanka Ganjoo (Member, Nasha Mukhti Abhiyan), Dr. Tisha Singh, Dr. Attied Khawar and Gagandeep Singh.

## DLC approves 7 cases for Change of Land Use at Ganderbal

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 21

In a proactive move towards fostering planned development and optimizing land utilization in the district, a pivotal District Level Committee (DLC) meeting was convened today at the VC Room of Mini Secretariat Complex, Ganderbal.

The meeting chaired by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal Shyam-bir discussed 13 cases for Change of Land Use (CLU).

After in-depth deliberations on comments from various departments regarding CLU cases and following a comprehensive review of NOCs shared by concerned departments, the committee approved 7 cases for Change of Land Use, rejected 2 cases, while 4 cases have been deferred

for further scrutiny in the subsequent meeting.

Underlining the significance of timely resolutions, the DC urged departments to furnish quality comments and necessary NOCs for the remaining cases within the specified timeframe to enable the prompt approval of the outstanding cases.

During the meeting, the DC also took stock of the status of building permissions in rural areas. He directed the concerned Block Development Officers to expedite the processing of all pending applications in accordance with established rules and guidelines. Stressing the need for effective inter-departmental coordination, the DC instructed officers to adhere to deadlines for seamless execution.



## Public Outreach Programme: DC Srinagar holds Public Grievance Redressal Camp at Koolipora, Khanyar in Shahr-e-Khaas

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 21

Continuing its endeavours to listen to the grievances of people at their door steps and to ensure on spot resolution of their developmental issues, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat Wednesday held a Public Grievance Redressal Camp at Koolipora area of Shahr-e-Khaas in Khanyar Tehsil of the District as part of Public Outreach Programme.

The Programme witnessed large participation of people from Koolipora, Nowpora, Alamdar Colony, Imambara, Nowhatta, Rangar Stop, Rainawari, SaidaKadal, Khojyarbal, Brari Nambal, Babademb, Khawaja Bazar, Astanpora Brein, Abi Karpura and other adjoining areas of the Khanyar Tehsil of Srinagar District.

During the Grievance Redressal Camp, Public delegations, local Masjid Intizamiya Committees and number of individuals projected various developmental issues before the DC including augmen-



tation of drinking water supplies, strengthening of drainage and sewerage network, repairs of lanes and drains, widening and macadamization of roads, development of Brari Nambal, making water fountains and street lights functional, upgradation of Power infrastructure, cleanliness measures in interiors of Dal and other issues.

After giving patient hearing to the grievances and demands of the public, the DC sought on the spot response from the concerned District Officers present during the Griev-

ance Redressal Camp.

The DC also assured the people of Tehsil Khanyar that all genuine demands and issues projected by them will be looked into on priority for their speedy redressal. He also gave on the spot directions to the concerned officers to redress the public issues of immediate nature taken up during Grievance Redressal Camp in a time bound manner.

Addressing the gathering, the DC said the District Administration has initiated a process of holding such camps in City areas including Shahr-e-Khaas

to reach to the doorstep of the people instead of them visiting the DC office or other Government Offices.

Dr Bilal said the purpose of holding such grievance redressal camps is to take appraisal of local issues from the general public. He said the decisions taken during Public Grievance Redressal Camp with regard to public issues and demands are addressed with proper follow up to ensure all demands are fulfilled for the public good. He added that proper follow up of public grievances is key to address them in a time

bound manner.

The DC said that people can also visit the DC Office also with genuine developmental issues for which the Office remains open for the public. He also asked the officers to show their presence in the public by conducting field visits of their respective areas to address public issues.

Responding to the issue related to augmentation of water raised by the people, the DC assured them that several new schemes including Amrut 2.0 are being implemented to further augment the drinking water supply in urban areas.

Among others, Public Grievance Redressal Camp was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Srinagar, Zahoor Ahmad Mir; General Manager DIC, Joint Commissioner SMC, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Tehsildar Khanyar, District Social Welfare Officer, Executive Engineers of PHE, R&B, UEED, PDD and Srinagar Smart City, Lead Bank Manager and other Zonal and Sectoral Officers of the District.

## DC takes stock of patient care services at CHC Ramgarh ahead of External assessment

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, FEBRUARY 21

Deputy Commissioner Samba Abhishek Sharma visited CHC Ramgarh in connection with the upcoming External assessment of the hospital to be conducted by State Assessment Committee comprising of National External assessor and Internal assessor.

The evaluation by the committee is scheduled for tomorrow (22-2-24) under Kayakalp programme, an important component of Swachh Bharat mission.

Abhishek Sharma assessed all components of the checklist of 8 thematic areas under Kayakalp and instructed the EO Municipality, AEE and other concerned departments to meet the gaps if any identified during the assessment. The DC Samba also provided various valuable inputs



and innovative ideas to improve the score and achieve Maximum points as per the guidelines of kayakalp programme.

DC Samba was accompanied by ADDC Samba

Mr Rajinder Singh, CMO Samba Dr Vidhi Bhatial (National assessor, Quality), BMO Ramgarh Dr lakhwinder singh, EO Municipality, AEE PWD and other officials.

## DSEK conducts extensive tour of far-flung areas of Pulwama & Shopian

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
PULWAMA, FEBRUARY 21

In order to take firsthand appraisal of the preparations for opening of schools and the upcoming examinations, the Director School Education Kashmir (DSEK), Dr Tassaduq Hussain Mir Wednesday conducted extensive tour of several far-flung areas of Pulwama and Shopian Districts.

During the tour, DSEK interacted with teachers of many institutions and instructed them to work for the betterment of their respective institutions. He also advised the field staff to review all the preparations for upcoming examinations and ensure all the requisite arrangements are in place.

"The schools are reopening after winter break and staff need to give the opening of the schools a festive celebration" he said.

The Director visited many institutions during the tour including SP HSS Srinagar, HS Khadermoh Pulwama, MS PM Shri Kakapora, HSS Kakapora, HSS Pinglina, HSS Hawal and HSS Narpora Shopian, and interacted with the staff while taking stock of preparations for opening of schools and upcoming examinations.

He expressed his satisfaction over the dedication of the staff of these schools and advised them to identify hot spots within their institutions and address them including cleanliness, retrofitting etc.

## GDC Ramgarh refutes News item regarding election of College Union

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, FEBRUARY 21

Government Degree College Ramgarh today refuted the news published in a section of press regarding the election of College President.

It is for the information of the students and all stakeholders of the college that no election was held in the college under the Supervision of College authorities. The College administration strongly condemned the publication of wrong information which can adversely affect the smooth functioning of the college.

## DC Rajouri interacts with workers at Moughla Coal Mine

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, FEBRUARY 21

Deputy Commissioner Om Prakash Bhagat today undertook a comprehensive visit to the coal mine situated in the Moughla block of Rajouri district. The visit aimed to assess the operational efficiency, workforce engagement, and inspection of overall production dynamics of the coal mine. During the visit, it was highlighted that the Moughla coal mine boasts a commendable daily production capacity of 30 tonnes of coal. This impressive figure stands as a testament to the dedication and hard work of the workforce, comprising a robust team of 225 skilled employees.

Deputy Commissioner Om Prakash Bhagat, meticulously observed the mining operations, ensuring adherence to safety protocols and environmental regulations. This



visit underscored the commitment of the administration to promoting responsible mining practices while fostering economic growth in the region.

One of the noteworthy aspects of the visit was the interactive session conducted by Deputy Commissioner Bhagat with the workers. This engaging dialogue provided an invaluable opportunity for the workers to voice their concerns, share insights, and offer suggestions for further enhancing productivity and workplace safety measures.

Expressing his appre-

ciation for the relentless efforts of the workforce, Deputy Commissioner Om Prakash Bhagat emphasized the significance of their contribution to the local economy and underscored the unwavering support of the administration towards ensuring their welfare and well-being.

Furthermore, Deputy Commissioner Om Prakash Bhagat reaffirmed the commitment of the administration to fostering a conducive environment for sustainable growth in the mining sector, with a keen focus on promoting

equitable development, environmental sustainability, and social responsibility.

The visit of Deputy Commissioner to the Moughla coal mine exemplifies the proactive approach of the administration towards facilitating the development and fostering harmonious relations with all stakeholders & workers involved in the mining sector.

Among others, District Mineral Officer, Naseeb Bajrang and Tehsildar Kalakote Shiv Kumar accompanied the Deputy during his visit.

## Stage set for Kishtwar Idol 2.0: A Platform to promote Local Talent

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
KISHTWAR, FEBRUARY 21

To celebrate talent and musical prowess local budding artists, the District Administration Kishtwar is going to start the Ground Auditions for the 2nd Session of Kishtwar Idol from tomorrow.

The ground auditions are scheduled to commence on 22nd February 2024 at various locations across the district, providing a platform to local artists to showcase their musical brilliance.

The Inaugural Ceremony is set to take place at Picture Time Theatre, TRC Kishtwar, marking the beginning of the first leg of ground auditions.

Adding grandeur to the occasion, the Inaugural Ceremony will also witness the unveiling of the official website of Kishtwar Development Authority and the Kishtwar Calendar. These initiatives aim to provide comprehensive information to the tourists interested in exploring the beauty of District Kishtwar, besides highlighting tourism milestones, treks, and unique features



through the single point access of services. Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Devansh Yadav, alongside CEO Kishtwar Development Authority Dr. Rishi Kumar Sharma, inspected the preparations for the event at the venue here today.

During the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner ensured the accessibility and richness of content on the website, making it an informative hub for visitors to the district.

Reflecting on the success of Kishtwar Idol Session 1, he said the expectations for the second session are also high. He emphasized the need for

conduct of efficient and effective ground audition to nurture budding artists.

The CEO KDA and the incharge of Cultural Cell and District Information Centre Kishtwar officials assured timely arrangements for the ground auditions.

Aspiring singers can get information about the date and venue for ground auditions on the social media handles of District Administration Kishtwar and District Information & Public Relation (DI&PR).

In his message, DC Kishtwar invited all talented individuals to attend the nearest audition venue as per their convenience.

## ADC Bhadarwah convenes introductory meeting

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
BHADARWAH, FEBRUARY 21

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bhadarwah Sunil Kumar convened an introductory meeting with officers at Dak Bungalow Bhadarwah.

Executive Engineer PWD R&B/Irrigation & FC Division, Division Forest officer, Child Development Project Officer, Block Development officer Bhalla, Horticulture Development officer, Manager-Cum-Chemist, Executive officer Municipal Committee, Tehsil Social welfare and Agricultural Extension officer Kotli, Sartingal, Bhalra, Principals of various govt institutions besides other officers attended the meeting.

ADC reviewed the progress of ongoing developmental works/activities and impressed upon the officer to closely monitor the developmental activities of their respective departments. He also stressed on the time bound completion of works to provide early benefit to the people.

He asked the officers to work in coordinated manner.

## DC Ganderbal reviews modalities for delimitation of Municipal Wards



**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 21

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today chaired a meeting at V.C Room, here focusing on the potential delimitation of municipal areas of Municipal Council Ganderbal.

At the outset, a comprehensive discussion about various challenges, including the survey of the population of the town, proposals for new areas to be included in municipal council Ganderbal and invitation of suggestions and objections for inclusion in the municipality and other criteria that might influence the creation of new wards and the inclusion of new areas under municipal limits were held.

The EO Municipal Council Ganderbal informed that at present, Ganderbal municipi-

pal council comprises 17 wards, and criteria for inclusion of new areas were clarified as per SO 97 dated 14-02-2024.

The DC directed the constitution of third-party verification to authenticate the actual population in the town by conducting door to door verification of the population census in the Municipal Council Ganderbal. Proposals for new areas to be included in the town and inviting suggestions for the creation/ inclusion of new areas shall be proposed so that the same could be taken at an appropriate level for approval.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, EO Municipal Council Ganderbal, Tehsildar Ganderbal and other ward officials concerned.

towards building a more equitable and harmonious society. "The unveiling of the calendar, brochure, and Geo-locational map represents a significant step forward in the ongoing journey towards empowerment and inclusivity for the Pahari Speaking community in the UT", maintained the Commissioner Secretary.

While addressing at the event Sapna Kotwal expressed her gratitude to the Commissioner Secretary for her guidance and support in welfare and development of Pahari Speaking people.

## DC Ganderbal reviews

## Int'l Mother Tongue Day Dogri poetry recitation organized at GDC Marh

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21

To commemorate International Mother Tongue Day, a Dogri poetry recitation was today organised by the department of Dogri, Government Degree College Marh to educate the students about the importance of mother tongue and its cultural richness. The theme of the event was 'Multilingual Education is a pillar of Intergenerational learning'.

The Principal of the College Prof. Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul was the chief guest. He congratulated all the concerned faculty members for observing the day of international importance and said languages are essential tools to communicate and share knowledge, memories, history and key to full and equal participation. The Students of Dogri department of all semesters presented thought provoking poems about Dogra and Jammu culture. Dr. Sheetal Devi HOD Dogri co-ordinated all the proceedings. Dogri cuisine Kyur was prepared by the student as refreshment. In the end, vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Ashu Jolly HOD Education.



## EDITORIAL

## Ladakhis pin high hopes!

After an almost four-year-long struggle of Ladakhi people, the Government of India has finally agreed to discuss three key demands concerning Ladakh, such as Statehood for Ladakh, the inclusion of the union territory (UT) in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution and the setting up of an exclusive public service commission for the high-altitude region. This breakthrough has prompted members of the Leh Apex Body and the Kargil Democratic Alliance to put off their plan to go on a hunger strike. A sub-committee has been formed to discuss the demands. The next meeting of the sub-committee is scheduled to take place on February 24. One of the major demands, two parliamentary seats have been dropped for the time being as the fresh Delimitation of parliamentary segments is scheduled to take place in 2026 and Ladakh groups including Leh Apex Body and Kargil Democratic Alliance don't want to get into technicalities. In the past few months, the urgency on the part of agitating groups in Ladakh has been witnessed and they are not ready to wait anymore for resolution of their demands. These groups observe that the Election Commission of India (ECI) may announce the dates for upcoming General Elections in the next few weeks and the imposition of Model Code of Conduct (MCC) would lead to further delay in the resolution of all genuine issues confronting the people of Ladakh. The arid region had become a Union Territory after the decades-long struggle of Ladakhi people when Article 370 was abrogated and the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated on August 5, 2019. While the UT of J&K has a Legislative Assembly, Ladakh has none. Earlier, there were four representatives from Ladakh in the erstwhile J&K Assembly. There is also a demand that Ladakh should have two Lok Sabha constituencies (currently, it has one). In September 2019, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes had noted that Ladakh, comprising Kargil and Leh districts, was predominantly a tribal region. The Commission had recommended that the UT should be brought under the Sixth Schedule so as to facilitate democratic devolution of powers and preservation of the distinct culture of the region, besides the protection of agrarian rights. At present, this Schedule pertains to tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram. The recent protests in support of the demands have undermined the Centre's assertion that it is according highest priority and attention to Ladakh after decades of neglect by previous governments. It is imperative that the Union Government address the concerns of the Ladakhi people, who also want adequate job opportunities. Considering the strategic importance of the region, fulfilling the aspirations of local residents is a must. It is hoped that the ongoing talks will pave the way for Ladakh's statehood and inclusion in the Sixth Schedule. While the government of India is looking for some flexibility on the part of Ladakh groups, the agitating people want that the Centre should come forward and ensure a hand holding of a backward region. The Centre should also ensure that the dialogue process will not stretch anymore and all issues concerning Ladakh will be addressed while taking all stakeholders on board. Both sides must understand the importance of dialogue which is the only way forward to find an amicable solution to all problems.

BHAVANA C.J

On February 13, the body of an IIT aspirant was discovered in his dorm room. This was the fourth student suicide of the year in Kota. Shubh Choudhary, a Jharkhand resident preparing for JEE-Mains, was shocked by his lower-than-anticipated score when the results were announced. He went back to his dorm room, only to be found hanging from a ceiling fan.

A total of 12,31,874 candidates were enrolled for both components of the JEE Mains examination this year, with 11,70,036 individuals actually taking the test. The question arises: Is it parental pressure or societal obligation to enrol in these competitive exams, or do 12 lakh Indian students actually aspire to become engineers every year?

In India, the pursuit of academic excellence is closely tied to success in life, and children are under constant pressure to perform well in school from an early age. In addition to parental pressure, deeply ingrained cultural expectations from society also contribute to this stress. Their career path is ingrained with intense pressure and competition, from doing well in

school exams to getting into esteemed colleges.

In many Indian homes, maintaining family honour and ensuring a "bright future" are as important as personal fulfilment when it comes to the pressure to perform well academically.

The pressure to perform well is most intense over competitive tests such as the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) for engineering programmes at the IITs or the National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET) for medical programmes as these are viewed as the only doors to well-paying jobs. Parents frequently have lofty expectations from their children because they want to see them achieve "success".

Pressure to perform well in school can take many different forms, such as enrolling children in a lot of extracurricular activities to give them a well-rounded profile, or even starting tutoring or coaching programmes at an early age. Although these behaviours could have the best of intentions behind them, they can add to feelings of inadequacy and increased stress in students, sometimes leading them to the extreme step of taking their own lives.

Data from the National Crime Records Bureau

(NCRB) shows that some 13,000 students committed suicide in 2021, a 27% increase from 2016. Twenty-six students ended their lives in Kota alone in 2023; the majority were preparing for the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Main and Advanced for engineering, or the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET UG) for admission to medical colleges. Across age groups, 2,095 people ended their lives after failing examinations. Maharashtra had the largest number (378), followed by Jharkhand (174) and Madhya Pradesh (277). Gujarat (155) and Karnataka (162) also have high rates of suicide fatalities linked to examination failure.

Suicidal thoughts typically come from a sense of helplessness in an apparently overwhelming life circumstance. If one does not think there is hope for the future, one might conclude that suicide is the best course of action. When facing a crisis, one could have a kind of tunnel vision and think that the only thing they can do is end their life. Though parental and societal pressure to perform well can be an important contributing factor to student suicide rates, other reasons such as social isolation,

substance abuse, loss of a loved one, or stressful life events can also be vital reasons for suicide.

There are several different and related reasons why students take the extreme step of ending their lives when under academic stress. Exams, competition, and lofty expectations of performance are all major causes of academic stress, but these factors are frequently aggravated by underlying mental health conditions. The pressures of school can cause anxiety in students, and other factors like social isolation, financial stress, and expectations from family can make it worse.

The alarming rise in student suicides caused by academic stress and pressure is a major problem, emphasising the need for a varied approach that goes beyond professional therapies. This complicated condition has several roots and symptoms, indicating that treating it merely in clinical settings is insufficient. Parents, society, and new non-clinical approaches will play important roles in reducing student suicides. It is critical to identify the warning signs and symptoms of student suffering in order to prevent suicides. These might include social disengagement, behavioural

or emotional alterations, academic degradation, and depressive or worthless emotions.

Parents play an essential role in helping their children's psychological stability and well-being. Essential actions parents may take include being aware of symptoms of distress, developing healthy communication, and creating a supportive and open environment at home. Parents may also advocate for modifications to the educational system that put the needs of their children's overall health above their academic performance. The structural problems that contribute to students' academic stress and pressure must also be addressed by society as a whole. Important preventive measures include lowering the focus on standardised testing, advocating for mental health education in schools, and developing welcoming environments where children feel appreciated for who they are outside of their academic achievements.

Creating a culture of support also requires destigmatising treatment for mental health problems and making resources easily accessible.

Extra levels of support and intervention can be provided by peer support

groups, mentorship programmes, school-based wellness initiatives, and community outreach projects.

These non-clinical options offer places where students can interact, exchange stories, and get information in a less structured setting. Students can also avail themselves of psychometric tests to assess aptitude, interests, and strengths that can guide them towards fulfilling paths before making a career choice.

By aligning pursuits with natural abilities, students may experience less pressure and find greater success, instead of being forced into mainstream fields such as engineering and medicine disregarding their aptitude and ability. Preventing student suicides brought on by stress and pressure due to academics calls for a comprehensive approach involving parents, the community, and clinical as well as creative non-clinical methods.

This is the least society can do for its children.

**(The writer is a BSc (Hons) Psychology student at the School of Social Sciences, Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences)**

## For some politicians, all that matters is being on the winning side

JYOTI PUNWANI

It was the height of the 2019 Lok Sabha campaign. Congress candidate and Nanded strongman Ashok Chavan stepped out of his bungalow for his first engagement of the day: a meeting with the local unit of a pan-Indian Muslim organisation. This was one engagement the former Chief Minister of Maharashtra wanted to keep low-key.

The scenario was quite different in the 1980s. Murli Deora's famous late-night election processions used to be organised by Muslims. Kingpin of the Congress for years, Deora would wave out to the families looking out from balconies above, as his procession wound its way through the narrow lanes of the old Muslim quarter in his South Mumbai constituency.

Be it Deora's open connect with Muslims at a time when 'votebanks'

were not a term of abuse, or Chavan's covert relationship in the Narendra Modi-Amit Shah era, both Congressmen depended on the votes of the largest minority. Milind Deora, not half as approachable as his father, inherited Murli Deora's 'votebank' and went on to become two-time Congress MP from South Mumbai from 2004 to 2014. Chavan too, benefited from the legacy of his father, Shankarrao Chavan, twice Chief Minister of Maharashtra and Union minister multiple times, whose association with the Congress lasted from when he was a young man in 1956 until he died in 2004.

Did the thought of these loyal 'votebanks' come to mind at all when Ashok Chavan and Milind Deora decided to cross over to the other side? Surely, they knew that these voters would not follow them. The two parties these khandani (dynast)

Congressmen joined have made no bones about their antipathy towards Muslims.

Of course, both former MPs probably knew they would be nominated to the Rajya Sabha and, hence, would be spared the ordeal of seeking votes in their constituencies. But there's no doubt that both will have to deliver the constituencies of Nanded and South Mumbai to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). "Will you be able to look your Nanded voters in the eye and shout 'Jai Sri Ram'?" Chavan was asked on a Marathi TV channel. His reply, that Ram didn't belong to any one party, and that he'd put up posters of Ram with the slogan: 'Ishwar Allah tero naam' befits a Congressman. That line would not please the BJP.

Questions about the ideology of the party he is joining have followed Chavan in a way they haven't followed other Congressmen

who crossed over. Milind Deora is too lightweight. The reason for Chavan's grilling could be that his initiation into politics was through the Congress; or the high posts he's held in it; or because he was the last man standing against the 2014 Modi wave (the second seat, Hingoli, won by the Congress in those Lok Sabha elections was also partially credited to Chavan's influence). Since 2014, Chavan's election speeches have focused on the need to 'save the Constitution'. It's legitimate to ask him what happened to that concern. Forget the abstract idea of secularism; did the ground reality of Maharashtra, the hate speeches since the Fadnavis-Shinde combine took over; the communal clashes and the selective use of the bulldozer, at all feature in Chavan's or Deora's minds?

Of course, it's not as if the Congress was some beacon of secularism all

the years that it was in power. The list of wrongs committed against Muslims by India's oldest party is long and well-known – recurring riots, impunity for communal police forces, the backwardness of the community, indiscriminate arrests on fake terror charges, etc. Indeed, whenever an alternative was available, Muslims chose it, as seen in West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Telengana, Delhi, and Bihar. However, even though it barely gave representation to minorities, at its ideological core, the Congress is inclusive. But the rapidity with which senior Congress leaders have switched to the BJP, makes one wonder how strong is that core.

As rats desert the sinking ship of the Congress and opposition parties queue up to ally with the BJP, what happens to the millions of Indians who still believe in the old

'unity in diversity' motto? They need to ask: do the so-called Lohiaite Nitish Kumar, Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD)'s Jayant Choudhry who organised Jat-Muslim bhaichara sammelans before the 2022 Uttar Pradesh polls, Chandrababu Naidu and Ashok Chavan endorse the bulldozing of dargahs and closure of madrasahs that BJP chief ministers boast about? Do they share the dream of a Hindu Rashtra? Or is being on the winning side all that matters?

Perhaps the answer lies in another old dictum: forget politicians, go to the people. Temples holding iftaars; mosques hosting Hindu weddings; Sikhs and Hindus building a mosque – far away from political parties, 'unity in diversity' is alive and kicking.

**Jyoti Punwani is a senior journalist.**

## Seeking truth in the world of deception

RAJYOGI BRAHMAKUMAR NIKUNJJI

We all know that dishonesty is a part of life and the majority of us lie, cheat, and deceive not just to increase our gains but for a variety of reasons that relate as much to our own particular social and moral underpinnings as to the task at hand. A commonly accepted definition of the term lie is a false statement made by an individual who knows that the statement is not true. This definition emphasises the volitional nature of a lie, recognising that not only must the liar make a false statement, but that he/she must also know that the statement is indeed false.

Looking around would make us realise that we are living in a world where conditions are so fertile for falsehood to flourish that the very idea of truth is tainted. Isn't it? One of the

reasons for this is that it is easier to climb down the ladder of values than climb up. There are several versions in which falsehood breeds. Corruption is rampant in every sphere. To tackle this menace, the governments are installing and sharpening anti-corruption machinery. However, as we can see, corruption is growing like a chain reaction.

Anti-social elements find newer ways of perpetuating corruption. Similarly, to ensure a just society, parliaments keep making new laws while the judiciaries keep guard, pronouncing more landmark judgements. But with changing times, more and more unique cases of crime and dispute come up and the current measures of justice fall short hence the chain continues. To ensure equity, governments give special privileges to women, scheduled tribes, backward castes,



and others. There is no end to this list as groups demanding special status due to discrimination in the past have been increasing instead of reducing and laws fail to strike at the notion of separateness that causes this division.

Thus the whole idea of fairness or equity keeps getting fainter. The criteria of a healthy society today, paradoxically, is the number of hospitals, which is false in its very sense, because more hospitals are an indicator of more illness and greater physical and mental distress. A major percentage of a country's wealth that is spent in the name of security concerns proves

the concept of security a sham because more and more sophisticated technologies are developed today to make weapons causing more destruction under the pretext of protection. It is a great irony of the age that while making weapons in the name of security, nations spread insecurity and hold to ransom the sea of humanity against which they may be used. In short, our every step towards progress is split and ends with several steps towards downfall. We fail to see that notions of equity, security, and peace have contradictory characteristics that perpetuate what they aim to restrain.

The need of the hour is to view the current state of affairs in totality from a broader perspective. It is not the result of individual problems cropping up together at the same time. In reality, all this is an indicator of the fact that the

present time is in a state of spiritual crisis where values of mercy, kindness, humility and love have been replaced by cruelty, aggression, dominance and hatred. Concepts of happiness, joy and peace have become false & faithfulness and loyalty have become dubious. Remember! there will be no end to falsehood unless its root cause i.e. the identification of self as the body is not removed. We must realise that the soul is eternal. In other words, it is the truth. The body is prone to destruction and is hence transient. When we shed body consciousness and identify ourselves as a soul, truth prevails and other constructions, which were built on faulty foundations, collapse automatically.

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







## Claim of better Govts than BJP shows opposition living in fool's paradise: Kavinder

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister today slammed the hollow claims of opposition leaders, asserting the BJP's commitment to the unprecedented development of Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasizes that the opposition parties are living in a fool's paradise with their unfounded assertions and overlook the overwhelming support of the people of Jammu and Kashmir towards the BJP and the success of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rally in Jammu region.

In response to the opposition's statements regarding development projects initiated during their tenure, Kavinder highlighted that the opposition leaders, during their seventy-year rule



in Jammu and Kashmir, merely engaged in lip service and failed to take substantial actions for the welfare and progress of the people. Their rule only resulted in depriving the people of their rights and leaving them without tangible development projects, he added.

He raised questions about the inability of National Conference

and Congress in establishing crucial development projects in Jammu and Kashmir. Why the opposition leaders had failed to establish AIIMS, Expressway, IIM, IIT, ring road projects, expansion of Jammu Airport, holding of G20 Summit in J&K and many more during their tenure? He asked.

Counteracting the opposition's narrative, Kavinder proudly declared that the incumbent BJP government is the best government since independence. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, the BJP government has prioritized infrastructure development, and numerous projects

initiated during its tenure have been completed in record time. This commitment to efficient execution has set a precedent for other states in the country and has particularly brought progress to Jammu and Kashmir, he added. Kavinder asked the opposition parties to acknowledge the reality of the BJP's achievements rather than resorting to baseless claims. He further emphasized that the BJP government's dedication to the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir speaks for itself through its tangible results and the trust it has garnered from the masses. The former deputy Chief Minister asserted that the BJP will undoubtedly form the next government at the Centre by winning more than 400 plus seats with an aim to make India a more prosperous and developed nation.

## NYK Udampur organizes National Youth Parliament Festival at district level

JINNEWS SERVICE  
UDHAMPUR, FEB 21

Nehru Yuva Kendra Udampur, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt of India organised National Youth Parliament Festival at district level on 20-02-2024 in which almost 100 young participants from 7 districts Udampur, Reasi, Doda, Kistwar, Ramban, Leh & Kargil participated and spoke on the allotted topics of national importance. The theme of 5th edition of National Youth Parliament Festival is Young Voices: Engage and Empower for Nation's Transformation. The virtual event was presided over by District Youth Officer Khushal Gupta and adjudged by five jury members namely Sh. Swatanter Dev Kotwal (Dy. Chief warden, Civil Defence), Sh. S.S Billowria (Eminent Artist), Sh. Rakesh Sharma



(Teacher), Sh. Amar Dev Singh (Teacher) and Sh. Gagan Deep Sharma (eminent Politician).

The virtual event which went on to 4 hours witnessed the presentation of views of scores of youth to qualify for the State Youth Parliament Festival. Youth from NYKS, NSS and many educational institutions from across the UT of J&K and Ladakh spoke on the topics - Making India a Global Leader: The role of young entrepreneurs in boosting India's economic power, From Atma Nirbhar to Viksit Bharat: Charting India's Growth Trajectory powered by

youth and Empowering the Future: Youth Led initiatives Paving the way for a responsible community.

Baljit Singh and Vishal Roudhan from District Udampur, Pallavi Sharma and Rohit Sharma from district Doda, Priya Devi and Anurag Sharma from district Kishtwar, Arushi Goswami and Athar Husain wani from district Ramban, Tsering Chosol and Naziya Jabeen from district Leh & Kannez Fatima and Shehnaz Fatima from district Kargil qualified for the State Youth Parliament Festival.

## PCPG Meeting organized at Kanachak by PS Kanachak Jammu

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, FEB 21

SP Rural Brijesh Sharma alongwith SDPO Domana Muddasir Hussain and SHO PS Kanachak Inspr Sham Lal conducted a PCPG meeting at PS Kanachak. Various Sarpanches, Panches, ex-sarpanches/panches and other prominent persons participated in the meeting.

A threadbare discussion took place regarding drug-menace, theft and other related issues. SP Rural Jammu also briefed them to inform the nearby PS/PP if any information regarding drug trafficking is received to them.

SP Rural Jammu flanked by SDPO Domana and SHO PS Kanachak gave a patient hearing to the public and assured them of addressing the genuine demands in shortest possible time. Also people were encouraged to cooperate with Police and Administration in maintaining Law & Order in their area of responsibility as well as in identifying Anti-Social Elements who are indulging in Drugs Peddling, Illicit liquor brewing, Bovine smuggling etc

Later SHO PS Kanachak thanked the participants.

## GPS Tracker installed on feet of accused released on bail by PS Bahu Fort Jammu

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, FEB 21

An accused namely Shakir Ahmed naikoo S/O Md Shafi Naikoo R/O Harpura, Durapora. Tehsil Zainapora, Shopian was released on interim bail.

The accused was arrested in case FIR No. 56/2022 u/s 18,20,23,38,39 UAPA Act 3,4,5 ESA registered at PS Bahu Fort. Accused has been finally put up on interim bail by installing GPS Tracker on his feet.

## N S Bhau spearheads coronation of Radha-Krishna Temple

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, 21 FEB

Today, devotees convened at Khour temple to commemorate the coronation of the Radha-Krishna idol, a revered ceremony orchestrated by Rakesh Khanna. The aim of organizing the program was to connect Krishna's devotees with each other.

Distinguished personalities such as Narinder Singh Bhau, President of All India Bhau Rajput Sabha and BJP Executive Member, graced the affair with their presence. Joined by numerous devotees, they engrossed themselves in bhajan-kirtan conducted by the esteemed Gurudev Acharya Mahant Suraj Shastri. The melodious hymns reverberated through the temple, fostering a serene atmosphere.

Narinder Singh Bhau



said, "Radha is often seen as the epitome of devotion and surrender. She symbolizes complete surrender to the divine will and unconditional love for Krishna. This teaches us the importance of surrendering our ego and desires in relationships, cultivating trust, and allowing love to guide our actions."

The event epitomized faith and devotion, harmonizing individuals from diverse backgrounds to engage in the divine rev-

elery. As the Radhe-Krishna idol was crowned amidst invocations and offerings, a sense of peace and unity permeated the congregation, binding them in a shared spiritual encounter.

The organizers extend their profound thanks to all attendees and dignitaries for their involvement and encouragement, rendering the coronation ceremony enriched with spirituality, which filled the air with Krishna's essence.

## PM Modi boosted party workers' morale ahead of upcoming LS elections: Langer

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Sham Lal Langer, Convenor of BJP Trade Cell in Jammu and Kashmir, expressed his admiration for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's exceptional leadership and his efforts in energizing party workers in view of upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

In a statement issued here today, the senior BJP leader said that PM Modi addressed the party cadre and general public with utmost enthusiasm and passion, igniting a sense of motivation and unity among them. His powerful words and dynamic presence have undoubtedly uplifted the spirits of the party workers throughout Jammu and Kashmir.

Sham Lal Langer emphasized the significance of PM Modi's inspirational speech, stat-



and prosperity. His unwavering commitment to the welfare of every citizen has been truly commendable. With his guidance, our party workers are more motivated than ever to work towards the betterment of Jammu and Kashmir," said Sham Langer.

He further added, "The upcoming Lok Sabha elections hold immense importance for us, and we are confident that under PM Modi's leadership, we will achieve great success. His dynamic personality, inclusive policies, and relentless efforts to transform India have garnered immense support from the people of J&K."

The senior BJP leader expressed his belief that Narendra Modi will

undoubtedly become the Prime Minister for the third consecutive term in 2024, as the people of the country are firmly behind him. The unwavering support and trust of the citizens further strengthen the resolve of the BJP party workers to work tirelessly towards the vision and goals set by PM Modi.

Sham Langer encouraged all party workers to actively interact with the community, propagate the achievements and vision of the BJP, and work tirelessly to ensure the party's victory in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

Sham Langer expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his continuous guidance, and reiterated the dedication of the party workers towards building a prosperous Jammu and Kashmir under the visionary leadership of PM Modi.

ing that it has not only instilled a renewed sense of purpose and dedication among party workers but has also reignited their commitment to serving the people of J&K.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi possesses unparalleled vision and capabilities to lead our nation towards progress

## J&K is grateful to PM Modi for unprecedented development: Raina

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, FEB 21

The people of J&K are grateful to PM Modi for his hearty and liberal allocation of funds to develop J&K unprecedentedly, said Ravinder Raina.

Ravinder Raina, President, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, accompanied by Jugal Kishore Sharma, MP (Lok Sabha), Kavinder Gupta, former Deputy Chief Minister, Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, BJP General Secretary and Dr. Pard-eep Mahotra, BJP Media Incharge, was addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Ravinder Raina, while addressing the media persons, thanked the people of Jammu and Kashmir for their massive participation in the rally addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said that the enthusiastic participation by lakhs of people turned the massive rally into a historical one.

Raina also thanked Prime Minister Modi on behalf of the people of Jammu & Kashmir for allocating the development projects, inauguration, and their public dedication with a massive funding to the tune of 32000 crore



rupees. "The people of J&K are indebted to PM Modi for his hearty allocation of funds to develop J&K, this is the love of PM Modi for the people of J&K, which has led to the unprecedented development in every region of J&K at the massive level. J&K is touching new heights in development, and peace is being established in J&K, for all this every person, woman, and child of J&K, is feeling indebted and expressing thanks to PM Modi", said Raina.

"On 20th February, during the visit of PM Modi, an ocean of people had come to MAM stadium inside and also outside of the stadium creating an impression of a sea of people. People from hilly areas like Rajouri, Poonch, etc. as well as from all the areas of Kashmir attended the rally to thank PM Modi for all the welcome steps taken by him. For this

enormous love, I want to thank people from all walks of life from all the regions of J&K for welcoming the PM braving heavy rains and snowfall. On behalf of the BJP, I would like to thank the people of J&K for expressing so much love and affection to PM Modi and support to BJP. I am optimistic that this support will continue like this", said Raina.

Raina said, "I thank PM Modi for funds to the tune of 32000 crore rupees including AIIMS in Vijaypur Samba, Devika project, multipurpose irrigation project, Ujh. PM Modi has given a new pace to the development in J&K. Rail network, ring roads, road network, health infrastructure, water, electricity, and help of needy & downtrodden have led to the attraction of a massive crowd in the rally by PM Modi.

"Thousands of people belonging to different groups like women, self-

help groups, Gujjar-Bakerwals, STs, listened to PM Modi in different blocks in different locations around the J&K, and PM Modi talked to them via digital mode. They mentioned the development works in their areas and thanked PM Modi for the houses, water, electricity, Ayushman Golden card, free ration, pension, equitable justice to all the communities, job opportunities to the youth of J&K. PM Modi assured the unprecedented development and said that the world will forget the foreign locations and instead, visit the beautiful landscape of Jammu & Kashmir now", said Raina.

While replying to questions by media persons, Raina said that the doors of the BJP are open for anyone who wishes to join the party and serve the people under the leadership of the prime minister.

Raina said that the preparations are going on to contest the elections in all the five Lok Sabha constituencies of J&K and one of Ladakh. He also thanked the leaders of various opposition parties including National Conference president Feroz Abdullah and former deputy chief minister Muzaffar Hussain Baig for praising PM Modi on the occasion.

## Health dept organizes testing of Hepatitis B & C for Jail inmates at Bhandarwah

JINNEWS SERVICE  
DODA, FEB 21

In view of prevalence of Hepatitis B & C among prison inmates and with an objective to provide access to good quality healthcare to prisoners, the health department Doda in collaboration with District Jail organized a day-long testing cum awareness camp at District Jail Bhandarwah on Wednesday.

The camp which was held on the directions of worthy Administrative Secretary Health Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah (IAS) and Deputy Commissioner Doda Sh Harvinder Singh (IAS) and under the supervision of Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr Om Kumar was organized with the aim to regular monitoring and testing of jail inmates for Hepatitis B & C, HIV, Tuberculosis, Dental Checkup besides general Health Check Up, in order to prevent and control the transmission of various contagious diseases among the jail inmates.

The camp was inaugurated by Block Medical Officer Bhandarwah Dr Mohd Ashraf in the presence of Superintendent District Jail Bhandarwah Mr Mushtaq Ahmed Malla, DIO/DTO Doda Dr Versha Sharma, Epidemiologist Doda Mr Umar Anayat



Khan and staff of District Jail Bhandarwah.

During the camp, around 187 prison inmates were tested and screened for Hepatitis B & C, Tuberculosis, HIV, Dental Check Up and general medical checks were examined by the team of Doctors and Paramedical staff of SDH Bhandarwah.

On this occasion, the jail inmates were also educated about the importance of health, hygiene and significance for a healthy life. Apart from offering basic health screenings/testing and check-ups, the health experts including Dr Versha Sharma

also dispensed important advice to inmates on how they can improve their health standards by adopting better practices of personal hygiene, and improving their physical well-being. They may be prisoners, but their health is as important as any other fellow citizen. It is our strong belief that healthcare providers must also play a role in helping ensure better access of healthcare delivery to prisoners. This is why such camps are all the more important for them," adds the health officials.

Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr Om Kumar while

giving detail about the camp, informed that the concerned with the health issues of prisoners in various jails due to spread of contagious disease and to facilitate provision of timely and effective medical treatment to the prisoners with medical problems, the camp was organized to detect any sign of disease, which can be prevented before it's onset

and to educate them about the need of improving standards of good health.

The programme was made possible by the generous support of BMO Bhandarwah who deployed the medical team besides District Jail Authorities Bhandarwah who provided all possible support in making the camp a great success. Superintendent District Jail Bhandarwah Sh Mushtaq Ahmed Malla thanked and lauded the efforts of health department for organizing such an important camp, which would surely benefit the health standard of the prison inmates.



## 3 days HADP training on Remote Sensing & GIS begin in SKUAST-J

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Under the able guidance of Dr. B.N. Tripathi, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, the Division of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, SKUAST Jammu today started a 3-day training programme on Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System for the officials of Agriculture and line departments as well as for youth of the region. This skill development programme was planned under the HADP project 'Development of J&K Soil and Land Information System'. This training programme shall provide the opportunity for hands-on learning process with direct access to use software in the geospatial Lab to individual trainees. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Anil Kumar, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, who dwelt upon the



importance of geospatial sciences in the field of natural resources management especially in agricultural sciences. Dr. Vikas Sharma, Coordinator of the programme extended a welcome address and gave introductory lecture highlighting the importance of the training programme. He helped the trainees in understanding the application of GIS and Remote Sensing in Natural resources management. He informed the trainees that this three-day introductory programme shall provide a feed back to frame a much detailed programme on the subject in near future for the benefit of the farming

community. Mr. Manish Sharma, ESRI was the primary resource person for this event. Dr. Vivak Manohar Arya and Dr. Mahital Jamwal, the Co-coordinators of this training programme shared their experiences on Remote Sensing and Natural Resource Management in the UT of J&K. Dr. S.K. Gupta, Director Research exhorted that skill development is the need of the hour and all training programmes under HADP will certainly help the youth in skill enhancement and appealed that youth should come forward and take the benefit of skill development programmes.

## Lachhipura Bn under Operation Sadbhavna starts skill development classes

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BARAMULLA, FEB 21

As part of Operation Sadbhavna, Lachhipura Bn has started skill development classes aimed at empowering the youth with particular focus on women of Lachhipura and neighboring villages.

These classes seek to equip individuals with valuable skills in tailoring and Tally solutions, fostering economic independence and self-reliance within the community.

In the tailoring class, 16 individuals will be imparted necessary skill set, learning the art of stitching and garment making.

Through hands-on training and guidance from experienced instructors, participants will be gaining practical skills essential for employment and entrepreneurship in the textile industry.



Similarly, in the Tally solutions class, 9 individuals will be imparted specialist training sessions focused on mastering accounting software.

This training equips participants with the necessary skills to handle financial transactions efficiently, enhancing their employability in various

sectors.

These skill development classes are specifically designed to benefit the weaker sections of society within the Battalion Area of Responsibility. By providing opportunities for skill enhancement and capacity building, Lachhipura Battalion aims to uplift and empower individuals from marginalized backgrounds, contributing to overall socio-economic development in the valley. Through initiatives like these, Operation Sadbhavna continues to demonstrate the Indian Army's unwavering commitment to fostering goodwill, unity, and prosperity within the communities it serves.

## Two Missing ladies reunited with their families by Jammu Police

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Two missing ladies reunited with their families by Jammu Police in the areas under the jurisdiction of PS RS Pura.

Two different complaints were lodged at PS RS Pura by the legal heirs of two ladies stating that they got missing from their home.

In this regard two different missing reports i.e missing report vide DDR No. 12 Dated 02-10-2023 and missing report vide DDR No. 21 Dated 11-03-2021 of two different missing ladies got registered at PS RS Pura and investigation got started.

On this special police teams led by SHO PS RS Pura did strenuous efforts and finally traced the missing ladies.

Subsequently families of both the missing ladies were informed and the traced lady were handed over to their family members after completing all the legal formalities.

## Notorious drug peddler arrested with 8 grams heroine



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
AKHNOOR, FEB 21

Under Sanjeevani operation of Jammu and Kashmir police to eradicate the drug menace from the society today a police team of Police post Pouni Chak headed by PSI Vijay Kumar under the guidance of SHO PS Domana Inspector Sushel Choudhary and Supervision of SDPO Domana DySP Muddasar Hussain apprehended the notori-

ous drug peddler namely Zahid Mohd S/O Sher Ali R/O Gandu Chak Phallian mandal tehsil Mandal district Jammu and recovered about 8 grams of Heroin from his possession at Pata chung Bohri Chowk where the above said peddler came to deliver the said NDPS material. In this regard FIR is registered at Police station Domana under relevant section of law and investigation of the case set into motion

## AI, most transformative technology of century: Galaxy developers

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Stating that the AI is the most transformative technology of the century, the engineers involved in development of Galaxy series for Samsung have stated that developing the Galaxy S24 series has been the most rewarding period of their career. "As an engineer, I have witnessed many examples of incredible innovations, but AI is the most transformative technology of the century, said one of the team members. "Few engineers get the chance to be involved in something with such seismic potential. It brings great change, not only for Samsung and the mobile industry, but for all humankind. When integrated into phones, AI is to put it simply, a revolution. This is a new era for mobile experiences and Samsung Galaxy has a leading role to play in

it. Mobile devices will become the primary access point for AI, and Samsung Galaxy - with our broad and comprehensive product portfolio, heritage of innovation, and philosophy of open collaboration - is in a great position to accelerate its global expansion. We will make mobile AI about to access and ignite new possibilities for all."

According to a press communiqué, issued here, the engineers further stated that, "As we pioneer groundbreaking experiences in mobile AI, we've thought a lot about how this new and exciting technology can enhance our lives and inspire society's next steps. Applied with care and consideration, Galaxy AI helps people communicate beyond borders, complete everyday tasks easily, and so much more."

"Since the launch of Galaxy S24 series, we've

had great feedback about how people actually use Galaxy AI features in their daily lives. One of the most welcomed AI features is Circle to Search with Google, an incredible new tool for intuitive discovery. Our communication tools for removing language barriers, such as Live Translate, Chat Assist and Interpreter, have captured the imagination of many. People also love Photo Assist, our tools for creativity powered by our ProVisual Engine."

"Again, we're only getting started. While developing the Galaxy S24 series, we had many ideas and concepts that we wanted to bring to life. Galaxy users will be able to enjoy more Galaxy AI features that build on these ideas and concepts over time as Samsung continuously enhances and grows the mobile AI experiences."

"Moreover, we are already planning next

steps for Galaxy AI beyond smartphones - optimizing it for various categories of devices, across various services. In the near future, the select Galaxy wearables will use AI to enhance digital health and unlock a whole new era of expanded intelligent health experiences. Samsung will keep enriching and expanding Galaxy AI experiences across categories through collaborations with more industry-leading AI partners.

Over the past year, we frequently asked ourselves what users want or need and what they could achieve with a little assistance. These questions inspired the Galaxy S24 series, our first AI phone that invites users to imagine how their lives could change thanks to AI. It is the phone of the future, shaping the standard of mobile AI and defining this emerging category of AI phones. Of course, there are challenges

and responsibilities to consider. AI models in training are still susceptible to hallucinations, and the debate on intellectual property rights continues. It is crucial that companies openly collaborate to carefully define AI experiences, so users can confidently and reliably enjoy their new abilities. It's also important to raise the standards of security and privacy in this new era of data-intensive mobile experiences. That is one of the reasons we've taken a hybrid approach that combines on-device and cloud-based AI. Besides ensuring seamless usability, this lets users limit some features to function entirely on-device, giving them greater control over what they do with their data. We remain committed to enhancing Galaxy device security and privacy by providing users with transparency and choice.

## 10 grams of heroin recovered by Police Post Pounichak Jammu. One peddler arrested

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 22

Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substance abuse, Jammu Police achieved major success by recovering 10 grams of heroin from one accused person in the jurisdiction of PP Pounichak.

A police team of PP Pounichak led by SHO PS Domana and I/C PP Pounichak while on naka duty at Pata chung Bohri Chowk rounded up a suspect who was coming from Pounichak side. On search, 10 grams of heroin was recovered from him.

## Sankalp Divas Commemorated at CUJ

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

The Department of National Security Studies and Dean Students' Welfare, Central University of Jammu in association with Jammu Kashmir Study Centre (JKSC) organized 'Sankalp Divas' programme. The event was presided over by Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu. The Chief Guest and the main speaker of the event was Sh. Rupesh ji, Prant Pracharak of Rashtriya Swamsevak Sangh (RSS) and Prof. Virender Koundal, Vice President JKSC.

Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Dean Students' Welfare formally welcomed the speakers along with other dignitaries. The programme was inaugurated with the auspicious ceremony of lighting the lamp by the dignitaries which was followed by documentary on POJK and POTL. Further



dignitaries released the book "MERA GAON, MERE PRERNA STROT" written by Dr. Shashank Kulkarni Ji Post-doc. Fellow, Central University of Jammu and Kuljeet Singh Ji Scholar, CSIT department, Central University of Jammu and ShoDH J&K State Conventor.

In the beginning of the program, Prof. Virender Koundal, Vice President JKSC gave a brief introduction of Jammu Kashmir Study Center and further highlighted the achievements of the center and further elaborated the working of association

under three categories i.e., Academics, Awareness and Integration.

While addressing the gathering, as the main speaker, Sh. Rupesh ji explained various important aspects of POJK and POTL and further congratulated the University for organizing such events. In his address, he motivated and encouraged the participants to contribute their best to preserve the Unity and Integrity of the nation.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, CUJ in his Presidential speech congratulated the

Department of National Security Studies and Dean Students' Welfare, Central University of Jammu and Jammu Kashmir Study Centre for successfully organizing the event which is relevant for public awareness and national interest. For motivating and encouraging the students towards the building of "AKHAND BHARAT", hon'ble Vice chancellor, also made special announcements in this regard.

The event was gracefully moderated by Dr. Nancy Mengi, H.O.D, Department of Social work. The vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Vinay Kumar, Dean Physical and Applied Sciences. The program was attended by JKSC members, faculty members, scholars and students of different departments of Central University of Jammu. The representatives from the media were also present at the event.

## Valedictory function of 7 Day Long Winter Camp organizes by NSS unit GDC, Marheen

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KATHUA, FEB 21

Valedictory function of the 7 Day Long Winter Camp was organized by NSS unit of Government Degree College Marheen on 21-02-2024. On this occasion, Dr Janak Singh, the most revered Retd. Principal of the college was the chief Guest and Dr Anupama Gupta esteemed Principal of GDC, Marheen was Guest of Honour. The function was started by the welcome address of Dr Arun Dev Singh NSS Programme Officer of the College by offering the Bouquets to the Guests followed by the lightening ceremony, recitation of Saraswati Vandana and NSS song by NSS Volunteers. He has read out detailed report of 7 Day Long Winter Camp in which he elaborated the various activities which were carried out by 55 NSS volunteers during the camp: On 15-02-2024, NSS unit started a 7 Day Long Winter Camp at adopted village Marheen under the aegis of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 which was inaugurated by Dr. Anupama Gupta, esteemed Principal of the College, On 16-02-2024 NSS unit invited a team of SDRF and Civil - Defence from



District headquarter and team organized a well-planned demo in the college, On 17-02-2024 Plantation Drive and Nasha Mukta Campaign was organized and the large number of NSS volunteers participated actively in Plantation drive which was conducted in the Primary Health Centre of village Marheen On 18-02-2024 a Swachta rally and door to door campaign was conducted. On 19-02-2024 a Lecture was organized by NSS unit on the theme of "EAT HEALTHY, STAY HEALTHY". The lecture was delivered by Dr Sanjeev Sharma and Dr Namrata from District Ayush Department Kathua, On 20-02-2024 a Yoga Session was organized by NSS unit. On this occasion, Mr Ankush Modeel and Mr Balwinder Kumar experts from Ayush Department Kathua were invited for yoga training.

Dr Anupama Gupta, esteemed Principal of the

college appreciated the efforts of NSS volunteers and supported them by saying that they played a vital role and rendered community services in the interest of the people during the camp which would help them in future to develop their personality, confidence and feeling of wellbeing. The Chief Guest distributed certificates, the Mementos and medals among the NSS Volunteers who attended Camps and rendered meritorious services in the interest of society. Siya, Sr, Volunteer received Best Volunteer Award of 7 Day Long Winter Camp whereas Mr Shubam was given Best- Runner-up NSS Volunteer award. Dr Arun Dev Singh extended his special thanks to Dr Janak Singh respected Retd. Principal of the College who consented to be the Chief- Guest and graced the Occasion with lot of blessings and he also extended thanks to Dr

Anupama Gupta esteemed Principal of the college who constantly supported the entire NSS unit and Volunteers during the camp. He also extended special thanks to locals : Sh Shiv Dev Singh, Sh Subash Singh, Sh Anupawan Singh and others for providing support during the camp. He said that he would fail if he could not be able to extend his gracious thanks to Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Government of India ,Regional Directorate NSS Delhi, Dr Yasmeen Ashai worthy Director Hr. Education NSS Officer of Jammu and Kashmir UT, and Dr Hema Gandotra respected NSS Coordinator University of Jammu without their support it was quite difficult to organize such type special camp of 7 Day Long winter. And eventually, he extended his thanks and gratitude from core of heart to the faculty members: Prof. Sandeep Choudhary, Prof Anoop Sharma, Dr Munisha, Dr Imran, Dr Shallu, Dr Barnheet, Dr Reemi, Dr Rajni, Dr Surbhi, Prof Preeti, other official, NSS volunteers of the college, media persons who gave wonderful and huge coverage. The Proceedings were carried out by Siya and Neha NSS Volunteers.

## Reasi Police arrests absconder evading arrest for last 05 years

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, FEB 21

District Police Reasi apprehended one absconder, who was evading arrest since 2017. Absconder namely Rashpal Singh S/O Lal Singh R/O Chakalsalta Tehsil Thakrakote Distt Reasi, who

is facing trial before Hon'ble Court Reasi in case 01) FIR No. 72/2017 U/S 458/323 RPC, 02) FIR No. 88/2023 U/S 323/341 /504/506 IPC and was absconding since long . On 10/02/24 Hon'ble Court Reasi issued general warrant U/S 299 Cr.PC against the said accused,

the said accuses has been arrested from Jij Kesari and produced before Hon'ble court. The arrest was made by a team led by SHO Arnas.

Accused person evaded arrest by disguising and changing locations and couldn't be apprehended since registration of Case

FIR against him. Mohita Sharma - IPS, SSP Reasi conveyed that arrests of criminal is important police work to maintain peace and tranquillity in the area and Police will leave no stone unturned to arrest and produce them in concerned trial courts of law.



# People from BJP, other parties join Congress

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
RS PURA, FEB 21

Taranjit Singh Tony, General Secretary of Jammu & Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee and DDC Member Suchetgarh, has voiced deep disappointment over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the Jammu as he chose to remain silent on pressing issues affecting the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking at the joining programme here today, Tony said Prime Minister Modi neglected to mention the urgent need for the restoration of statehood and the long-overdue Assembly elections, which has left the populace disillusioned and disheartened. He emphasized that the PM's silence on promises made to the youth of the region a decade ago with regard to create 2 crores jobs per year has only deepened the sense of betrayal among the



people. Furthermore, the Prime Minister's speech made no reference to vital concerns such as the protection of jobs and lands, as well as the pressing demand for the reinstatement of statehood, Tony said and highlighted the conspicuous absence of any acknowledgment of the farmers' steadfast demand for minimum support prices (MSP) and the imperative need for Assembly elections.

The senior Congress leader observed that the government employees were forced to join the rally organized by the Lieutenant Governor,

underscoring the lack of genuine support for the BJP's agenda among the populace.

Tony reiterated that the rally was not a genuine display of support for the BJP but rather a forced assembly orchestrated by the LG. He called upon the BJP government at the Center to address the pressing issues facing the nation and restore democracy in Jammu and Kashmir by promptly facilitating Assembly elections without any further delay.

In a major political development, several members from the BJP and other political parties

in the Suchetgarh area of RS PURA have joined the Congress party under the leadership of Tony. This significant move marks a step forward for the Congress party in the region as it looks to bolster its support ahead of the upcoming elections.

Tony welcomed the new members to the party, emphasizing the Congress's commitment to the betterment of the community and the welfare of the people. This coalition will undoubtedly influence the changing political landscape of the Suchetgarh area of RS PURA.

# SCSSC celebrates Int'l Mother Language Day

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J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Senior Citizens Service Support Club organized and celebrated International Mother Language Day for Promotion of Dogri Language in J&K. Lectures cum Rallies were organized at 9 places by Schools namely, Tiny Tots, Sainik Colony, JK Public School Sainik Colony, Cooperative Public School, ASN Higher Secondary School, UP Public School, Modern Public School, Luthra Acadmy, Himmat Learning Field Higher Secondary School & NSK High School. Nearly 250 students besides school teachers and staff participated.

Dr Kasturi Lal Gupta, Former Principal Medical College & Club Chairman, said that scholars, whose efforts for Promotion of Language would have been lauded for Promotion of regional language were found to be conspicuous by its absence. The traditional festivals and cuisine, which were cherished as a symbol of provincial pride, stopped to exist. The knowledge of Dogri Language remained restricted to Mohallas, and it was not even allowed to spread in the streets. Cultural differences and diverse social structures that prevented the acceptance of Dogri as regional language defied the perception of rich Dogra culture and heritage. It was expected from the past that they should have fought for inclusion of Dogri Language as a subject of studies in syllabi of School education upto 5th class in schools of Jammu Province where they abysmally failed.

Dr Ashok Kumar Gupta Club President & Retd Drug Controller J&K has awarded that only 10% of the population in urban areas of Jammu is speaking Dogri. It is estimated that by 2050, there will be no of individuals speaking Dogri in urban areas, negligible the language will gradually stop to exist in due course of time.

Dr Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner & Club Vice President recited a Dogri poem that Dogri is Mother Language of around 30 lakhs people, staying in Jammu Province and an equal no is staying in other states and abroad. In 2003, Dogri was given the status of official language in the country, besides the other 21 languages. It was also included in the Schedule Eight to the constitution in Sept 2020. Lok Sabha passed the J&K official language (Amendment) bill, making Dogri the official language of JK UT, as well as in the country.

Abhinandan Jain, Member Executive & Ashok Khajuria Retd Chief Manager managed the programme in HLF Higher Sec School & Luthra Academy, HC Vaid Financial Secretary arranged function in NSK High School & UP Public School, Anju Bansal put her efforts to make programme a grand success in Cooperative School, Tiny Tots & JK Public School. Vijay Sharma I/C Club Media cell, Vijay Gupta & Ashok Gupta I/c Yoga Cell and other Office bearers of the club also have graced the Mega Function. CM Sharma, Chairman HLF HR Sec School, announced that the Slogan Writing Competition in Dogri will be organized in different schools.

# GDC Thathr organizes Voter Awareness Campaign



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
THATHRI, FEB 21

Today on the eve of National Voters week on 21 Feb 2024, the NSS unit in collaboration with the voter literacy club of GDC Thathri organised a program "Role of Youth in Electoral Participation" regarding voter awareness. The program was organised under the banner of "voter awareness campaign for the youth" under the overall patronage of Prof. Basharat Iqbal, Principal of the college. The Principal addressed the students, NSS volunteers and local youth that they are the future of our nation and they have a great role in electoral participation to strengthen the democracy.

All the staff and NSS volunteers were present in the program. Prof. Deepak Raj, HoD English gave a brief introduction about the program. Prof. Arshad Ayoub HoD Political science gave a detailed lecture about the program titled, "Role of Youth in Electoral participation".

The programme was managed by Dr Sanjay Kumar HOD, Urdu NSS programme officer, Prof. Arshad Ayoub HoD Political and Prof. Deepak Raj HoD English.

Others present on the occasion were HoD Economic, HoD EVS, HoD sociology, HoD Dogri and HoD education.

The programme was ended with a formal vote of thanks presented by Dr Sanjay Kumar HOD Urdu, NSS programme officer.

# Gurdeep praises massive turnout at PM Modi's rally in Jammu

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
RS PURA, FEB 21



Gurdeep Singh Saini, Co-Convenor of BJP Panchayati Raj Cell, expressed gratitude to the people who showed up in large numbers from various districts of Jammu and Kashmir at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rally in Jammu. He stated that the overwhelming trust and support shown by the people towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi was evident in the grand rally held in Jammu.

During a press conference held in RS Pura, Gurdeep Singh Saini expressed his gratitude to the district administration and the people for making the grand rally of Prime Minister Narendra Modi a resounding success. He mentioned that during his visit to Jammu and Kashmir, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated several projects that were completed at a cost of crores of rupees, which were a gift to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Especially noteworthy was the commencement of AIIMS in Vijaypur,

which will provide better healthcare facilities to the rural areas.

He stated that the massive turnout at the rally proves that the people of Jammu and Kashmir stand with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and their love will be witnessed through their votes in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

Gurdeep Singh Saini also expressed gratitude to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for efficiently implementing the central government's schemes for Jammu and Kashmir. He mentioned that the government schemes are being fully utilized by the people, especially at the panchayat level, and the Vikasit Bharat Sankalp Yatra has served as a catalyst for their development.

During the grand rally, thousands of workers of the BJP Panchayati Raj Cell attended and listened to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech.

## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER (DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, NEW DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX, MAURA, RAMBAN)

"Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy"

Email: entramban@nic.in  
Email: dc.ramban@jk.gov.in  
Ph./Fax: -01998-266701

Sub: Conduct of Parliamentary Elections - 2024 - Fixation of rates - thereof.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

In pursuance to the communication received from the office of Chief Electoral Officer, UT of J&K, Jammu vide No. CEO-ELECOE/6/2023-1/721-82, dated 12.02.2024, the rates for various items / materials / services are required to be fixed for following items.

As such, this office is invited Quotation, in sealed cover, from Registered firms dealing in different items/services/supplies for fixation of rates of Election related Material/ supplies/ services for the conduct of Lok Sabha Elections 2024. The firms are advised to submit quotations of their respective items to the office of undersigned within seven days from the publication of this notice.

S. No	Particulars	Per Unit/ Per day	Rates
<b>RATE FOR TENT HOUSE ITEMS</b>			
1	Ceiling Fancy 15'X15'	Sq ft	
2	Ceiling White 15X15	Sq ft	
3	Curtain White	Sq ft	
4	Curtain Coloured Fancy	Sq ft	
5	Kanat Coloured Fancy	Sq ft	
6	Pole Cover	Sq ft	
7	Tirpai 15X15	Sq ft	
8	Mat 30X3	Sq ft	
9	Drugget	Sq ft	
10	Durret 12X10	Sq ft	
11	Kaleen	Sq ft	
12	Kaleen 15X5	Sq ft	
13	Chaddar Print/Masnand	Sq ft	
14	Chaddar White	Sq ft	
15	Durrie 15x25"	Nos.	
16	Carpet Passage 30'x3' length	Nos.	
17	Chair (Sleeve/Plastic)	Nos	
18	Chair (Cushioned)	Nos	
19	Full Chair cover with Bow	Nos	
20	Table 5*25"	Nos	
21	Table Cloth per Table	Nos	
22	Table Jhaller per Table	Nos.	
23	Table Round 4.5 (Oia)	Nos.	
24	Table Round Cover	Nos.	
25	Table Basin (Sanmica)	Nos.	
26	Wash Basin (Steel)	Nos.	
27	Takhat Posh'4X4'	Nos.	
28	Gas Bathi (single Barney)	Nos.	
29	Patla with Lid	Nos.	
30	Karahi Set (with Pooni & Tentha)	Nos.	
31	Karshi (Big)	Nos.	
32	Karshi (Small)	Nos.	
33	Balti	Nos.	
34	Chirmachi	Nos.	
35	Tub	Nos.	
36	Paraat	Nos.	
37	Plastic Dustbin	Nos.	
38	Water Drum (Full)	Nos.	
39	Water Drum (Half)	Nos.	
40	Fan Pedestal with connection	Nos.	
41	Full Plate (Melamine)	Nos.	
42	Full Plate (Bone China/Glass)	Nos.	
43	Q. Plate (Bone China/Glass)	Nos.	
44	Coffee Mug (Crocker/ Ordinary)	Nos.	
45	Coffee Mug*Bone China	Nos.	
46	Cup Saucer (Crocker/ Ordinary)	Nos.	
47	Qjp & Saucer*Bone China	Nos.	
48	Donga/Rice Plate (Steel)	Nos.	
49	Donga/Rice Plate (Bone China/Glass)	Nos.	
50	Tea Pot (Steel)	Nos.	
51	Tea Pot (Crockery Ordinary)	Nos.	
52	Milk Pot/Sugar Pot (Steel/Crockery)	Nos.	
53	Milk Pot/Sugar Pot (Bone China)	Nos.	
54	Jug (Steel)	Nos.	
55	Jug (Glass)	Nos.	
56	Glass (Steel)	Nos.	
57	Glass Tumbler Plain	Nos.	
58	Glass Fancy	Nos.	
59	Thali (Steel)	Nos.	
60	Ice Cube Container	Nos.	
61	Snack Warmer	Nos.	
62	Tea Container	Nos.	
63	Service Tray	Nos.	
64	Re-Sheffing Dishes (Normal Size)	Nos.	
65	Re-Sheffing Dishes (Big Size)	Nos.	
66	Re-Sheffing Dishes (Hotelware)	Nos.	
67	Spoon (Ordinary)	Nos.	
68	Baby Spoon / Tea Spoon	Nos.	
69	Table Spoon	Nos.	
70	Service Spoon	Nos.	
71	Service Spoon Bone China	Nos.	
72	Fork/Knife	Nos.	
73	Salad Plater Steel	Nos.	
74	Salad Plater (Bone China)	Nos.	
75	Mattresses (Ordinary)	Nos.	
76	Mattresses (Foam)	Nos.	
77	Rajaji with cover	Nos.	
78	Pillow with cover	Nos.	
79	Bed Sheet Single (Print)	Nos.	
80	Bed Sheet Single (White)	Nos.	
81	Coffee Machine	Nos.	
82	Fan Pedestal	Nos.	
83	Fan Pedestal with wire connection	Nos.	
<b>PUBLICITY MATERIAL</b>			
84	Offset printing (Laser Type Setting)		
	18 X 22 /4		
	18 X 22/5		
	18 X 22/6		
	18 X 22/8		
	18 X 22/12		
85	Multi Colour		
	Positive Single Color per sq inch		
	Scanning/Planning per sq inch		
86	PLATE MAKING (PS) PER PLATE		
	16x20		
	18x23		
	19 x 26		
	20 X 30		
	23x36		
87	PRINTING BLACK AND WHITE		
	16X20		
	18X25		
	19X26		
	20X30		
	23X36		

	28X40		
88	PRINTING MULTI COLOUR PER SET		
	16X20		
	18X25		
	19X26		
	20X30		
	23 X 36		
	28X40		
89	OFFSET PRINTING (10x15 TO 15x20) COST OF MATTER INCLUDING PRINT OUT		
	Legal		
	A - 3		
90	POST PRESS		
	Lamination 0.05 per sq inch		
	Coating: Full spot 10X15 /11X8		
	Thermal lamination 0.5 Sq inch		
91	SCREEN PRINTING (LETTER FORM/ BILL BOOK)		
92	RECEIPT BOOK		
	18 x 23/4		
	18 x 23/5		
	18 x 23/6		
	18 x 23/8		
	18 x 23/12		
93	INVITATION CARD/WEDDING CARD/ ENVELOPS		
	Minimum charges per 100 color		
	Visiting Card per 100 per color		
	Dairy/Table Calender per 100		
	Calender upto 12 inch		
94	DIGITAL PRINTING SIZE 12 x 18		
<b>ELECTRONIC MEDIA</b>			
95	FM	Per 10 sec	
96	Led Advertising	Per 10 sec	
97	Plasma TV 45 X 42	Per day with vehicle	
98	National TV e.q., Gulistan, 24X7, ETV etc.	Per 10 sec	
99	Doordarshan	Per 10 sec	
<b>P.A SYSTEM</b>			
100	1. Amplifiers		
	a). 100 Watt	Per day	
	b). 500 Watt	Per day	
	c). 100 Watt	Per day	
101	2. Speakers		
	a). Horn + Speakers		
	b). Speaker 600 Watt		
102	3. Battery 150 mah	Per day	
103	4. Generator Set		
	a). Genset without diesel		
	b). Genset with diesel		
104	5. Microphone		
	a). Microphone		
	b). Mega Micro-phone		
105	6. PHOTOGRAPHY		
	a). Video	Per hour	
	b). Still	Per hour	
	Full Day Video		
	Full Day Still		
<b>PUBLIC ADDRFS SYSTEM</b>			
106	Public Address System (Gathering upto 10000) with G/Set		
107	Public Address System (Gathering upto 5000) with G/Set		
108	Hire Charges of Generator per day		
109	Hiring Charges of Generator per hour		
110	Flexes hoarding with frame	Per sq ft	
111	Flexes hoarding without frame	Per sq ft	
112	Banners per 10 Sq ft		
113	Pamplets 18 X 22		
114	Posters/Stickers 10 X 7.5		
115	Flag Badges 18 X 23 /28 inch		
<b>BANQUET HALLS AND FOOD</b>			
116	URBAN		
	Banquet Hall (AC/Heating) depending upon the area		
	Banquet Hall (No AC/Heating)		
117	RURAL		
	Banquet Hall (AC/Heating) depending upon the area		
	Banquet Hall (No AC/Heating)		
118	Rate of Food Items		
	Vegetarian Food (Lunch or Dinner)	Per plate	
119	Snacks:		
	Veg Burger		
	Sandwich		
	1 Pakora Veg		
	Pakora Cheese		
	Samosa		
	Biscuits Packet		
	Biscuits Bakery		
	Butter Toast		
120	Tea		
121	Coffee		
122	Cold Drinks (200 ml)		
123	Drinking Water (500 ml)		
<b>VEHICLE HIRING CHARGES</b>			
124	Ambassador Car (Petrol)	Per day	
125	Ambassador Car (Diesel)		
126	Van		
127	Taxi/Maxi/Cabs		
128	Medium Class Taxi like Scorpio, Xylo etc.		
129	Premium Class Taxi like Fortuner, Innova etc.		
130	Big Bus		
131	Medium/Mini Bus		
132	Note: Night halt will be Chargeable Rs	lumpsum	
<b>PRINT MEDIA</b>			
133	Dallies Multi - Coloured		
	Front Page		
	Inner Page		
	Back page		
134	Dallies Black and White		
	Front Page		
	Inner Page		
	Back page		
135	Weekly/Fortnightly/Monthly Multi-Coloured		
	Front Page		
	Inner Page		
	Back page		
136	Weekly/Fortnightly/Monthly Black and White		
	Front Page		
	Inner Page		
	Back page		

No: ENT/Rbn/2023-24/3951-58  
Dated: 19.02.2024

Sd/-  
District Election Officer  
(Deputy Commissioner) Ramban

DIP/J-15250/23 Date: 21-2-24



## Col Ranveer Singh Jamwal gets Gold Medal from Arunachal Pradesh State



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Director of NIMAS, Col Ranveer Singh Jamwal, receives Arunachal Pradesh State Award (Gold Medal) for "Har Shikhar Tiranga" Mission

As a testament to the exceptional leadership and dedication to promoting adventure and national unity, Colonel Ranveer Singh Jamwal, who hails from Village Badhori of Samba district, and presently heading a very prestigious, National Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (NIMAS), has been honoured with the prestigious Arunachal Pradesh State Award (Gold Medal) for the "Har Shikhar Tiranga" mission.

The "Har Shikhar Tiranga" mission, an ambitious endeavor was led by Col Ranveer Singh Jamwal with 15 members team of NIMAS, involved scaling the highest mountain/point of all 28 states of India while hoisting the tricolor flag at each summit. This remarkable feat not only showcased the spirit of adventure but also celebrated the cultural and geographical diversity of India.

The award ceremony, held at the Rajbhawan in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, was graced by the esteemed presence

of the Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Lieutenant General KT Parnaik (Retd.), and the Hon'ble Chief Minister of the state, Shri Pema Khandu, along with other dignitaries and other state awardees.

Expressing his gratitude upon receiving the award, Col Jamwal stated, "It is truly an honor to be recognized for NIMAS's efforts in promoting national unity and adventure through the 'Har Shikhar Tiranga' mission. This achievement would not have been possible without the unwavering support of all the members of NIMAS team and the encouragement of Hon'ble Raksha mantri Sh Rajnath Singh who is the president of this institution AND Hon'ble CM Arunachal Sh Pema Khandu who is also the vice president of NIMAS."

Under Col Jamwal's visionary leadership, NIMAS continues to inspire and empower individuals to push their limits, embrace challenges, and explore the majestic landscapes of India. The "Har Shikhar Tiranga" mission serves as a shining example of NIMAS's commitment to excellence and its dedication to fostering a sense of unity and pride among all Indians.

## JKAACL celebrates Rich Cultural Heritage of J&K with spectacular program at IIM Jammu



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU 20-02-2024

Jammu and Kashmir academy of Art culture and languages proudly presented a vibrant cultural extravaganza showcasing the region's diverse traditions, music, dance, and art. The event, set to captivate audiences, aims to celebrate the inauguration of IIM JAMMU BY the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narinder Modi.

Attendees were treated by a mesmerizing display of traditional dances, soulful music performances, and exquisite folk dances of J&K, offering a glimpse into the vibrant tapestry of Jammu and Kashmir's cultural identity. From the melodious tunes of traditional folk songs to the intricate movements of graceful dance forms, the program was a feast for the senses. In the beginning Prof. B.S.Sahay, Director IIM, Jammu welcomed and felicitated Sh. Bharat Singh, Secretary, JKAACL under whose guidance



this spectacular program was presented.

The programme began with the Ganesh Vandana by the artists of JKAACL which followed by the melodious singing by the talented singers like Vanshika Jaral, Rakesh Malhotra and Master Vicky. They were equally supported by the renowned musicians like Rakesh Anand on Flute, Darbari Lal on Tabla, Krishan Kumar on Synthesizer, Rajeev Kumar of Dholak and Aman on Octopad. The main attractions of the program were Kashmiri Pandit dance Veeg Vachun and Dogri Jagarna. The program concluded

with the thrilling Bhangra by the artists.

The cultural program presented by the artists of Academy fostered a deeper appreciation for the unique cultural fabric of Jammu and Kashmir. Dignitaries who joined the program in experiencing the magic of Jammu and Kashmir's cultural program and celebrating the beauty of diversity included Prof. B.S.Sahay, Director IIM, Jammu, Sh. Bharat Singh, Secretary, JKAACL, Cmr Kesavan Baskaran, Chief Administrative Officer, IIM, Jammu, Prof. Jabir Ali and others. The program was ably conducted by Ms. Mitali Gupta.

## Modi's passion to serve nation & people is unparalleled: Sat Sharma

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Jammu and Kashmir BJP senior leader and former minister, Sat Sharma CA, stated that the people of the UT have seen the real development and welfare of the masses during the past about ten years, under PM Narendra Modi.

Sat Sharma was interacting with a large number of deputations and individuals during his weekly public Darbar at party headquarters on Wednesday.

Sat Sharma said it has happened for the first time that Jammu and Kashmir has got a fair deal in projects and schemes of any union government. He said that the people, who might not have even thought of mega development projects and welfare schemes, are themselves watching fast development, up gradation and modernization of road, rail, and air connectivity, construction of bridges, flyovers, the establishment of prestigious institutions like AIIMS, IIT, IIM,



Biotech Park, hydel projects etc. The people have also availed benefits of varied welfare schemes, and many of them are beneficiaries of more than one scheme. This has all been possible due to the concern and commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to deliver justice to the neglected and discriminated Jammu and Kashmir, Jammu in particular.

Sat Sharma said that the good governance model of the Modi government has attracted the attention of the people across J&K and they have realized that Modi is serving the people with commitment and can be trusted.

Modi's passion to serve the nation and its people is unparalleled and has earned him the distinction of being the most trustworthy and

respectable Prime Minister.

Jeet Angral, Seh-Prabhari BJP SC Morcha, said that people through the BJP headquarters daily to seek help in mitigating their problems and the party leaders make every possible effort to help them.

Ankush Mahajan, Incharge RMSA, who diazied the proceedings, said that the public response to the public darbar has been overwhelming. In today's public darbar, people from Jammu city, Akhnour, Billawar, Tikri, Talab Tillo, Anand Vihar, Rajpura Mangotrian, Bajalta, had reached the party headquarters, with the resolution of their problems related to PM Awas Yojana, digging of a water well, covering of Nallah, land encroachment etc.

## DPS Junior Kathua organizes Engaging Activity for UKG Students

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Delhi Public School Junior Kathua recently organized an exciting activity for the students of UKG, which was met with great enthusiasm and zeal. The event showcased the hard work and performances of the students, highlighting their talents and dedication.

The event aimed to educate students about the various community helpers in their surroundings, highlighting the roles and responsibilities they undertake for the betterment of society. Through this activity, the class facilitators Mrs. Anu Bala and Mrs. Sonam Gupta endeavored to instill a sense of appreciation and understanding of the community helpers among the students. Mr. Vivek Arora, the School Princi-



pal, expressed his delight to see the students' performances, the teachers' and staff's hard work, and the parents' support. He emphasized the value of such activities in nurturing the overall development of the students.

The School Incharge Mrs. Monika Singh emphasized the importance of recognizing Neighbourhood Network and Community Helpers in our daily lives. She stated, "Whenever children want something, the first thing they do is approach a parent or grandparent. But do we know there are

people in our surroundings who are constantly present, doing their work, which has created a sort of ecosystem that helps in the smooth functioning of the things around us. They are Community Helpers."

Delhi Public School Junior, Kathua is committed to organizing such activities that contribute to the holistic development of the child. The school promises to continue organizing such activities to help students understand the value of life skills and the importance of community helpers in our lives.

## Dr. Shashank Kulkarni authored book, "Mera Gaon Mere Prerna Srot" launched at CUJ



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

The book launch event for "Mera Gaon Mere Prerna Srot" took place today at Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium in the Central University of Jammu. This book was authored by Dr. Shashank Kulkarni, a post-doctoral fellow at the Central University of Jammu, and Kuljeet Singh, a scholar at the CSIT department, the Central University of Jammu, and the SHO DH J&K State Convener.

Professor Virendra Kondal, Vice President of the Jammu and Kashmir

Study Centre, introduced the program. He stated that the book's release on Sankalp Diwas is a fortunate coincidence, and he believes that readers will warmly receive it.

Mr. Rupesh Kumar, Prant Pracharak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, was the main guest at the event. He stated that this significant book will unveil the untold history of the unrecognized great warriors of Jammu and Kashmir to the nation. This is really necessary in the present day. This book has been completed by investigating the lives of those

who devoted their entire lives to society and the nation. In the near future, this writing task must be carried out extensively in other regions of Jammu and Kashmir as well.

Professor Sanjeev Jain, the Vice Chancellor of the Central University of Jammu, presided over the program. He stated in the presidential address that the writing by Mr. Kuljeet Singh and Dr. Shashank Kulkarni of our university is not just for this book. I am certain that this will soon be disseminated to various regions of the country as a campaign. The institution appreciates this undertaking and wishes the young writers well in their future literary endeavors.

Dr. Nancy Menghi moderated the session, while Professor Vinay Kumar delivered the vote of thanks.

## Rajouri Police organizes Cyber Security Awareness Prog at GDC Nowshera



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NOWSHERA, FEB 21

Under 'Operation Pathshala' aiming towards spreading awareness among students, Jammu & Kashmir police in Rajouris' Nowshera sub division organised an awareness program at Government degree College Nowshera. Sub Divisional Police Officer Nowshera, Jaswant Singh presided over the event in presence of staff members of institution alongwith SHO Sumit Magotra. During this awareness program, Sub Divisional Police Officer Nowshera Jaswant Singh delivered lecture on cyber security and awareness among the students making them aware about cyber risks, precautions while using internet and social media handles and to remain safe from online frauds. The police officer informed the participating students that the cases of online frauds as well as

cybercrime are increasing with each passing day and lack of awareness and proper education towards this new type of crime is a reason of this. He further appealed the students to remain fully aware about such kind of frauds and also to act as ambassadors of awareness in the society making every single citizen aware about this threat.

The participants were also made aware that Jammu and Kashmir police has established a number of dedicated cyber crime units and any victim of such crime should immediately report the matter before these dedicated units for timely investigation and action. The police officer also appealed the participants to remain cautious towards banking frauds and not to share OTP, credit and debit card numbers, CVV code and other personal bank details with unknown callers.

## PoJK Refugees call on senior PDP leader, resents delay in registration of land



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Expressing concern over non-registration of their land, transfer of land, the villagers of RS Pura villages today met senior PDP leader and social activist Narinder Sharma to express their deep concern regarding land registration. The displaced members said that ever since the notification, their lands are not being registered and hence they are

not able to transfer their land. Moreover, displaced people earlier had full rights under Cabinet Order 254-C, 578-C but this letter has created a situation of confusion in the entire Revenue Department. Along with this, there has been talk of ending the Agrarian Reforms in this letter. After the said notification, a deadlock has arisen inside the Revenue Department in Jammu and Kashmir. Narinder assured the displaced leaders that

he will held deliberation with Registrar Inspector General and also bring the matter into kind notice of concerned officials. Narinder appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to personally address all "genuine" issues of agitating farmers after putting aside all his other engagements. The Prime Minister should resolve the issues of agitating 'annadatas' on a "top national priority" basis, Narinder said. When the Centre is repeatedly assuring farmers of continued procurement of their produce at the minimum support price, there should be no hitch in giving it a legal shape through necessary legislation, he added. "The fact is that the BJP and its government at the Centre and in states have got jittery by the success of farmers' secular and democratic movement," said Narinder.

## NYKS J&K and Ladakh to organize State Level-National Youth Parliament Festival 2024

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, FEB 21

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan UT od J&K and Ladakh under Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India is going to host 5th edition of National Youth Parliament Festival at State Level on 23rd February, 2024 in which 44 winners in the age group of 18 to 25 years will participate and deliberate on national issues towards achieving the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

The selected first and second position holders of 22 districts of J&K and Ladakh will be participated in the State level event to be held on 23-02-2024 in virtual mode. It is a golden opportunity for the youth to showcase their talent and put forth their views in this virtual event.

The theme of National Youth Parliament Festival 2024 is Young Voices Engage and Empower For Nation's Transformation which will be deliberated on following three topics:

- Yuva Ke Dwara, Yuva Ke Liye: Bridging the gap in Rural India through Youth Volunteerism

## PM Jammu visit nothing new, just lollipop and election agenda: Sanjeev Sharma

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, FEB 21

Congress Distt Samba President Sanjeev Sharma today said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi disappointed the people of Jammu and Kashmir by not spelling out any roadmap for safeguarding the jobs and lands of the permanent residents, granting statehood, addressing the burgeoning unemployment problem, ending developmental inertia and tackling the selective attacks by terrorists in the Valley. Sanjeev said that PM visit of Jammu just an "Election Lollipop", and nothing new. He also avoided to mention his earlier promises and hopes given to the people and youth of different categories like large scale unemployed and thousands of daily wagers, need based and other contractual & temporary employees besides refugees and Kashmir Pandits had high hopes which were shattered. Unemployment is at its peak, the resentment over agniveer scheme, failure of adequate jobs were burning issues but prime minister showed attention. He didn't referred to



the dreams of Metro cities smart cities. Reacting to the speech delivered by the Prime Minister at MAM Stadium in Jammu district Sanjeev Sharma said that the youth were expecting a big employment package, given the promises held out by the BJP in 2014 and 2019 but not speaking a word is anti-climax of the visit. He said the educated employed are not only struggling for some sort of sustenance but are also worried about their share in the jobs being usurped by the outsiders. "The youth find themselves in a very precarious situation with no hope in sight in the near future. Much disappointing fact about the regularization of about 80,000 daily wagers, casual labourers, needs based, adhoc based in various departments who along with their families are suffering for decades," Sanjeev added.



## Deputy Commissioner Samba listens to people's issues at weekly block Diwas programme

JNEWS SERVICE  
SAMBA, FEBRUARY 21

To take governance to the doorsteps of people and to speed up the grievances redressal mechanism at all levels, Deputy Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma, today chaired the weekly block Diwas programme at Community hall of Channi Manhasan block Vijaypur district sambha.

Additional District Development Commissioner, Rajinder Singh, ACD, SDM, BDO, and district officers of other departments participated in the weekly

Block Diwas program. The public demanded Implementation of JJM scheme, Dilapidated conditions of various link roads, Electric Poles, Maintenance of internal Roads, Black topping of various roads.

Responding to the demands, the Deputy Commissioner assured the public that all their genuine issues would be addressed in a time bound manner. The Deputy Commissioner also extended his best wishes to all the people for participating in the weekly Block Diwas programme.

While interacting with public, the Deputy commissioner said that the main objective of this public outreach programme is to take a firsthand appraisal of important issues to grass root level. He added that these outreach camps help to reach governance at the door steps of the public which improves the public service delivery mechanism. Besides, the Deputy commissioner Samba also inaugurated a tubewell under Jal Jeevan Mission at Village Thalodi Gujran and visited the Hi-tech Polyhouse under HADP

at Village Raika Labana, Ramgarh & also visited CHC Ramgarh regarding the drainage issue.

The Deputy Commissioner asked the officers to note down the demands and redress them on priority basis and directed them to work in coordination for equitable development of all Panchayats in the district. Necessary directions were issued to all the officers to organize awareness camps in their respective areas so that the general public can avail the benefits of various centrally Sponsored schemes.

## DC Srinagar conducts late night inspection of various ongoing construction sites

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 21

In order to ensure smooth movement of Traffic on city roads particularly around ongoing construction site,

The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat Wednesday late night undertook inspection of various parts of the City.

The Deputy Commissioner visited Bemina, Sanant Nagar and Nowgam crossing along bypass and other adjoining areas and took onsite inspection of traffic movement on service roads near infrastructure development sites.

During the inspection, the DC passed spot directions to the concerned executing agencies to ensure smooth Traffic reg-



ulation on service roads around the construction sites so that commuters do not face any difficulty particularly the vehicles carrying the patients.

Taking cognizance of public appeals regarding traffic congestion in some areas caused due to rough

conditions of service roads, the DC instructed the executing agencies to upgrade these service road stretches to ensure smooth ply of traffic.

He also asked them to remove bottlenecks, if any hindering the traffic movement to ensure

better traffic regulation in city. The DC also asked them to speed up the pace of ongoing works to ensure their timely completion. During the visit the Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by concerned officers and engineers.

## Dr. Abid reviews functioning of JKMSCL

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 21

Secretary, Health & Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah today undertook a comprehensive review to assess the functioning of Jammu and Kashmir Medical Supplies Corporation Limited (JKMSCL) during a meeting at Civil Secretariat here today.

The meeting was attended by Managing Director, JKMSCL, Special Secretary Health and Medical Education, Director Finance, H&ME, Financial Advisor / CAO, General Managers, Deputy General Managers and Medical Officers of the JKMSCL.

Addressing the officers during the meeting, the Secretary instructed the management of JKMSCL to work in mission mode and ensure the seamless and timely supplies to the health care institutions across the J&K especially the availability of the medicines under Essential Drug List (EDL).

He also emphasised on the need to strengthen supply chain management. He instructed them



to ensure the procurement of quality medicines with zero tolerance on substandard drugs. He further emphasised on setting up a fool proof mechanism for testing regime.

The Secretary also instructed the officers to take advantages of State-of-Art testing Laboratory of D&FCO at Kathua inaugurated by the Prime Minister during his recent visit to the UT of J&K.

Dr. Abid further directed the management to thoroughly review the empanelled labs of the Corporation and take strict action against that suppliers whose supplies are declared as "Not of Standard Quality" (NoSQ).

The Secretary also stressed on the officers

to ensure 100% usage of Drugs and Vaccine Management System portal (DVDMS) and directed them to take all necessary steps in this regard including launch of the beta version of the DVDMS mobile app. He further directed the MD JKMSCL to ensure timely procurement of drugs, diagnostic as well as machinery and equipments to prevent any disruptions in patient care services. He further emphasized in facilitating necessary procurements for operationalization of State Cancer Institute, Jammu on top most priority.

Dr. Abid also stressed upon augmentation of infrastructure particularly in terms of Machinery

Equipments and Drugs of seven new Medical Colleges. He further impressed upon the management of corporation to maintain due transparency in the procurement process and ensure that tenders are finalized within the fixed timeframe. He also asked them to draw out timelines for tendering process and bottlenecks in this process should be addressed promptly.

The Secretary instructed all the officers to ensure due compliances in respect of audits of accounts in the Corporation. During the meeting, MD, JKMSCL gave a detailed power point presentation regarding the functioning of the Corporation.

## Amid heavy snowfall SDH Sogam conducts 13 Deliveries, 6 Dialysis in 02 days

JNEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 21

Amid heavy snowfall in the entire Kupwara district including Lolab Sub-division, Doctors at Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Sogam successfully conducted 13 deliveries which included 8 'Lower Segment Caesarian Section' (LSCS) surgeries and 5 normal deliveries with zero gynae referral.

In this tough time, when life had come to stand still, braving all odds, a team of doctors under the supervision of Block Medical Officer (BMO), Dr. Fareed Shaheen Choudhary, conducted these surgeries.

Giving details about the surgeries conducted, the officials said, "In the last 24 hours, the dedicated and hardworking medical staff at sub district hospital Sogam had done a marvelous job and conducted 13 deliveries including 8 'Lower Segment Caesarian Section' (LSCS) success-



fully. The medical staff at SDH Sogam also conducted 6 dialysis and one autopsy during the period. The

Outpatient Department (OPD) remained fully functional during this challenging time. The hard work and

dedication of Hospital staff and administration has been appreciated by the people of Lolab.

## Winter Sports Capital, Gulmarg turns abuzz with Khelo India Winter sports activities

JNEWS SERVICE  
GULMARG, FEBRUARY 21

After curtains for 2nd Phase of 4th Khelo India Winter Game were raised, the festivities of celebrations kicked on the previous cold & serene night.

With the stage laid open, the Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council and associated departments with close coordination & synergy on first Day organized two events of Nordic Skiing one each for Women & Men category.

The Event of Nordic Women Skiing for Sprint 1.6 KM started at the Golf Culb with supporting officials facilitating participants assigning them chest numbers and installing timers at the finishing & starting points.

Twenty Women athletes who participated in the first game of the season represent different states and organizations including ten from ITBP, two from Gujarat, two from Himachal Pradesh, two Ladakh and one each from Karnataka, Meghalaya, Haryana & Uttarakhand.

Bhavani Thekkada from Karnataka emerged the winner in the Nordic Sports event while Selma Soreng and Sapna of ITBP

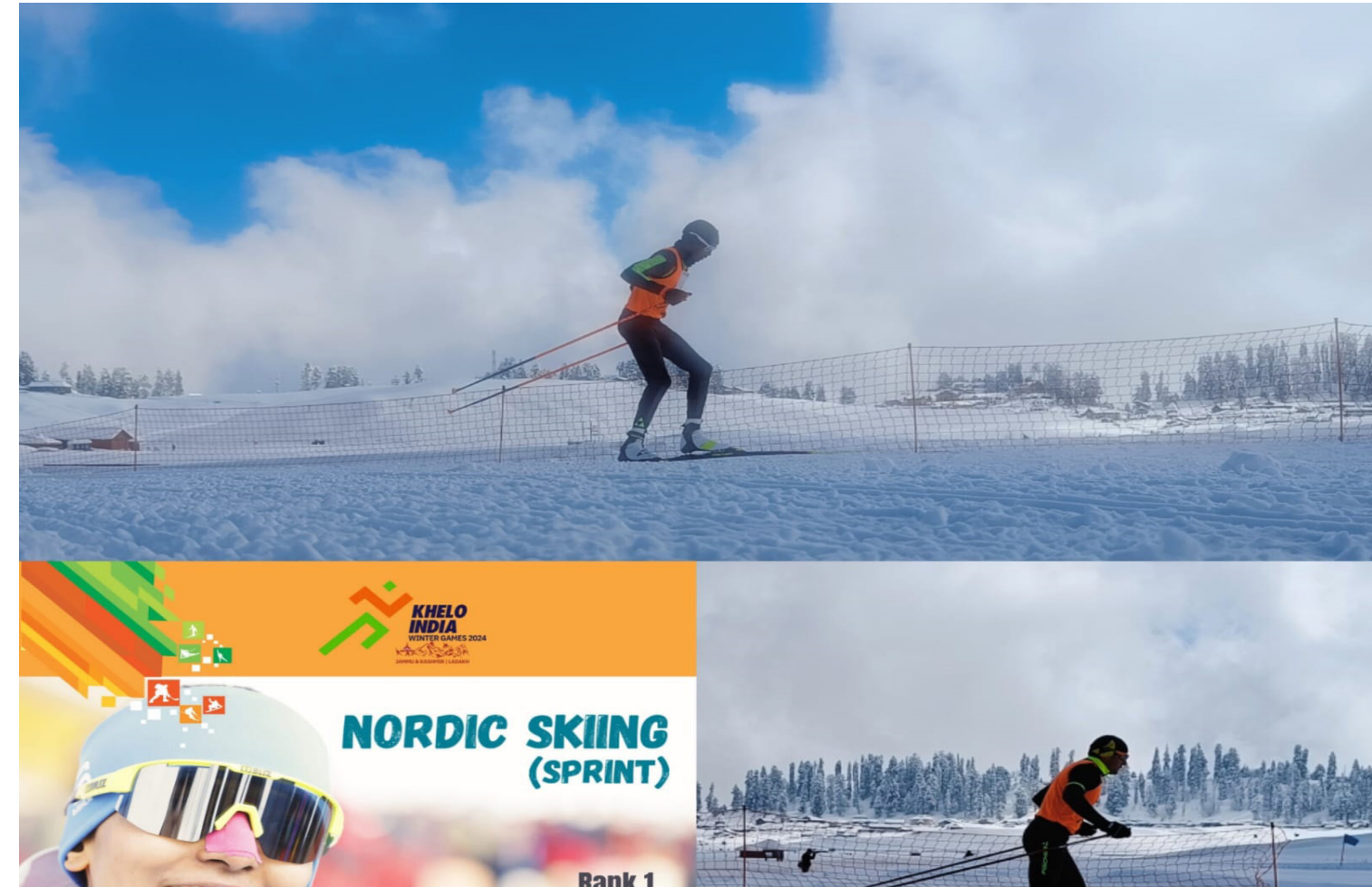
got second and third position respectively.

While the 2nd Sports event scheduled for the day for Nordic Men for Sprint 10 KM witnessed the enthusiastic participation of thirty-three players including ten from Army, nine from ITBP, five J&K, two each from Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jaharkhand, Karnataka, and one from West Bengal.

In men's category, all three positions were taken by Army as Padma Namgail achieved first position, Mangeet second while Rameez Ahmad Paddar settled with 3rd position.

The players donning the jerseys and Skiing equipments were pushing themselves against slopes overcoming the friction made rounds along the track with focus on to scale the top position. Some of the player were fresh while others had second or third opportunity carrying with them the past experience.

Geeta Thakur, a coach of Snow Boarding from Uttarakhand representing ITBP, while speaking about the ongoing Winter Games of Khelo India said that with the improvement in the weather, play-



ers are in high spirits to display their potential & skill to take home medals, experience & resplendent memories.

Gulmarg is providing unique opportunity, which is better than other

destinations, to channelize the talent of youngsters for bigger events like Olympics.

She appreciated Officers of J&K Sports Council for making all the arrangements including Trans-

port & accommodation facilities.

Rajesh Thakur player of Nordic Skiing Sprint 10 KM, representing ITBP, who has participated in all the three Khelo India Winter Games and is also

taking part today in the fourth edition. Sharing his experience Thakur says that he feels excited today as the snow accumulation is much better and the weather is also pleasant. He expressed gratitude

to the Centre & UT governments for enhancing the facilities all over the destinations. Talking about the arrangements, he showered all praise to J&K Sports Council and stated that players feel at

been enthralling the spectacle with choreographed moves for the second time in KIWG said that the Snow Leopard is commonly found in the mountains of J&K which represents agility & strength.