



## DEO Baramulla leads preparation for Lok Sabha Elections 2024



J I NEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, MARCH 17

In view of the announcement of the date for General Elections to the Lok Sabha 2024, the District Election Officer, Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, chaired a comprehensive meeting of officers at Dak Bunglow here to review the preparations for the smooth conduct of elections in the district.

He held detailed discussions with regard to the implementation of the

Model Code of Conduct (MCC), material management plan, vulnerability mapping, facilities at polling stations, resource availability and manpower, logistics, transport plan, communication plan, SVEEP, training of the polling staff, EVM management, and other key aspects.

During the meeting, the DEO directed the concerned AROs to remove all campaign material, logos, manifestos, etc. of the political parties from the

government and private buildings 24 hours prior to the implementation of MCC.

Meanwhile, Minga Sherpa instructed the District Informatics Officer, who is also the nodal officer for IT and use of technology, to arrange comprehensive training sessions for all the AROs and nodal officers regarding the use of C-Vigil, Encore, and other monitoring apps run under the supervision of the Election Commission of India.

Regarding the SVEEP initiative, the DEO directed the AROs to continue with the voter awareness programmes across the district and run comprehensive drives in the polling stations where participation was minimal in the previous elections.

Additionally, the DEO directed the concerned nodal officer to provide extensive training to the staff of the control room for monitoring purposes as per the guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India.

Minga Sherpa emphasised to the officers the crucial importance of comprehending their assigned roles and cultivating seamless coordination among themselves to ensure the successful execution of the election process.

The meeting was attended by the Additional District Development Commissioner, Syed Qamar Sajad; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Raina; Deputy District Election Officer, all the nodal officers, and the AROs responsible for the conduct of elections in the district.

## DEO Shopian issues orders for MCC adherence

J I NEWS SERVICE  
SHOPIAN, MARCH 17

Following the announcement of Election schedule by the Election Commission of India on 16th of March, the District Election Officer Shopian in a Press statement announced the imposition of Model code of conduct in the district with immediate effect.

As per the schedule, the elections in the district shall be held in two phases. For 36- Zainapora Assembly constituency which is part of 3-Anantnag Rajouri, the polling shall be on 07-05-2024 and for 37-Shopian

Assembly constituency which is part of 2-Srinagar PC, the polling shall be held on 13-05-2024.

Directions have been given to prevent the misuse of official vehicles and for removal of references of Ministers and politicians from official websites and the MCC teams have been urged to ensure compliance of provisions related to the defacement of property in letter and spirit. The SOP's have been issued for the public servants as well as the political parties.

The District Election Officer has issued directions to the printing press-

es to furnish information about the material being printed under sec.127A of RP Act 1951. He also made an appeal in print and electronic media for the benefit of the general public about the monitoring mechanism of the election expenditure with the mention of section 171 B and 171C of the IPC which has been put in place.

The District Election Officer (District Magistrate) has also imposed a ban on issuance and carrying of licensed arms. The directions have been issued to the Law enforcement Agencies to make a detailed and individual

review and assessment of all licence holders so that all licenced arms in those cases where considered essential are impounded in order to ensure maintenance of law and order for conduct of free and fair elections.

The meeting with the political parties has been scheduled in order to brief them about all the legal provisions and instructions. Meeting has also been arranged with bankers for facilitation in opening of bank accounts by candidates and issuing cheque books to them. Suspicious transactions exceeding 10 lakhs will also be discussed.

## Lok Sabha Elections -2024:

### Training for Zonal, Sectoral Magistrates held at Bandipora



J I NEWS SERVICE  
BANDIPORA, MARCH 17

In run-up to upcoming Lok Sabha elections-2024, the District Administration Bandipora organised a training programme for zonal and sectoral magistrates at Town Hall, here.

The training program was aimed to equip zonal and sectoral magistrates with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to oversee the electoral process effectively.

The training was presided over by DEO/DC Bandipora, Shakeel Ul Rehman.

Nodal Officer MCC/ADC Umar Shafi Pandit, ERO/ACR Shabir Ahmad Wani, and DyDEO, Mohammad Rafeeq Bhat were also present on the occasion.

During the program, specific duties and powers of sectoral and zonal magistrates were discussed, emphasizing their pivotal roles in overseeing polling stations. The DEO on the occasion took feedback

from the participants regarding the training provided to them besides discussing essentials of EVMs and electoral process.

He stressed the importance of proper training and maintaining impartiality in carrying out duties for conducting peaceful and smooth elections.

He also urged master trainers to make the officers well equipped with their roles and responsibilities besides election related activities.

## SMC conducts Cleanliness drive in Zone East Ward No. 04

J I NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MARCH 17

The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) orchestrated an effective cleanliness drive in Zone East Ward No. 04 on Sunday with a focus on enhancing cleanliness standards and promoting hygiene in the specific area of Kocho Nidan, Rainawari.

The drive was aimed to uplift the overall aesthetic and cleanliness of the area. Led by the Chief Sanitation Officer, Zonal Sanitation Officer and other SMC officials, the drive successfully improved the cleanliness and visual appeal of the designated area.

Activities included the efficient collection and disposal of waste, along with the clearance of unwanted vegetation and grass.

The primary objective behind such endeavors by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation is to create a cleaner and healthier environment for the residents of Srinagar city.

## SVEEP: District Admin Baramulla engages Young Voters through Varied Awareness Activities at Gulmarg

J I NEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, MARCH 17

The District Administration Baramulla in collaboration with key stakeholders conducted a series of activities aimed at creating awareness among young voters during an event held at Gulmarg.

Sub Divisional Magistrate Gulmarg, Syed Altaf, Chief Executive Officer of Gulmarg Development Authority, Raja Waseem, and other officers and officials, besides young voters participated in the event.

Several engaging activities were organized throughout the program to educate and empower young individuals about their role in the electoral process. Interactive sessions, informative presentations, and discussions were conducted to enlighten participants about the importance of voter registration, polling procedures, and the significance of exercising their voting rights.

Sub Divisional Magistrate Gulmarg highlighted the pivotal role of youth in shaping the future of the nation and urged them to actively participate in the



democratic process. He emphasized the importance of ethical voting practices and encouraged young voters to become responsible citizens by exercising their right to vote.

Chief Executive Officer Gulmarg Development

Authority stressed the need for sustained efforts to raise awareness among young voters and ensure their active participation in the electoral process.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from young voters, reflecting their eagerness to con-

tribute to the democratic process.

Participants expressed their commitment to spreading awareness among their peers and communities, thus fostering a culture of informed and responsible citizenship.

## DEO B'la oversees deployment of Static Surveillance Teams

J I NEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, MARCH 17

The District Election Officer (DEO) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa accompanied by Senior Superintendent of Police Baramulla, Amod Ashok Nagarpure, undertook a comprehensive visit to various key locations within the district to oversee the deployment of Static Surveillance Teams.

With the elections drawing near, the presence of Static Surveillance Teams at all designated checkpoints is of paramount importance for ensuring the compliance to the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) and maintaining the integrity of the electoral process.

During the visit, the offi-



cers conducted thorough inspections of various crucial locations to assess the readiness and effectiveness of Static Surveillance Teams in fulfilling their responsibilities during elections.

The collaborative efforts of the DEO and SSP Baramulla aim to safeguard the rights of voters, guarantee a fair and trans-

parent electoral environment and uphold democratic principles during the upcoming elections.

Later, the DEO conducted visits to several designated polling stations within the district to ensure the availability of Assured Minimum Facilities (AMF) for both voters and polling staff ahead of the upcoming elections.

## Lok Sabha Elections-2024

### DEO Kupwara visits Handwara; Conducts comprehensive inspection of Strong room, Polling Stations, Election control Room

J I NEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, MARCH 17

The District Election Officer/Deputy Commissioner (DEO/DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan on Sunday visited Handwara and conducted a comprehensive inspection of election Strong room, Polling Stations and Election control Room at Handwara.

The inspection was aimed to evaluate the preparedness for upcoming Lok Sabha election 2024 in the district.

Accompanied by SSP Handwara, Dawood Ayoob; ADC Handwara, Aziz Ahmad Rather and Executive Engineer Handwara, DEO undertook a comprehensive visit to several polling stations including Polling Station established at Government Boys Higher Secondary School Handwara and Polling station of Government Girls Higher Sec-

ondary School Handwara. She took appraisal of arrangements for the night stay of polling staff and security personnel.

The basic minimum amenities such as electricity, water supply, sanitation facilities, and accessibility for differently-abled voters was assessed at these polling stations.

The DEO meticulously inspected Strong Room at ITI Handwara and checked booths for Handwara and Langate and reviewed the facilities and arrangements for Counting centres. Security arrangements for strong room and counting centres were also reviewed.

During the inspection, the DEO engaged with the stakeholders to ensure that all necessary arrangements were in place to facilitate a smooth and efficient voting and other election related process.

She along with other

Officers paid a visit to election control room Handwara where they checked its smooth functioning.

Expressing satisfaction with the overall preparedness observed during the visit, the DEO underscored the importance of ensuring that all polling stations, strong rooms and counting Halls adhere to prescribed standards of ECI to uphold the integrity and fairness of the electoral process.

She reiterated the unwavering commitment of the administration to facilitating free, fair, and transparent elections, wherein every eligible citizen can exercise their democratic right with confidence and ease.

On the occasion, DEO directed the officers of concerned departments to put in place all efforts for smooth conduct of Lok Sabha Elections.

## DM Bandipora orders ban on use of official vehicle by political parties/ candidates

J I NEWS SERVICE  
BANDIPORA, MARCH 17

In terms of the instructions from Election Commission of India, the District Magistrate/ District Election Officer (DM/DEO) today ordered that there shall be a total ban on use of official vehicle by any political party, candidate or any other person connected with election (except officials performing any election related official duty) for campaigning, electioneering or election related travel during elections (subject to certain exception), within territorial jurisdiction of district Bandipora, till the culmination of General Elections to Lok Sabha-2024.

"It is further clarified that the expression official vehicle means and shall include, any vehicle used or capable of being used for the purpose of transport, whether propelled by mechanical power or otherwise and will include trucks, lorries, tempos, jeeps, cars, auto rickshaws, e-rickshaws, buses, belonging to Central Government, State Government/ UT Administrations, public undertakings of Central/ State Government, Joint sector undertakings of Central/ State Government, local bodies, municipal corporations, marketing boards, cooperative societies or any other body in which public funds, however small a portion of the total, are invested," read the order.

The order further reads that these instructions shall be strictly adhered to by all concerned Government departments, political parties, candidates, etc.

Sr. Superintendent of Police, Bandipora and Additional District Magistrate, Bandipora (Nodal Officer-MCC), have been designated to ensure implementation of these instructions in letter and spirit.

# Modi has won hearts & minds of people: Jugal



JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Jugal Kishore Sharma Member of Parliament Lok Sabha Jammu along with Ashok Koul General Secretary BJP(Org.), Ex-Minister Sukhmandan Choudhary, and Senior Leaders BJP today visited village Gajansu in Marh Constituency and addressed large Public gathering at Manohar palace at Gajansu in Marh Constituency. People warmly welcomed Member of Parliament by garlanding and with bunch of flowers. Ashok Koul General Secretary BJP(Org) boosted the morale of party workers. Public address meeting started with the speech of Sukhmandan Choudhary narrated the development works initiated by Modi Government in Marh Constituency. He while thanking Modi Government and member of Parliament said that many schemes have been launched for increasing the income

of farmers and they are taking benefit of it. Member of Parliament while addressing the gathering at the occasion said in 2014 when BJP led Government under the stewardship of dynamic leader our Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi Ji was formed he said that our government is committed for the upliftment of poor & farmers and today it has been proved. He said that "Bharat is rising towards becoming Vishav Guru" under the dynamic leadership of Modi Ji and days are not far when the countries of World would be following our Nation, that is all set to be commanded by Narendra Modi Ji for the third consecutive term as Prime Minister." Jugal Kishore said the Era of development is being witnessed by the people of J&K ever since Central govt headed by Narendra Modi Ji took over the reins of the Country. He said that love for the Nation and hardwork

ing style of Prime Minister has won the hearts and the minds of people. He said that the theme of "Sabka Sath Sabka Vikaas" flourished the nation and today Bharat is emerging as the economic power in the world. He said that there is hardly any section of society one can find which has not been benefited by Modi lead union government. He said that it is the time again to tell the Nation that we are the family of Modi Ji and ready to make him win again in 2024 Lok Sabha Elections. District President BJP Omi Khajuria, Senior BJP Leaders, DDC Geetu Aulakh, DDC Balbir Lal, State Secretary Vikas Choudhary, Ajay Sharma, Mandal President Vikram Singh, Shakti Dutt, BJP Booth Presidents and Shakti Kendra Presidents, Mahila Rekha Devi, Anita Langeh, Amit Singh, Deepak Pandey, Sham Lal, Ex-Sarpanches & Panches and others also present at the occasion.

# J&K witnessed boom in healthcare education, facilities under Modi govt: Ashok Koul

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Health and Medical Cell, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu and Kashmir under its Convenor Puneet Mahajan organized a Doctors Meet under Viksit Bharat campaign which was attended by several senior and eminent doctors, including specialists at party headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union MoS, PMO was the key speaker in the programme Ashok Koul, BJP General Secretary (organization), Dr Devinder Kumar Manyal, General Secretary & former Health Minister, Rakesh Mahajan, BJP All Cell Incharge and Ved Sharma, Co-Incharge All Cells addressed the programme and later felicitated the doctors for their important contribution to the society. Dr. Jitendra Singh, while addressing the meet stressed that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi led Union government transformed the Health Care sector of India in the last 10 years. He said that this transformation has been enormous, evolved from being 'negligent for personal health' to a leader in the palliative and preventive health care provider. He said that India has demonstrated its resourcefulness to the entire world in the COVID pandemic time, and also mentioned Ayushman scheme, holistic health care, Yoga, health Start-Ups etc. He also mentioned the use of Artificial Intelligence and tele-mobile clinic services initiated. He said that these all transformations have been possible only due to the decisive, progressive and visionary government led by PM Modi. He further said that BJP holds the credit of giving true democratic representation to the public by asking for the suggestion to frame its election manifesto and requested the intelligentia forum represented by the doctors present in the programme to share their suggestions regarding the health, development, societal and other issues to be added in the manifesto. Ashok Koul said that BJP and its medical cell feels proud of services of our doctors and now that All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) besides many new medical colleges have come up in Jammu and Kashmir, there will be considerable improvement in healthcare services and more students will be able to pursue medicine course. He said that doctors fraternity of Jammu and Kashmir had always been providing people best healthcare



services and deserve accolades. He said that under Modi government, J&K has witnessed a boom in the healthcare education and facilities. Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal said that the BJP is working with the mission to make India as 'Viksit Bharat' (developed) by 2047, and want to draw a roadmap for achieving this target, for which the suggestions of the people working in different fields and at different levels is going to be of great help. Rakesh Mahajan said that professionals are playing a major in building nation and now that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is leading the nation to become world's third

largest economy, we all need to strengthen his initiatives by ensuring that BJP comes to power with a thumping majority. Puneet Mahajan said that this fraternity is considered in very high esteem. He added that presence of eminent and respected Jammu doctors in this first ever Sannamela establishes that they are all here to exchange ideas to make India a strong nation and deliberate union improving healthcare facilities in J&K. He said more such events will be organized in future and doctor's advices sought on different issues to give people professional healthcare facilities. Ved Sharma presented vote of thanks saying that with the initiative of PM Modi a new chapter of peace and prosperity is being written for the welfare of people in which doctors are going to play a major role. The program was conducted by Co-convenor Professional Cell Dr Varinder Sharma and Co Convenor Health and Medical cell Dr. Virender Singh Sambyal along with Co Conveners Health and Medical cell Bharat Bhushan Padha and Dr Rajinder Gupta.

# Samadhaan foundation hosts 'Vimarsh - J&K past present and future' program in Doda: fostering dialogue and social leadership

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Today Samadhaan Foundation a Socio - Cultural Organisation organised a programme under theme "Vimarsh - J&K Past Present and Future" at District Head Quarter Doda in which noted columnist Er Daya Sagar was chief guest. Advocate Vinay a local young lawyer was guest of honour. Main speaker from Samadhaan Foundation was its Patron-in-Chief Pawan Sharma. Intellectuals and thinkers from different walks of life participated enthusiastically in the program. Milap Singh founder Member Samadhaan Foundation gave a detailed introduction about organisation and its various initiatives in J&K. All speakers impressed upon the audience to bust



the false narratives prevalent in society through dissemination of correct and authentic information. As Jammu and Kashmir is passing through a transition phase so we need to be extra careful. There is a dire need of developing a dedicated and selfless social leadership, which will devote itself for the welfare of the society and can contribute for the development of Jammu

and Kashmir. All esteemed intellectuals who participated in the program, requested organisation to organise such type of programmes at regular intervals. The proceedings of whole programme were conducted by Vivek Jammual. Program ended with 2 minutes silence as mark of respect to the martyrs of Doda.

# Denying Hostel facilities to OBC Students in OBC Hostel Basholi is very unfortunate: Sunil Prajapati

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Sunil Prajapati, President BJP OBC Morcha J&K UT visit of the OBC Hostel at Basholi (Kathua) and found that the condition of OBC Boys Hostel is in shambing condition and the facility is being denied to the OBC Students from the far-flung and remote areas studying in Govt Degree College, Basholi. Prajapati expressed with great concern that the OBC Hostel was constructed 12 years back which was inaugurated by the then Social Welfare Minister during 2012, which a view to provide the hostel facility to the students of remote areas studying at Basholi. But the Hostel facility was never extended to the OBCs boys studying in the Educational Institutions or Govt Degree College Basoli, which is great discrimination with the people of Other Backward Classes. It was ascertained the visit to the OBC Hostel that the Hostel Building is in worst condition due to mismanagement. There are 12 Dormitories in the Hostel with capacity to accommodate 10 boys in each dormitory. However,



no OBC students has been provided the facility but occupied by the Govt Departments offices. It is the worst example of step motherly treatment with OBC Community, which has a large community but is being neglected by the J&K Govt and Administration, which is great discrimination and misuse of the facility extended for the OBC students. However he added that the Hostel facility cannot be provided to the students studying in the Degree College, Basoli as the Hostel has been affiliated to the Higher Secondary School, Basoli. When asked that who all are accommodated in the Hostel Building, he disclosed that four Govt Offices ie. The J&K Board of Schools Education, Cooperative Society,

Sports Department and Library is function in the Hostel Building, which is gross misuse of the Hostel facilities as well as great discrimination with OBC students studying in the Educational Institutions other than the Govt Model Higher Secondary, Basholi and that of the Degree College Basholi, which are meant for the OBC Students of the adjoining far-flung areas who face problem in continuing the education due to residing far away from Basholi. It was also disclosed by the Principal Higher Secondary that four boys from General Category have been provided the Hostel facility but no OBC Student has been extended the Hostel Facility. From the above facts, it seen that Hostel Building is being misused as of

Govt building meant for OBCs students as well as that of the welfare grants being provided by the Govt for the management of the OBC Hostel. The condition of the Hostel Building is very bad and requires renovation and to put the Hostel in functioning. There is no administrative staff and in the Hostel. It is very unfortunate that the OBC Hostel is having two storied building, which is the biggest one. There are 12 Dormitories in the Hostel with capacity to accommodate ten students in each dormitory. For which crores of Govt funds had been expended for its construction during 2012 but the building is being misused and not being utilised for the purpose for which it was constructed. Sunil Prajapati, accordingly, appealed to the Hon'ble LG and the Social Welfare Department, J&K Govt that the OBC Hostel at Basholi be maintained properly and affiliated to the Govt Degree College, Basholi so that the Hostel facility can be availed by the OBC students from the far-flung areas studying in the Govt Degree College, Basholi and other Educational Institutions.

# Indian Army organised Medical Camp at Kalakot, Rajouri

JI NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, MAR 17

The right to health is a fundamental right of every individual in any country. Undoubtedly, good health is the biggest treasure. Indian Army strives to providing basic medical assistance for a healthy life style to the residents of remote village organised a medical camp at Kalakote, Rajouri on 17 March 2024. The medical camp was organised to meet the quick health care need of the AWAM of remote kalakote village. A team of medical doctors and professionals were available to address various health concerns and provided expert guidance like medical check-ups, specialized care, health awareness sessions etc as well as provided essential medicines to them. The Indian Army's Medical Camp aimed to not only provides immediate healthcare support but also to raise awareness about the importance of regular health check-ups and a healthy lifestyle.

# Jammu Police organise Police-Public meeting at Village Dhadap

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

As a part of public outreach programme and in order to strengthen the relationship between Police and Public, a Police Community Partnership Group (PCPG) meeting was held at Village Dhadap on 16.03.24 by South Jammu Zone Police. The meeting was chaired by SDPO City South Shri Kartik Shrotriya IPS along with SHO Satwari Inspector Sushil Sharma & Incharge Police Post Gadigarh PSI Harjinder Pal Singh.



The prime objective of meeting was to bridge the gap between Public and Police. The meeting was attended by prominent citizens, Sarpanch Dhadap Kashmir Singh, Civil Society members and youth of the Villages

Dhadap, Giddar Gallian and Rohi participated. During the meeting, the participants raised various issues of public importance including drug menace. The chairing officer assured the participants

that their genuine grievances pertaining to Police would be resolved on priority and the issues pertaining to civil administration would be taken up with concerned authorities for their early redressal.

# Indian Army contingent departs for seychelles for joint military exercise "exercise lamitiye - 2024"

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Indian Army contingent departed for Seychelles today to participate in the Tenth edition of Joint Military Exercise "LAMITIYE-2024" between the Indian Army and Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF). The Joint Exercise will be conducted at Seychelles from 18-27 March 2024. 'LAMITIYE' meaning 'Friendship' in the Creole language is a biennial training event and has been conducted in Seychelles since 2001. 45 personnel each from the GORKHA RIFLES of



the Indian Army and Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF) will participate in the exercise. The aim of the Exercise is to enhance interoperability in Sub-conventional Operations in Semi-Urban environment under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter on Peace Keeping Operations. The Exercise will enhance cooperation and interoperability between both

the sides during Peace Keeping Operations. The exercise will also build and promote bilateral military relations in addition to exchanging skills, experiences and good practices between both armies. Both sides will jointly train, plan and execute a series of well-developed tactical drills for neutralization of likely threats that may be encountered in Semi-Urban environ-

ment, while exploiting and showcasing new-generation equipment and technology. The 10 days long Joint Exercise will include Field Training Exercise, combat discussions, lectures & demonstrations, which culminates with two days of Validation Exercise. The exercise will contribute immensely in developing mutual understanding and magnifying jointness between the troops of both the Armies. The Exercise will also foster collaborative partnership and help in sharing best practices between the two sides.

## Placebo Meditation session held at Sainik School, Nagrota

**J NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAR 17

An enriching and enabling session on Placebo Meditation was conducted by Lieutenant Colonel Praveen Kumar, Staff Officer Education, White Knight Corps on 17 March 24 for the cadets at Major Somnath Sharma PVC stadium of the school. Session drew enthusiastic participation from staff, cadets, and volunteers alike.



Being an expert and a Research Scholar of Pondicherry University, the officer presented a comprehensive introduction to the unique form of meditation which is an effective way to refine the perception and self-

belief of cadets and enable them to unleash their full potential with increased vigour and energy.

Following the introduction, the officer conducted a practical meditation session for the cadets. Vice Principal

and members of the faculty also participated in the meditation session.

The event marked a significant milestone in empowering the future leaders of Sainik School Nagrota, instilling in them the importance of mindfulness and per-

sonal growth through placebo meditation.

The session, which lasted nearly an hour, proved to be a catalyst for meaningful conversations, inspiring cadets to embark on a journey of self-awareness, confidence-building and transformation through placebo meditation.

On behalf of the school, the Vice Principal presented a token of appreciation and gratitude to Lieutenant Colonel Praveen Kumar and mentioned that regular practice of meditation will undoubtedly help the cadets to stay focused on achieving their aim of joining the Armed Forces but also prepare them for the future challenges.

## Indian Army with Kargil Veteran's organised Motivational Lecture at "Veero Ki Bhoomi" Lam, Rajouri

**J NEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, MAR 17

With an aim to evoke and instill the spirit of nationalism and patriotism especially in the youth of border villages, Indian Army conducted a motivational lecture at Govt higher secondary school, Lam, Rajouri.

The interaction was organised for the school students of Govt Higher Secondary School, Lam in which the Kargil War Veterans Hav Rajvir Singh & L/Hav Amrik Singh of 8 SIKH and ESM Hony Capt Ravinder Singh, Ex 8 JAK



LI shared their experience of the war. Before the commencement of the lecture, Army officials and all the students paid homage to the war heroes of Kargil

War (Operation Vijay). After paying homage, students were given a brief history on the causes of war which started with as armed conflict between

India and Pakistan at the Line of Control. They were also narrated with the heroic deeds of Kargil war heroes who displayed their mettle in the face of enemy and remembers all the martyrs who laid down their lives to uphold the sovereignty of the country.

The event was successful in evoking the spirit of patriotism and nationalism in the students. At the end, teachers and students applauded the Indian Army for hard earned victory and also understood the residents significance of the day for our country.

## Indian Army distributes Solar Lights to AWAM in Reasi Region

**J NEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, MAR 17

Households in remote Parankot Sardar village in Reasi, lack access to electric grid and are deprived of electricity. Solar street lights are ultimate solution for these remote areas. Due to simplicity, these solar lights can be installed even in harsh climatic conditions.



Indian Army with an aim of improving the living conditions of remote village of Parankot Sardar, Tolda Gala, Dabbar Gala, Chapri, Dhakikot & Khandi Gali installed solar lights under Operation Sadbhavana project. This act also generated a spirit of

goodwill for Indian Army amongst the residents. The residents whole heartedly expressed their gratitude and acknowledged the role of Indian Army in

establishing lasting peace in the region besides lauding the efforts made by Indian Army in fulfilling the aspirations of these under developed villages.

## Pradesh Vishwakarma sabha rejects 8% reservation to OBC

**J NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAR 17

An emergency meeting of "Pradesh Vishwakarma Sabha" held today at its head quarter, Vishwakarma Mandir, Gurah Bakshi Nagar, Jammu. The meeting was chaired by the worthy President of Vishwakarma Sabha along with all Executive Members of the Sabha who strongly condemned the inadequate enhancement of OBC Reservation from 4% to 8% and not following the recommendations under Mandal Commission Report.

A press conference was also called in which members present treating this Order the Govt. is totally against the expectations of OBC's by raising reservation from 4% to 8% and adding



15 new Castes in the list of OBC. The State OBC's has been denied their Constitutional Rights for the last 70 years, particularly from 1992 when the Mandal Commission Report was implemented. Every successive Govt. may it be of N.C, PDP, Congress or BJP have deceived the OBC

Peoples. On previous days BJP was making very hue and cry that previous parties deceived OBC's but now we now we will implement the reservation to OBC's in its true spirit. Unfortunately OBC's met with the same fate. A famous saying fits "Empty Vessel Makes Much Noise"

BJP as it is now proved working by keeping the vote bank for political advantages that is why they issued Order last day before announcing of Code of Conduct. BJP Govt. has diluting the main concept of reservation by including non-deserving Castes under OBC's, which defeat

the Object & Spirit of the Constitution of India. Reservation has now become the freebies to get the votes of masses thus, completely diluting its basic concept. The Castes which were deprived Educationally & Socially from Centuries were treated as OBC's. The recent Govt. Order a decoy on the Rights of the coming generations of OBC's which is not accepted at any cost.

So we in one voice condemn and reject this Govt. Order to OBC's unless Mandal Commission Report is not implemented in its true spirit.

The members present in the Press Conference as Shashi Verma, Raj Chalotra, Sham Lal Chargoetra, Advocate Amarjeet Chargoetra, Advocate Ashwani Kumar, Joginder Verma.

### FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

#### Women entrepreneurs...

by an example and are inspiring others through their remarkable achievements. At the ET Women Conclave 2024, the Lt Governor also talked about the programmes being run by the Universities and Higher Educational institutions of the UT focusing on skilling and upskilling of women. "Our prime objective is to achieve gender equality in education," the Lt Governor further added.

#### In touch with Centre...

sidelines of a public darbar at Doda district of Jammu, as per news agency. He said that police will ensure optimum utilisation of forces to provide a safe and secure environment for peaceful elections," the J&K police chief said. To a query about when would the terrorism end in J&K, the DGP said that question should have been on the policy aimed at wiping out terrorism going on. "We can't give an exact timeline or a fixed date as to when it would be over," he said. "We are following a comprehensive policy and there is a road map which is being followed in spirit." The DGP also stated that the police is doing its best to provide all possible benefits to SPOs. "We will try to persuade the Government at some stage to give more benefits to SPOs in future. They are an important part of the police family and it's our duty to take care of them and those who die in line of duty while fighting terrorism," he said-(KNO)

#### Elections in J&K will be...

and were asked by all the political parties there to hold the state assembly elections with the Lok Sabha polls. After that, we held administrative meetings wherein it was discussed that a lot of security forces would be required to conduct state assembly election with Lok Sabha election in J-K," he said. The general election for 543 Lok Sabha seats will be held in seven phases from April 19, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar announced on Saturday. The counting will be held on June 4. Nearly 97 crore voters will be eligible to vote for 543 Lok Sabha constituencies across the country. With the announcement of dates, the moral code of conduct comes into force immediately. (Agencies)

#### People laud Union...

the date of the Lok Sabha elections. This is a matter of great happiness because we get the opportunity to choose the government of our choice. I urge everyone to vote. Dr Jitendra Singh has done a lot of work here in the past. If BJP has given him a ticket for the third time, then they must have given it after some thinking. I want to say that he should pay a little more attention to the tourism and education sectors," he said. Yesterday, Dr Jitendra Singh expressed hope from the

first-time voters of Jammu and Kashmir. The union minister said "We have expectations from all first-time voters. The picture has drastically changed since 2014. This city was so deprived of roads that folk songs were made in Dogri." In the last 10 years, roads were constructed in Udhampur under PMGSY. Three medical colleges have opened. A radio station and even a passport office have now opened up here," he added. The general election for 543 Lok Sabha seats will be held in seven phases from April 19, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar announced on Saturday. The counting will be held on June 4. (Agencies)

#### World full of examples...

The US on Thursday said it is concerned about the notification of CAA in India and is closely monitoring its implementation. "Look, I am not questioning the imperfections or otherwise of their democracy or their principles or lack of it. I am questioning their understanding of our history. If you hear comments from many parts of the world, it is as if the Partition of India never happened, there were no consequential problems which the CAA is supposed to address," Jaishankar said. So, if you take a problem and "remove all the historical context from it, sanitise it and make it into a political correctness" argument, and say, 'I have principles and don't you have principles', "I have principles too, and one of them is obligation to people who were let down at the time of Partition. And, I think, the Home Minister spoke very eloquently on it yesterday", he added. Garcetti in response to a question on CAA during a panel discussion at the conclave on Friday, had said the principles of religious freedom and of equality under the law is a cornerstone of democracy. "And, that is why we look at these things, it will be easier not to look at our friends. We invite you to do the same with our imperfect democracy, it is not a one-way street. But, you cannot give up on principles, no matter how close you are with friends...", he had said. Jaishankar while responding to the criticism on CAA, also cited a "number of examples" to make his point. He said he has a problem when people don't hold up a mirror to their own policies, as he cited Jackson-Vanik amendment, which was about Jews from Soviet Union, the Lautenberg Amendment, Specter Amendment and "fast-tracking of Hungarians after the Hungarian revolution, fast-tracking of Cubans in 1960s". "So, if you were to ask me, have other countries, other democracies, fast-tracked on the basis of ethnicity, faith, social attributes, I can give you any number of examples," the minister said. He sought to put the context of the 1947 Partition which cleaved the Indian subcontinent into two independent nations India and Pakistan, and led to a massive bloodshed resulting in large-scale migrations across the border. "Now, if I were to also say, after all why is the situation

important, because very often when you have something very cataclysmic, something really very major, it is not possible to deal with all the consequences right then and there. "The leadership of this country had promised to these minorities, that if you have a problem, you are welcome to come to India. The leadership thereafter didn't deliver on the promise," he added. Jaishankar said it is "not just our predicament. If you look at Europe, many European countries fast-tracked citizenship of people who were left behind on the World War or in some cases much before the World War Some historical issues which were not addressed...I have a moral obligation to that community". "So, the world is full of examples, and to me the context therefore is very important," the minister said. On the upcoming US elections, the Union minister said, "we are prepared for whatever happens". "We have actually built a very extensive culture of engaging and sort of maintaining relationships...Well before the 2016 November results, we had already reached out to the Trump campaign at a high level. Because, that is the way it would be. It wouldn't be hypothetically tomorrow," he said. Because the US-India relationship is "very important" and that is the only way one can get a grip on that relationship, the minister said. On the issue of the Indian national, facing charge for a murder-for-hire plot to kill a Khalistani separatist on American soil, he also shared how India is dealing with it. "Yes, the US has shared with us some information, some of this in the public domain, some of it is not. And, our interest is to also look into it, because, to us there seems to be a very strong organised crime aspect to it which also impinges on our own security. "So, when we were apprised of this information, we decided to set up a very high-power committee of competent people to look into it and that is an ongoing issue right now," Jaishankar said. He also came up with some light-hearted response when asked about the use of social media and diplomacy. "Look, I am paid to fix foreign policy, I am not paid to fix social media," he said, drawing laughter from the audience. "To be honest no one can fix social media. The nature of the platform is such that everything that you somewhat disapprovingly state is actually something that gets more eyeballs on social media," Jaishankar said. He said he assumed this is a medium which is very angular, but one can counter it fairly rapidly. "We (MEA) have adjusted to the times too...Short, sharp impactful expressions (on social media) are required then we move out of our, shall we say old comfort zones, and adjust ourselves to respond in that way," said the Minister who has a massive following on X. (Agencies)

#### Night temp rises in J&K...

Kupwara town recorded a low of 0.5°C against minus 0.2°C on the previous night and it was 2.6°C below normal there, the official said. Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 2.0°C against minus 3.4°C on the previous night and it was below normal by 0.1°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district. Jammu, he said, recorded a minimum of 12.1°C and it was below normal by 2.8°C for the winter capital of J&K. Banihal recorded a low of 4.4°C, Batote 8.5°C and Bhandarwah 4.5°C, he said. While largely dry weather has been forecast till March 20, the weatherman said that a fresh spell of rain and snow was expected in J&K thereafter till March 24.

#### Election Commission...

totalling Rs 6,986.5 crore. The highest amount received by the ruling party was in 2019-20 worth Rs 2,555 crore. Congress redeemed a total of Rs 1,334.35 crore through electoral bonds. The Supreme Court, in a ruling in February, struck down the Centre's Electoral Bond Scheme, which allowed for anonymous funding to political parties, and ordered the SBI to stop issuing Electoral Bonds immediately. It had asked SBI to furnish details of each electoral bond encashed by parties, including the date of encashment and the denomination of the bond. On Monday, the top court dismissed an application of SBI seeking an extension of time till June 30 to submit details of electoral bonds to the Election Commission, asking the bank to disclose the details by March 12. The apex court also directed the poll panel to compile the information to be furnished by the SBI and publish the details on its official website no later than March 15, 2024, by 5 pm. (Agencies)

#### No change in CUET-UG...

subjects witnessing high registration volumes will adopt a pen-and-paper format using optical mark recognition (OMR), while others will remain computer-based. In the previous cycle, approximately 14.9 lakh registrations were recorded for CUET-UG, highlighting its significance in the higher education landscape. (Agencies)

#### Cabinet Meet: PM asks...

the seven-phase parliamentary elections by sending the Election Commission's recommendation to President Droupadi Murmu. The first notification will be issued on March 20 for the first phase of polls on April 19 on 102 seats. The nomination process begins for a particular phase with the issuance of the notification. (Agencies)

## Gujjar, Bakerwal, Pahari, OBCs get justice in Modi govt: Ravinder Raina

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Gujjar, Bakerwal, and OBCs got justice in the Modi government. It gave rights to the Pahari community, while it kept the rights of the Gujjar, Bakerwal, and Gaddi-Sippy Sheena communities intact. It is the BJP again that has given rights to every community including OBCs, which were ignored by earlier governments of NC, Congress & PDP, stated Ravinder Raina.

Ravinder Raina, President, BJP, Jammu & Kashmir, accompanied by Er. Ghulam Ali Khatana, MP (Rajya Sabha) and Er. Abdul Ghani Kohli, former minister, addressed a press conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Ravinder Raina, while



addressing the media persons, thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for giving rights to the Pahari community for fulfilling the long pending demand of the Pahari community, keeping intact 10% reservation rights of Gujjar, Bakerwal, Gaddi-Sippy Sheena community.

Raina elaborated that when the bill was placed in the Parliament, the Modi government made it absolutely clear that justice will be delivered to the Pahari community

while safeguarding the interests of the Gujjar-Bakerwal, Sheena communities. The earlier governments led by NC, Congress, and PDP did criminal injustice with these communities for 70 years and brought the black law of interdistrict recruitment, putting the future of children of Gujjar-Bakerwal into the darkness.

It is the BJP, that raised voice on interdistrict recruitment rule, vehicles for the transportation of

animals, gave political representation in DDC, BDC, and is always on the forefront to resolve the issues faced by these communities. The LG administration of Jammu & Kashmir also made sure that the earlier quota to the communities is kept intact. With the enactment of this rule, the benefit to the Padder tribe of Padder area, Gadda Brahmins, Kohli communities and others were given the benefit of 10% benefit along with the Pahari community.

"Several political personalities for their vested interests tried to misguide people on the issue, although it was made absolutely clear that the quota provided to Paharis would be separate from the earlier existing quota to STs", said Raina.

Raina also said that more than 40 castes

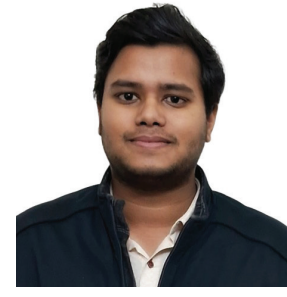
including Lohar, Nai, Teli, Hajam, Markban, Zargar, Jaat, WPRs were given the benefits under OBCs following the policy of Sabka, Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas". BJP OBC Morcha has been serving the people of J&K, raising the voice loudly for the neglected and those who were deprived of their rights for decades by the previous governments.

"BJP along with the whole of the nation is waiting enthusiastically for the festival of democracy. The Modi government has done unprecedented development in J&K. The people of J&K have approved the policies of the Modi government promoting peace and progress. The people are waiting to vote and elect Modi ji as Prime Minister for the 3rd term.", said Raina.

## SMVDU Student presented Paper in International Conference

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Milind Shukla, a final year student of the School of Mechanical Engineering (SoME) presented a paper at International Conference on Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering (ICMME-24) held in Kathmandu, Nepal on 14 March 2024. He presented a full length paper through hybrid mode on Robotics and future technologies. In this paper, the use of robotics in present and future and its development and importance from the point of view of mechanical engi-



neering was discussed in detail. Also, new dimensions on future technology were discussed. The chair appreciated the student for his presentation. This achievement not only highlights Milind Shukla's commitment but also emphasizes the

high academic standards upheld by the School of Mechanical Engineering, SMVDU. This achievement reflects his dedication and the quality of his research, and serves as a testament to the rigorous academic standards and opportunities provided by the School of Mechanical Engineering at SMVDU. Milind Shukla's successful participation in ICMME 24 is a notable milestone in his academic journey, setting an example for future students and highlighting the University's commitment to promoting research and scholarly endeavours.

## Debates and Laughter: Natrang's 'Tauba-Tauba' Delights Audience

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Natrang presented Hindi play "Tauba-Tauba" here today under Natrang's weekly theatre series "Sunday Theatre". The play has been written by Rajinder Kumar Sharma and directed by Neeraj Kant. Coated with humor, the play presented some debatable issues which are faced by many theatre groups because of lack of commitment of a few artists which spoil the whole performance. But still it was more inclined towards comedy than being didactic.

The play opens at the home of one 'Anokhe Lal' who has converted it as rehearsal space as the play proceeds as it appears that no one is serious in doing rehearsal other than the director. The artists who used to plead for a single entry in the play have turned pricy now and come up with different excuses to skip rehearsals. At the top of it,



the newly appointed servant adds to the confusion as he comes up with a new problem every time he enters the room. 'Anokhe Lal' was very much worried about the performance of the play as nothing was going right, actors were forgetting the lines, people were coming late in the rehearsal and on the top of it, the tickets of the show have already been sold. The ultimate crisis occur when the director comes to know that the actor who was doing the role of father of hero is not doing the play as he has to go out of station for some personal work. Shattered by this untoward news, he decides to prepare his newly appointed ser-

vant to do the character of father in the play, who reluctantly agrees but real trouble erupts when the real father of 'Anokhe Lal' arrives to whom the servant introduced himself as the father of 'Anokhe Lal' on which both the servant and Anokhe Lal received a thorough beating from the real father.

Natrang actors who performed in the play included Brijesh Avtar Sharma, Vishal Sharma, Aadesh Dhar, Kananpreet Kaur, Samket Bhagat and Kushal Bhat. The lights of the play were executed by Neeraj Kant Sharma and the presentations were done by Sushant Singh Charak. The show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

## Cultural Fabric and Rich Heritage of Jammu City is Still Alive and Well: Sawhney



JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Former Minister of Jammu & Kashmir and senior Congress leader, Yogesh Sawhney, on Saturday joined the auspicious occasion of a Bhandara held at Shiv Mandir, Rajeev Colony in Jammu East. The event was organized by Vijay Manhas, Vice President of the District Congress Committee, and President of Mahila Welfare Committee, Rajeev Colony. The Bhandara drew significant attention from the local community as many devotees came in huge numbers to attend and participate. Amidst the soaring religious sentiments of people in Jammu after Shivratri and in lieu of upcoming Holi festival, Sawhney extended his wishes to the devotees and offered prayers at the Shiv temple. The festivities commenced with traditional Pooja-archana ceremonies, evoking spiritual fervor among the attendees, followed by the Bhandara, where bhandara meal was served to all participants. Sawhney appreciated the organisers and said that these celebrations coincide with the ongoing festivities since Shivratri, adding

to the joyous atmosphere prevalent in the region as Holi approaches. Commenting on the people's religious fervor, Former Minister Yogesh Sawhney extended his warm wishes to all present, emphasizing the significance of unity and peace during these festive times. With religious sentiments running high and the anticipation of Holi looming, the event served as a beacon of cultural richness and communal harmony in the Rajeev Colony and beyond. In a statement, the Former Minister also later said that the religious festivities are the beacon of hope for people in J&K against the political disappointments they have had to deal with in light of the current scenario. The extremely dire economic and political situation has left people hopeless and disillusioned. However, people are still in high spirits owing to religious festivities and drawing hope from spirituality. The political and economic fabric of the city has been destroyed by BJP government completely, however the cultural fabric is still intact and local people are keen on protecting this rich heritage, said Sawhney.

## New registration policy is on cards: Vivekanand Rai

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

In its continuous efforts for streamlining pilgrim tourism president Chamber of Tourism Trade and Industry Katra, Sh. Raj Kumar Padha met with Sh. Vivekanand Rai (IRS) director tourism Jammu in his office chambers. He discussed host of issues confronted by the pilgrim tourism of J&K UT especially of holy town Katra. The issue of registration and renewal of hotels, guest houses, restaurants and travel offices was in the main focus. Sh. Vivekanand Rai apprised Raj Kumar Padha that new registration policy of tourism units has been under consideration at the secretariat and expected to be rolled out soon. In a major relief to the tourism



units the govt is considering the provision of issuing tourism certificates requiring less number of formalities and for longer duration of validity. Director tourism gave a patient hearing to all other points raised by CTTIK president and ensured his full cooperation and support. Chamber of Tourism

Trade and Industry Katra expressed gratitude to the director tourism for the opportunity to engage in this constructive dialogue. The organization remains committed to working closely with the government to address issues and contribute to the sustainable development of the pilgrim tourism.

## Dimple urges mass participation in Amarnath Yatra; criticizes delay in J&K Assembly Elections



JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, made a fervent appeal to citizens across India to participate in this year's Amarnath Yatra in Jammu and Kashmir, emphasizing the elaborate arrangements being made for the pilgrimage. This call came during an impressive bhandara lunger organized by Dimple on the eve of Holi, where a diverse gathering including women and people from various religious backgrounds took part.

During his address, Dimple expressed disappointment over the delay in holding assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, alleging both the

Election Commission of India (ECI) and the BJP government for the omission. He emphasized the importance of communal harmony and brotherhood in the region, offering prayers for peace and happiness in J&K.

Amidst the festivities, Dimple engaged in dance with devotees and Shiv Bhagats, underscoring the spirit of the occasion. His prayers extended towards universal peace, communal harmony, and the prosperity of families in Jammu and Kashmir.

Among the notable attendees were Mrs. Madubala, Rajni Sharma, Komal Dogra, Bhavana Kumara, Arjun Kumar, Brahm Sharma, Chintu Kumar, Vivek Kumar, and many others.

## Director Agriculture Jammu visited Vegetable improvement scheme at Krishi Bhawan

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MARCH 17

Today, the worthy Director of Agriculture Production and Farmer Welfare, Jammu, Sr. Arvinder Singh Reen, undertook a significant visit to Krishi Bhawan Jammu. The primary aim of this visit was to promote and inspect the vegetable improvement scheme, showcasing the commitment to advancing agricultural practices in the region.

The Director visited the vegetable demonstration unit showcased the cultivation of different vegetables, possibly including exotic or high-value crops, floriculture development nursery displayed production of flower seedlings, ornamental plants, or rose cuttings and naturally ventilated poly greenhouses (NVPGHs). Here, the focus would have been on the use of these structures for growing vegetables under protected conditions, potentially with discussions on seedling production and distribution to farmers.

The visit highlights the department's efforts to encourage farmers to adopt innovative technol-



ogies for increased yield, improved quality, and potentially, year round production

During the inspection, A.S Reen engaged closely with the staff and agricultural stakeholders, exchanging valuable insights and feedback on the ongoing scheme. He emphasized the importance of adopting modern agricultural techniques, leveraging technology, and implementing sustainable farming practices to ensure long-term agricultural prosperity.

Expressing his vision for the agricultural sector, Director Agriculture highlighted the significance

of innovation and adaptation in addressing the evolving challenges faced by farmers. He reiterated the government's unwavering commitment to providing necessary support and resources to empower farmers and enhance agricultural productivity across the region.

The Worthy Director's visit serves as a testament to the collective resolve to prioritize agricultural advancement and farmer welfare in Jammu. It reinforces the government's pledge to harness the full potential of agriculture to drive socio-economic progress and prosperity in the region.

## Banned Drugs recovered at Katra; Accused arrested

JNEWS SERVICE  
REASI, MAR 17

Continuing the drive against Drug Abuse launched by District Police Reasi, team of Police Station Katra in surprise nakas in and around Katra town apprehended one person namely Babai Halder S/O Sanjay Halder R/O Natalia, SC Mallick Road Kolkata. During checking/frisking 7 strips of Alprazolam tablets containing 10 tablets each and Cash amounting Rs 40,000/ recovered from his possession. On this, FIR No. 81/2024 U/S 8/21/22 NDPS Act registered at Police Station Katra and investigation initiated to unearth the forward and backward linkages. Sr. Superintendent of Police Reasi Ms Mohita Sharma - IPS while sharing the details conveyed that Reasi Police is committed to eradicate the menace of drug abuse and illicit liquor smuggling from the area and while working on this front Reasi Police is leaving no stone unturned to eradicate this menace from society. People from all sections of the society should come forward and join hands with Police to strengthen narcotics drive of District Police Reasi which is must to save our future generations.

## 03 Vehicles involved in illegal mining seized by Jammu Police

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

In a quest to stern the menace of illegal mining, a multi-pronged strategy was devised by Jammu Police in which Police team of Police Post Phallian Mandal acted stringently on the specific inputs and raided at multiple locations within their jurisdiction and seized 03 vehicles involved in illegal mining. Details of the vehicle seized are as under: 1. Sonalika Di 7451 Tractor along with trolley Ch. No. JZCDV366154S3 2. MAHINDRA TRACTOR ALONG WITH TROLLEY CH. NO.

RKBB01782 3. TRACTOR along with trolley bearing Reg No. JK02CS7163

The tractors were found loaded with minor mineral sand without FormA/ permission and so were detained and brought to Police Post Phallian Mandal.

DMO Jammu was also intimidated about the same. The mining was done in violation of order of Honourable High Court of J&K. In order to strictly implement the drive against illegal mining and to tighten noose against the violators of the law Jammu Police has initiated strict action.

## EDITORIAL

## PDP's strategic maneuvering

The ongoing developments within the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) bloc in Jammu and Kashmir highlight the intricacies of coalition politics and strategic maneuvering ahead of the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) is currently in a wait-and-watch mode, anticipating the National Conference's unilateral announcement of candidates for three Lok Sabha seats in the Kashmir Valley. This calculated approach by the PDP underscores several key aspects of their political strategy. Firstly, it aims to project a unified front against the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), signaling a commitment to coalition unity within the INDIA alliance. By delaying the formal announcement of their candidates until after the National Conference reveals its nominees, the PDP is positioning itself strategically to challenge any perceived alignment issues or disagreements within the coalition. At the heart of this strategic delay is also the underlying message to the public. The PDP's decision to defer its candidate announcement serves to highlight the National Conference's role in potential division of anti-BJP votes in the region. This move is designed to put pressure on the National Conference while also allowing the PDP leadership to assess and contest decisions made by their coalition partners, particularly concerning any perceived alignment with the BJP. The dynamics within the INDIA alliance have become more complex with the National Conference's announcement of independently contesting all three seats in the Kashmir Valley. This stance reflects the NC's reluctance towards seat-sharing agreements with other alliance constituents, including the Congress and the PDP. The ongoing informal discussions between Congress leaders and the PDP to address this disagreement highlight the challenges of coalition building and consensus within political alliances. One of the key points of contention revolves around the Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha seat, with the PDP expressing interest in contesting it with support from INDIA alliance partners. However, Omar Abdullah's recent statement reiterating the NC's unwillingness to concede the Anantnag seat underscores the complexities of seat-sharing negotiations within the alliance. In proposing that the NC contests all three Kashmir seats while the Congress focuses on the Jammu and Ladakh seats, Omar Abdullah is emphasizing the need for a strategic approach to maximize the alliance's chances of defeating the BJP. The historical electoral trends in Jammu, Udhampur, and Ladakh, where the BJP has secured significant victories, further inform the NC's position on seat allocation. Ultimately, the evolving dynamics within the INDIA alliance in J&K highlight the delicate balance between coalition unity, strategic maneuvering, and the broader objective of countering the BJP's electoral strength in the region. The upcoming Lok Sabha elections will test the resilience and cohesion of the alliance as it navigates through these complex political waters. Whatever be the situation arises, the National Conference is in no mood to surrender to any pressure tactics of the PDP.

## Army's Contribution to Infrastructure Development in J&amp;K

MIR MOHSIN

The Indian Army, often lauded for its role in safeguarding national security, has also been instrumental in fostering infrastructure development in the region of Jammu and Kashmir. While primarily tasked with ensuring territorial integrity and combating terrorism, the Army's initiatives have significantly contributed to enhancing the socio-economic landscape of the region. This article explores the multifaceted efforts of the Indian Army in infrastructure development, highlighting its impact on local communities and the broader region. To elucidate the pivotal role played by the Indian Army in promoting infrastructure development in Jammu and Kashmir, focusing on key projects and initiatives undertaken. Infrastructure Development Projects in Border Areas, Education and Skill Development Initiatives, Healthcare Facilities and Medical Outreach, Promotion of Tourism and Economic Opportunities, Community Engagement and Welfare Programs, Lessons and Future Prospects,

The Indian Army's presence in the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir has been pivotal in not only ensuring security but also catalyzing infrastructure development. Through various initiatives, the Army has focused on improving road connectivity, constructing bridges, and enhancing communication networks in remote and inaccessible areas. The construction of roads and bridges has facilitated easier access to border villages, enabling residents to connect with urban centers for essential services and economic opportunities. Moreover, the development of communication networks has strengthened connectivity, allowing for better coordination during emergencies and facilitating socio-economic exchanges. Additionally, the Indian Army has been actively involved in the construction of bunkers and shelters to protect civilians from cross-border shelling and incursions. These protective structures provide a sense of security to residents living in vulnerable areas, fostering stability and resilience in the face of external threats. According to a report by The Tribune, the Indian Army, in collaboration with the

Border Roads Organisation has undertaken the construction of the Zojila Tunnel in Ladakh. This tunnel, once completed, will provide all-weather connectivity to the remote areas of Ladakh, ensuring year-round access and boosting socio-economic development in the region.

## Education and Skill Development Initiatives

Recognizing the importance of education in fostering socio-economic progress, the Indian Army has initiated several programs aimed at promoting literacy and skill development among the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. These initiatives encompass the establishment of schools, vocational training centers, and scholarship programs to empower the local populace.

Army-run schools and educational institutions have been instrumental in providing quality education to children in remote areas, bridging the gap between urban and rural education. Additionally, vocational training centers offer courses in various trades, equipping youth with marketable skills and enhancing their employability.

The Indian Army's Sadbhavana Project in Jammu and Kashmir includes the establishment of Army Goodwill Schools across the region. These schools not only provide education but also focus on holistic development, offering extracurricular activities, sports facilities, and career counseling to students.

Scholarship programs sponsored by the Indian Army have enabled underprivileged students to pursue higher education, thereby opening doors to better career prospects and economic advancement. By investing in education, the Army aims to empower the youth of Jammu and Kashmir to become agents of change and development in their communities.

The Army's Udaan initiative, aimed at providing educational scholarships to meritorious students from Jammu and Kashmir, has seen significant success. According to official data, hundreds of students have benefited from the Udaan program, pursuing higher education in prestigious institutions across India.

## Healthcare Facilities and Medical Outreach

Access to healthcare is



paramount for the well-being of any community, especially in remote and underserved regions like Jammu and Kashmir. The Indian Army has undertaken numerous initiatives to improve healthcare infrastructure and provide medical assistance to residents in need. Army-run hospitals and medical camps serve as lifelines for communities located in far-flung areas, offering essential healthcare services and emergency treatment. These facilities cater to a wide range of medical needs, including primary care, maternal health, and specialized treatments.

The Indian Army's Operation Sadbhavana includes medical outreach programs that provide free healthcare services to residents in remote villages of Jammu and Kashmir. Mobile medical units equipped with doctors, nurses, and medical supplies travel to these areas, delivering healthcare to underserved populations.

Medical outreach programs organized by the Indian Army reach out to marginalized populations, providing preventive healthcare services, immunizations, and health education sessions. Mobile medical units traverse difficult terrain to deliver healthcare to remote villages, ensuring that no one is left behind in the journey towards better health. According to a report by The Economic Times, the Indian Army's medical camps in Jammu and Kashmir have been instrumental in reducing maternal and infant mortality rates in the region. These camps provide prenatal care, vaccinations, and childbirth assistance to pregnant women, improving health outcomes for mothers and babies.

## Promotion of Tourism and Economic Opportunities

In recent years, the Indian Army has played

a crucial role in promoting tourism and economic opportunities in Jammu and Kashmir. By showcasing the region's natural beauty and cultural heritage, the Army has attracted visitors and investors, stimulating economic growth and creating employment opportunities. The identification and development of tourist destinations in border areas have encouraged domestic and international tourists to explore the scenic landscapes and cultural richness of Jammu and Kashmir. Army-led initiatives, such as adventure sports activities and cultural festivals, have further enhanced the tourism experience, drawing visitors from across the globe.

The Indian Army's initiative to develop the Siachen Glacier region as a tourist destination has garnered significant attention. According to a report by The Times of India, the Army has opened certain areas of the glacier for tourism, allowing visitors to experience its natural beauty and unique ecosystem under the guidance of trained personnel. Economic development projects initiated by the Indian Army, including infrastructure development, skill enhancement programs, and entrepreneurship initiatives, have contributed to job creation and income generation in the region. By fostering a conducive environment for business and investment, the Army has laid the foundation for sustainable economic growth and prosperity.

The Indian Army's Border Roads Organisation has been actively involved in infrastructure development projects in Jammu and Kashmir. According to official data, the BRO has constructed thousands of kilometers of roads and bridges in the region, improving connectivity and facilitating trade

and commerce.

## Community Engagement and Welfare Programs

The Indian Army's commitment to the welfare of the local populace in Jammu and Kashmir extends beyond infrastructure development to encompass various community engagement and welfare programs. These initiatives aim to address the socio-economic needs of residents and foster goodwill between the Army and civilian communities.

Outreach programs focusing on women empowerment, youth engagement, and environmental conservation empower individuals to take an active role in community development. Skill development workshops, self-help groups, and awareness campaigns empower women to become self-reliant and contribute to household income.

The Indian Army's ; Awaaz Ki Awaaz; initiative in Jammu and Kashmir aims to engage with local communities and address their grievances. According to official sources, the initiative has provided a platform for residents to voice their concerns and collaborate with the Army in finding solutions to local issues. Youth engagement initiatives, including sports events, educational tours, and career counseling sessions, provide opportunities for personal growth and skill enhancement. By nurturing talent and fostering leadership qualities among the youth, the Army contributes to building a brighter future for the next generation of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Indian Army's ;Youth Outreach; program includes various activities such as sports competitions, talent shows, and career guidance sessions for young people in Jammu and Kashmir. According to reports, these initiatives have helped channelize the energy and potential of youth towards constructive pursuits, reducing the risk of radicalization and promoting social cohesion.

The Indian Army's contribution to infrastructure development in Jammu and Kashmir serves as a testament to its commitment to the socio-economic upliftment of the region. By leveraging its resources and expertise, the Army has made significant strides in improving connectivity, healthcare,

education, and community engagement, the Army has made substantial contributions to the region's progress. Moving forward, continued collaboration and innovation will be essential to sustain this momentum and ensure a brighter future for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

education, and economic opportunities for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Looking ahead, sustaining the momentum of infrastructure development will require continued collaboration between the Indian Army, government agencies, and local communities. Strengthening partnerships, leveraging technology, and adopting sustainable practices will be key to addressing the evolving needs of the region and ensuring inclusive growth.

The Indian Army's collaboration with local authorities and civil society organizations in implementing infrastructure projects has been crucial for their success. According to experts, the involvement of multiple stakeholders ensures that projects are tailored to the specific needs of local communities and are implemented in a transparent and sustainable manner.

Moreover, incorporating lessons learned from past initiatives and adapting to changing socio-economic dynamics will be crucial for the Indian Army to remain responsive to the needs of the local populace. By embracing innovation and fostering a culture of inclusivity, the Army can further enhance its impact on infrastructure development and contribute to the overall progress and prosperity of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Indian Army's experience in implementing infrastructure projects in challenging terrains and adverse conditions can serve as a valuable learning resource for other regions facing similar challenges. By sharing best practices and lessons learned, the Army can contribute to building the capacity of local governments and organizations to undertake infrastructure development initiatives effectively.

The Indian Army's tireless efforts in infrastructure development have significantly improved the socio-economic landscape of Jammu and Kashmir. Through initiatives spanning road construction, education, healthcare, tourism, and community engagement, the Army has made substantial contributions to the region's progress. Moving forward, continued collaboration and innovation will be essential to sustain this momentum and ensure a brighter future for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

## Tila Ashtami of Kashmiri Pandits

O.N KOUL

Maha Shivratri is the biggest festival celebrated by the Kashmiri pandits. This festival of Shivratri has a special importance in the philosophy of Kashmir Shaivism and it is celebrated in a distinct, unique and special way by the Kashmiri Pandits all over the world. The observance of Tila Ashtami is associated and connected with the celebration of Shivratri. The Shivratri to KP's commences on the first Tithi - day of Falgun Krishanpaksh in the first fortnight of this auspicious month, lasts for a fortnight and culminates or comes to close with Teela Ashtami.

In all important festivals of Sanatan darma, there is the practice of giving of offerings to ones dead ancestors called Pitras in Hindu mythology and the observance of Tila Ashtami is concerned with offering light to dead ancestors on the eight day after

mahashivratri and it is practice and norm with the Kashmiri Pandits that the Shivratri Prasad such as wet walnuts and bread made from rice flour is distributed among neighbors, relatives and friends only before the Tila Ashtami and on this occasion light is lit in the form of earthen divas and offered to the dead ones to satiate them. Therefore the observance of Tila Ashtami is connected with offering light to the dead ancestors and the day is dedicated to them. This year Tila Ashtami falls on Monday that is 27th February.

On this day all KP households lit earthen divas and put these at important spots including at the entrance-gates in their compounds. In fact the tradition and ritual of making offerings to the dead ancestors on the occasions of festivals is part and parcel of all Kashmiri Pandit festivals and to repay the debt to ones dead ancestors by making various offerings is the important practice

connected with the celebration of all important festivals and on the occasion of Teela Ashtami earthen divas are lit and light is offered to the dead ancestors and the celebrations of shivratri come to close with the observance of this day.

Tila Ashtami is observed and dedicated to the dead ones to satiate the Pitras by offering them light. Tila Aetham -Teil Atham/Tila Ashtami is celebrated as a culmination of Shivratri Festival mainly by Kashmiri Pandits. Tila Ashtami is celebrated on the 8th day of the bright fortnight of Falgun month (Fhalguna Shukla Ashtami tithi). On this occasion puja is offered to Lord Shiva and any other favorite God and diyas are lit in temples and homes. 'Jaa Teen Teen' (tieng Kangri) was the old tradition associated with this festival. It is so disturbing that these days, the tradition has become extinct and it points towards the forgetting of this old tradition connected with

this festival. There is need to revive the old traditions and customs and be connected to our rich cultural roots and preserve our rich and vibrant culture for the future generations so that it is not lost in oblivion due to afflux of time and its seemingly irrelevance in the modern age.

In fact it is common among Kashmiri Pandits to remember their dead ancestors on festivals and make offerings to them in order to satiate them and repay the Pitar Rin-debt. The occasion of Tila Ashtami is celebrated and observed in honor of the dead ones by the Kashmiri Pandit community with great devotion and dedication. The celebration of Tila Ashtami continues even in these days of materialism and age of modernity among the exiled Kashmiri Pandits and the women folk of this community take special interest and initiative to observe this occasion with all humility in honor of the dead relatives. In north India or other Hindu

calendars', the Tila Ashtami day is celebrated 'Masik Dur-gashtmi' in Falgun month and 'Holashakt Arambha din'. The religious festivals of the Kashmiri Pandits have Rigvedic roots. Tila Ashtami is the unique and distinct festival celebrated by the Kashmiri Pandits along with other festivals like Herath, Navreh, Hur Atham, Pan-Roth Puza, Vinayak Tsoram, Khet-simavas etc. and the Kashmiri Pandits deserve praise and appreciation for celebrating these and other festivals even in the trying times of their displacement from their native Kashmir. It is a matter of satisfaction that Kashmiri Pandits have preserved their culture, traditions, customs, social mores even today and they are passing on their culture to the future generations without any adulteration but in pristine beauty. To be specific on Tila -Ashtami ,a number of earthen oil lit lamps are placed at different places starting from one's home to river bank

(Yarbal) and also one of the oil lamps is made to float on the river with its base seated on grass ring or arie. The day of Tila Ashtami also signals the end of the severe cold and winter and advent of pleasant season of spring locally known as 'Sonth'. On this day, the changeover of the season is celebrated by children by burning old fire-pots (Kangris), stuffed with dry grass and tied with long ropes around in the air, all the time uttering the words of 'Jateen-Tantah'. It marks the final good-bye to the holy festival of Mahashivratri which is called and celebrated as Hayrath by the Kashmiri Pandits. In brief the observance of Tila Ashtami is the culmination of the fortnight long festival of Mahashivratri by the Kashmiri Pandit community even in their exiled life away from Kashmir. The KP's deserve all kudos for celebrating their festivals and preserving these and passing of the festivals to the coming generations.



## Congress faces setback as key leaders join BJP ahead of Lok Sabha 2024 elections



J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Lok Sabha-2024 elections bugle has been sounded, the Congress party has got a big blow from Hakkal Panchayat of RS Pura-Jammu South constituency. Former Congress sarpanch Kunti Devi and Naib Sarpanch Sudesh Kumar, eight panchs left the party and joined BJP along with their supporters. All these leaders took membership of the party in the presence of BJP State General Secretary Davinder Manyal, former Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria, District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan, former MLA Balwant Singh Mankotia, District Incharge Ayodhya Gupta, BJP leader Zorawar Singh, Mandal President Vijay Sharma and Captain Rajinder Singh.

Speaking on the occasion, BJP State General Secretary Davindra Manyal, while congratulating the newcomers joining the party, said that everyone's dignity and respect will be taken care of in the party. Referring to the Lok Sabha elections, he said that the target is big, hence every worker has to ensure his best contribution in view of the role decided by the party. Former Deputy Mayor Jammu Baldev Singh Billawaria said that

former Sarpanch Kunti Devi, Panches along with supporters joined BJP now Hakkal Panchayat has become 'Congress Mukh'. He said that by passing the Nari Shakti Vandan Act, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also ensured 33 percent reservation for the women of the country in the democratic structure. He said that the Sarpanch and Panch who have joined the party are grassroots level leaders. It is certain that the opposition will lose its deposit from RS Pura-Jammu South assembly seat in the upcoming assembly elections.

Former MLA Balwant Singh Mankotia said that the joining of former sarpanch and panches in the BJP party is a proof of their faith in the principles of good governance supported by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Prime Minister's transformational leadership, centered on the motto of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas', has brought positive change across the country.

District Jammu South President Rekha Mahajan said that the respect of women is safe only in BJP. She said that the BJP takes care of everyone, whereas this is not the safe environment for other parties. He also said that the

Bharatiya Janata Party is the largest political party in the world today. He said that the country's Prime Minister Narendra Modi has implemented many welfare schemes for the empowerment of women.

District in-charge Ayodhya Gupta highlighted the growing popularity of the BJP and stressed its role as a viable replacement for dynastic political parties in Jammu and Kashmir. He said people from diverse backgrounds are joining the party, attracted by its transformative nationalist programs which have made a positive impact on the country and the Union Territory.

Senior BJP leader Zorawar Singh said that impressed by the work of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, everyone is joining BJP for country building. He said that apart from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, no other political party has any other option in the country.

Former Sarpanch Kunti Devi said that I have expressed my faith in the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, I am inspired by the way he is working to take the country forward. He further said that I have faith in the policies of BJP and believe that Prime Minister Modi is the right leader to bring the necessary changes in the country.

## Don't vote on basis of caste, religion: Azad

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU MARCH 17

Chairman of DPAP, Ghulam Nabi Azad, today addressed a public meeting in Jammu East, urging people to transcend religious lines when casting their votes. Azad emphasized the importance of voting based on merit, policies, and track records rather than religious affiliations. He highlighted the need for unity and inclusivity in the electoral process, stressing that candidates should be evaluated on their ability to serve the people and uphold democratic values. "We have to vote for a candidate for Parliament who can raise our voice, not based on religion, just as I have done on various critical issues. Many MPs remain silent in Parliament, but my candidate will be the one who truly represents you and speaks up for your



concerns," he said. Azad mentioned that Article 35A was initially introduced by Maharaja Hari Singh to protect our land and jobs through state subject laws. If we come into power, my government will bring a law to protect land and jobs, ensuring the protection of our rights and resources. Azad promised significant developments including more districts, schools, hospitals, and roads. He said, 'In two and

a half years, I sanctioned districts, roads, hospitals which no government could provide. My mission is solely dedicated to achieving development at a large scale.' The other parties have exploited the people while we remain committed solely to development. They have divided people along regional and religious lines with fake slogans that have now been exposed. My slogan is 'kaam bolta hai'.

Azad said, It was me who fought for statehood in Parliament, pressuring the government to promise the return of statehood. He expressed sadness at the widespread lack of electricity and power. He vowed to work tirelessly to ensure that every region, regardless of challenges, has access to reliable electricity infrastructure. Azad underlined Jammu's rich heritage of secularism and unity and urged

a collective effort to uplift the region, prioritizing progress and peace. He stated, "Jammu has been renowned for its social cohesion and unity for many years. It is imperative that we preserve these values for the promotion of peace and progress." Among others who were present on the occasion were G.M.Saroori Vice Chairman, R.S.Chib Gen Secretary, Jugal Kishore Sharma Provincial President, Ab Majeed Wani Gen Secretary, Arvind Singh Mickey Gen Secretary, Vinod Mishra Gen Secretary, Salman Nizami Chief Spokesperson, Ch Gharu Ram Zonal President, Secretary Hiralal Abrol, Adv Maheshwar Singh Gen Secretary, Gourav Chopra Distt President, Gurmeet Kaur, Sunita Arora, Sobat Ali, Kulwant Singh, Kirtan Singh, Vishal Chopra, Ashok Sharma, Mohinder Sharma and others.

## Gurdeep Saini starts construction of route leading to OHT in village Gandli

J I NEWS SERVICE  
RS PURA, MARCH 17

Former Sarpanch of Gandli Panchayat and Co-Convenor of Panchayati Raj Cell, BJP, J&K, Gurdeep Singh Saini today started the construction of a route leading up to the tank constructed under the Jal Jeevan Mission in Gandli village in RS Pura. The local residents of Gandli Panchayat have provided the space for the construction of this passage leading up to the tank.

Speaking at the event, Gurdeep Saini highlighted that the Jal Jeevan Mission was initiated by the BJP government with the aim of providing household water connections in each village. Under the Mission, the construction work at the Panchayat level has already started, and today marks the beginning of the work towards creating a route leading up to the tank.

Saini expressed his



gratitude towards the residents of Gandli Panchayat for providing the space for the construction of this route. One year ago, the work on the Jal Jeevan Mission had started in the Panchayat, but without the proper passage leading up to the tank. The unanimous decision of the Panchayat members to construct the route led to the commencement of construction work today.

He urged the government to ensure that the work towards achieving the objective of providing clean drinking water to

every family was undertaken with utmost urgency and focused attention. He further added that as per Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to provide every family with access to clean drinking water, the Jal Jeevan Mission had been launched. The project aimed at providing water supply to each Panchayat, and work had begun in every Panchayat under the Mission.

The former Sarpanch also urged the government to hold probe against delay in completion of the work of Over Head Tank. He asked

the concerned authority to immediately cancel the tender of OHT and reissue new tender with an aim to complete the work of OHT without any compromise.

Saini emphasized the BJP's commitment towards winning the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections and continuing to provide people with the benefits of government schemes and welfare initiatives. He was accompanied by the former Deputy Sarpanch Pyarelal, former Panch Pawan Singh, former Panch Somnath, Harjinder Singh, and Darshan Lal.

## Gandhi Nagar police station, Jammu solves theft case; recovered stolen property of more than 2 lakhs

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

On 11.01.2024, FIR no. 11/2024 U/S 379 IPC was registered regarding the theft of auto JK08-9072 lodged by Rishi Pal Singh R/o Nanak Nagar Jammu, which was parked by him outside his residence on 25.12.2023.

During the course of investigation under the guidance of SHO Gandhi Nagar suspects were rounded up, during sustained questioning the stolen

Vehicle amounting to Rs 2.18 lakh was recovered on the disclosure of accused person namely Sunny Kumar R/o Bhanwani Nagar Talab Tillo Jammu. The thief was accordingly arrested and stolen property recovered. People have appreciated the efforts of Jammu police.

## "Aao Sabi Vote Keran" Election Awareness Hindi Nuked Natak Staged at Katra

J I NEWS SERVICE  
KATRA, MAR 17

Sangam Theatre Group Reasi staged a Hindi Nuked Natak "Aao Sabi Vote Keran" here at Phawara Chowk Bus stand Katra and was organized by District Administration Reasi. On the occasion SDM Katra Sh Piyush Dhotra (JKAS) was the Chief Guest, other officers, Younger's, Locals, Senior Citizens and general public witnessed the Nuked Natak show.

The Natak based on Young Voters electoral registration and Election promotions. Artist stressed on new voters in the age of 18 years enrolled in the electoral, more and more participation of younger's registered themselves to cast the vote properly in fair and ethical manner in upcoming Election in district Reasi. The play depicts rights of the voter and how to elect the right



candidate.

The characters of the play narrate the general mass "Vote Keran ge hum, Vote Keran ge sab....Vote daalna hak he sabka our hemari shan he" This awareness of Election promotion achieved on one side through the active dissemination of information among the general public with a special focus on the knowledge about voters more participation.

The Artist who performed the Nuked Natak were Anil Kumar, Nia Chouhan, Raja Amir Khan, Sarita Bhagat, Aasim Nadeem, Anamika Devi, Priya Kumari, Anu

Devi, and The play was written & directed by M. Akram Khan.

SDM Katra Piyush Dhotra and public of Katra appreciated the efforts made by the artists of Sangam Theatre Group Reasi as well as D.C.Reasi for presenting such type of Nuked Natak for the awareness of young voters and enrolment of electoral registration. The Next Nuked Natak show was stage on 27th March on the eve of Ward Theatre Day celebration at Auditorium, Reasi For Young Voters. And same was stage at Main Market Maahore on 28th March

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Continuing its series of one day treks for promotion of pilgrimage and heritage sites Tawi Trekkers J&K, one of the biggest trekking clubs in the country, organized the 2nd one-day trek to Devi Pindian near Panthal (Katra)

The group of 143 women trekkers exclusively from PS PS Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu was flagged off from Kala Kendra, Jammu by Patron of Tawi Trekkers J&K Rahul Sharma, Chairman of Sprawling Buds ICSE School. General Secretary of the club Sonam Sidharth, senior members Shashi Kant Sharma, Sourav Deep Singh and Ananjan Raghav along with sports secretary of the college Ishika Jandial

also accompanied the trekkers for better coordination during the trek.

The budding trekkers were pleasantly surprised when Superintendent of Police, Katra Vipin Chandran alongwith SDPO, Katra Satyakam Sharma welcomed them on their arrival at Kunia Nursery, Panthal. While interacting with the trekkers he said that trekking inculcates in a person a spirit of adventure and love of nature besides keeping mentally and physically fit. He emphasized on the importance of mountains and the role they play in our life and advised the participants to keep the mountains clean whenever they go for trekking. Finally, he flagged off the trekkers for the trek with best wishes.

Most of the students on their maiden trek were

enchanted by the beauty of the serene trekking destination and fully enjoyed the 10 km to and fro trek amidst the pines and along a stream of gushing transparent water. Reaching the Devi Pindian shrine the trekkers were overwhelmed by the sublime atmosphere and serenity of the place where as per legend the Goddess Vaishno Devi resides for nine months in a year. On their return some of the trekkers preferred a short but steep trek and finally a 2km road walk amidst the calm and cool trees.

After the conclusion of the trek Tawi Trekkers was showered with praise by the budding trekkers who profusely thanked the management of Tawi Trekkers for giving them an opportunity to participate in such a wonderful activity.

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Mother's Pride & Joy Pre School organized Graduation Ceremony for the graduating class Sr. Kg 2023 at the school campus Today. The ceremony commenced with the Principal / Director Mrs Mona Khurana welcomed the Guests and presented the school report and Shared the vision of the school that aims at the all-round development of the child.

The Graduation ceremony was host to a gallery of guests and parents who cheered and marked their presence as their little ones receiving their life's 1st graduation diploma.

The graduating children attired in graduation caps were all thrilled with Pride n'Joy as Dr Chand Trehan the Chief Guest Psychologist, and found-

er member of Mother's Pride & Joy pre-school gave away graduation diplomas to the passing out little scholars.

In her address Dr Trehan enlightened the parents about the important role of a pre-school in a child's foundation years and how a quality preschool transforms a child into a well groomed, responsible and a confident personality. She also stressed that the importance of the pre-school years & that no child should miss the pre-school years.

The event was full of breathtaking colors and highly coordinated movements full of vibrance as guests and parents witnessed the spark and enthusiasm of young Joyites as they regaled the audiences with their outstanding performances.



## BJP's Social Media Department meets Jugal Kishore, discusses strategizes for upcoming LS polls

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

The Social Media Department of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu and Kashmir, held a significant meeting with Jugal Kishore, the contesting candidate from Jammu Lok Sabha Constituency. The meeting aimed to strategize and plan for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

Ankit Gupta, the Convener of the Social Media Department, led the team which included Nitish Mahajan, Manjeet Singh Jasrotia, and Satish Jandyal, the Co-Convenors. Jugal Kishore, the contesting candidate, expressed his contentment towards the Social Media Department for their efforts and emphasized the significance of social media in reaching out to a wider audience and disseminating accurate information. He termed the social media team as frontline warriors and emphasized their vital role in the upcoming polls as trendsetters. He



acknowledged the power of social media in shaping public opinion and expressed confidence in the team's ability to effectively communicate the vision and accomplishments of the party to the electorate.

During the meeting, Ankit Gupta, the Convener of the Department, gave a comprehensive briefing on the importance of digital engagement and social media outreach in today's political landscape. He emphasized the need for a robust and effective

online campaign to connect with the masses and convey the vision and achievements of the BJP to the voters of the Jammu constituency.

Ankit Gupta expressed his gratitude to Jugal Kishore for the tremendous work in the Jammu Lok Sabha Constituency during his previous two tenures and the dedication he has shown in bringing about development and progress.

Nitish Mahajan assured the contesting Member Parliament Jugal Kishore that the social media team

would actively engage with young volunteers to further strengthen their campaign. He recognized the potential of young minds and acknowledged their significant contribution in reaching out to the masses.

With the Lok Sabha elections approaching, he assured that the Social Media Department, under the guidance of Ankit Gupta, is prepared to embark on an energetic and focused campaign to ensure a resounding victory of the Party in the upcoming polls.

## Masses enthusiastically pledge support to BJP, eager for PM Modi's third term: Ashok Koul

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MARCH 17

Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Org) BJP, expressed today that the people's choice for Prime Minister Narendra Modi to serve a third term is evident. The soaring momentum of the BJP is reflected in the increasing number of individuals stepping forward to join and strengthen the party.

He was speaking at the joining programme held at Party Headquarters wherein large number of people including women, youth and first time voters joined the party fold. These people joined the party fold under the leadership of Adv Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson BJP, J&K and former Deputy Mayor Jammu and Parmodh Kapahi, District President.

Speaking at the programme, Ashok Koul emphasized the growing popularity and trust placed by the people in the BJP, which is evident in the rising graph of the party with each passing day. The enthusiasm shown by the masses is a testament to their unwavering support for the party and the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Modi.

Koul said that Bharatiya Janata Party, known for its transformative poli-



cies and commitment to the welfare and development of the nation, has been successful in attracting individuals from all walks of life. The party's inclusive approach and focus on progress have resonated deeply with the people, leading to a surge in individuals coming forward to be a part of this ever-growing movement, he added.

Adv Purnima Sharma, in her address, emphasized that the overwhelming response to the event was a clear indication that people across Jammu and Kashmir were eager to witness Modi's third term as the country's prime minister. She emphasized the transformative policies, decisive leadership, and unwavering commitment to development championed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. She pointed out that these have resonated deeply

with citizens and urged the first-time voters to exercise their vote wisely.

Adv Purnima asserted that the BJP remains dedicated to serving the nation and the people with utmost sincerity and determination. With the support and aspirations of the people, the party is confident in its ability to lead the country towards continued progress, prosperity, and a brighter future for all, she added.

She also lauded the party's approach of youth outreach and commended the newly inducted members for their decision to join the BJP. She highlighted that the initiatives of the party in Jammu had created a buzz among the youth of the region, and there was a sense of excitement among them about the BJP's vision for the future.

Parmodh Kapahi, another BJP leader, shared his appreciation for the

people of Jammu and Kashmir for placing their trust and belief in the government's ability to steer the nation towards continued progress and prosperity. He stated that the people's eagerness to see Narendra Modi serve as Prime Minister again is a clear manifestation of their unwavering support.

The newly joined members, on joining the BJP, assured that they will work wholeheartedly to strengthen the party base by sincere and dedicated work. Among those who joined the party fold include, Anuradha ji, Sushama Bhan, Seema Gupta, Kavita Devi, Anu Sharma, Dr Shashi Bharti, Nisha Gupta, Kamlesh Devi, Anju Devi, Rajni Sharma, Abhay Partap, Surinder Singh, Ayushman, Vishav Partap, Akashdeep, Ranjit Singh, Sachin, Kuldeep and Abhi Singh.

## JKPCC Working President addresses worker meeting in Ramgarh constituency

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SAMBA

The Congress on Sunday claimed that the INDIA alliance will win all the six Lok Sabha seats in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh in the general elections. This was stated by JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla while addressing worker meeting in Ramgarh constituency organized by former Minister and JKPCC Vice President Yashpal Kundal. Prominent among those present on the occasion include Vice President and Treasurer JKPCC and incharge Samba District Rajnish Sharma Mian, General Secretary JKPCC Thomas Khokhar, District President Sanjeev Sharma, Working President Babbal Gupta, Mahesh Sharma, Tanveer Singh, Vinod Kumar, Mandeep Choudhary, Anita Devi, Uttam Chand, Balram Kundal, Sarpanch Krishan Kumar, Vinod Pardeep Vinay Sharma besides others.

Bhalla said "like in the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC)-Kargil elections, INDIA alliance will sweep the forthcoming Lok Sabha election in J&K and Ladakh. It will emerge victorious in these elections elsewhere in the country too." He said that the Congress is ready for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, and it will contest the poll together with others in the INDIA alliance. He said, "I feel Congress is now a good and strong party in J&K". He claimed that Congress will come back to power in J&K after emerging as single largest party will form government with like-minded secular parties. He said that Congress will emerge stronger enough to form the government with likeminded parties, as no party will be able to form government without Congress which is only secular and Democratic Party in the country, fighting against dictatorship of Modi government.

Bhalla said that people are fed up with anti poor



and anti common people policies of the ruling party whose diversionary and divisive politics is exposed before people. BJP has nothing to sell except indulge in religious politics, while people reel under unprecedented price rise and large scale unemployment. Urging party workers to gear up for the ensuing Lok Sabha elections and strengthen booth and village committees to defeat BJP which has polarized the society. Congress believes in Hindu Muslim unity and religious brotherhood for peace and harmony in the country. He said that a record unemployment of last 45 years, price rise, murder of democracy in J-K apart from snatching our statehood, rights to land and jobs, failure to regularize daily wages and stopping of old age, widow pension and eviction of farmers from lands, crushing rights of employees are all anti people and anti democratic actions of BJP government. Congress fought for freedom and democracy in the country while Modi government is ruling the country with the help of ED, CBI, IT & other agencies and targeting opposition leaders to hijack democracy.

Bhalla raised great concern over the hijacking of media in the country by BJP and the truth is

not coming to people. He said media is the watchdog of democracy and has a very important role to safeguard democracy. Expressing confidence that the Congress will bounce back in a revitalized form on the J&K's political scene, he said that the party will continue to push for peace with dignity and will form next government in the Union Territory. He said that leadership has started working on a revival plan and the cadre is being revitalized to carry on the party's political campaign with renewed vigour. He said that Congress is a movement that will surge back. The utterances of leaders of regional parties are inconsequential. It's time for involving youth in the party, their involvement will regenerate the hollowed pillars of the Congress Institution. "Congress will continue to fight anti-people policies of the Centre and LG's Administration in J&K UT, besides defeating the challenges faced on various fronts especially, misleading politics of BJP", said Bhalla.

JKPCC Vice President Yashpal Kundal in his address said that Congress will continue its efforts till durable peace is restored in J&K and people start living a normal and peaceful life. "The J&K needs humane handling

and promotion of genuine democratic process which cannot be achieved by inspired fragmentation of votes in a particular region of J&K," he said. He said people of Jammu and Kashmir are eagerly waiting for assembly elections and they will teach a lesson to BJP in J&K and will definitely show this party its place in the next elections. He said that Congress will emerge stronger in view of dedication and enthusiasm amongst the Party workers across J&K. He lashed out at BJP's divisive politics blaming them for dividing people on regional, caste and religious lines to serve the dirty political ends.

Incharge Samba District Rajnish Sharma Mian speaking on the occasion said that people of J&K have always stood with harmony and secularism. They will continue to oppose any misadventure by BJP. He urged Party workers to remain steadfast to serve people and highlight their problems, as that, it is the Congress Party alone which has served the people and it will continue to fight for safeguarding rights of people, he said. "Congress Party shall continue to remain relevant, strong and unifying force, it will never compromise on its principle-based politics," he averred.

## CEO Jammu visits NILP Assessment Centres, interacts with learners



JINNEWS SERVICE  
RSPURA, MAR 17

Chief Education Officer Jammu Jagdeep Kumar Padha today visited NILP Assessment Centre at Govt Boys Middle School Chohala and Girls Middle School Chohala of Zone Miran Sahib and interacted with learners under NILP. Director Samagra Shiksha Rakesh Magotra and Co-ordinator Samagra Ajiit Kumar ZEO Arnia were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Education Officer Jammu Jagdeep Kumar Padha said that programme aims to cover a target of 5.00 crore learners during the five years under Foundational Literacy and Numeracy component. The programme has five objectives including foundational literacy and numeracy, critical life skills, vocational skills development, basic education and continuing education. Under the New India Literacy Programme (Nav Bharat Saksharata Karyakram) scheme, 200 hours "study on the course FLN" have been imparted through critical life skills to all illiterate persons in the age group of 15 years in UT of J&K.

Padha further said that various steps are being taken by the Government

for effective implementation of the programme in the J&KUT and encouraging users to join the programme. The first step is to identify the beneficiaries and Volunteer Teachers. Survey of beneficiaries and Volunteer Teachers (VTs) are being conducted using schools as the base. The volunteer teachers are trained to carry out the learning modules in online mode. Various workshops are being conducted. The teaching and learning material is available on DIKSHA portal developed by NCERT. The sample assessment modules have also been made available on DIKSHA.

Padha claimed that Department is serious for implementation of the programme for conducting, among others, environment building activities by the involvement and use of social media platforms including Print/Electronic/Folk Media and Interpersonal Media to reach across all rural areas and to create an atmosphere so as to motivate and spur potential literacy volunteers and learners and also to adopt multiple strategies, keeping in view the local conditions, with active participation of community leaders, PRI functionaries, Mahila Mandals, Civil Society Organisation and educational institutions.

## Blood Donation Camp organized at SDH Bani



JINNEWS SERVICE  
BANI, MAR 17

In collaboration with the team JK Blood Donors and Volunteer Youth, a successful blood donation camp was organized in SDH Bani today.

The event was held under the directions of Worthy Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Rakesh Magotra and under the able guidance of Chief Medical Officer, Dr Vijay Raina, and under the supervision of Dr Dev Raj Mishra, Block Medical Officer, Bani.

The camp witnessed the active participation of 25 donors, including Per-dumyan Attri, Tehsildar Bani, who donated blood to support the noble cause. The donors were provided with refreshments by the Hospital administration and Team JK Blood Donors. The blood donation camp commenced at 10:30 AM and concluded successfully, marking another significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to

promote and encourage blood donation for the betterment of society.

Dr Dev Raj Mishra, Block Medical Officer, expressed his gratitude and thanked the JK Blood Donors Team and Volunteers for their invaluable service towards mankind. He appealed to the young generation of Tehsil Bani District Kathua to participate actively in the blood donation programme in due course of time, as blood transfusion provides a new lease of life to the hopeless patients.

The success of the blood donation camp is a testament to the commitment and dedication of Dr Rakesh Magotra, Director Health Services Jammu, and his team in making blood donation accessible to all those in need. The contribution of donors, the support of volunteers, and the guidance of competent medical professionals like CMO Dr Vijay Raina and BMO Dr Dev Raj Mishra have been instrumental in bringing this event to fruition.

## Abhijeet Jasrotia addresses public meeting in Nagri, Kathua

JINNEWS SERVICE  
NAGRI (KATHUA)

Abhijeet Jasrotia spokesperson BJP, on a public meeting in Nagri area of Kathua, said that people should get ready for voting on 19th April & appealed full participation to win all booths.

JD Singh, secretary Minority Morcha was also present on the occasion.

On the occasion, lot of people joined BJP in the presence of Abhijeet Jasrotia in which women outnumbered men.

Abhijeet Jasrotia, on the occasion, praised Dr Jitendra Singh and said that he is popular with a lot of development works in his kitty and has given lot of projects to Kathua. He assured public that BJP will always work for the upliftment of poor.

# Association of Industries (Regd.) Gangyal urges intervention to Halt eviction process and ensure revival of impacted units

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

In an emergency meeting of Advisory Committee and Executive Committee along with many other member units of Association of Industries (Regd.) Gangyal, Jammu was held under the Chairmanship of its president S. Tejwant Singh Reen wherein entrepreneurs participating in the deliberations strongly resented the J&K UT move to initiate eviction process for the leased premises both by SICOP & SIDCO of permanently registered units remained functional for over 4 to 5 decades who were forced closed due to reasons beyond their control including withdrawal of marketing support extended to local units through SICOP. Association of Industries (Regd.) Gangyal is strongly of the view that the UT Govt. through publically notifying through Local Press shall only result in further

maligning the status and image of the concerned notified units who would have been making serious efforts to revive/rehabilitate their units without any significant support by UT authorities. Entrepreneurs were formally of the belief that such local units were in the forefront to establish their units mostly in Micro/Small sectors in the very first phase of Industrialization in J&K. Entrepreneurs present raised their serious concerns that such unwarranted actions shall only result in unwarranted litigations and by such actions J&K authorities have only tried to absolve of their responsibilities to properly revive/rehabilitate the effected units. Members present representing various industrial associations in different industrial estates/areas who attended the meeting were firmly of the opinion that J&K Govt. in General and Industries & Commerce Department

in particular should have taken them in confidence to avoid such publications. Instead J&K Govt. should have constituted a high level committee ensuring the participation of the industrial representatives to categorized the reasons/causes of their becoming dysfunctional. Association of Industries (Regd.) Gangyal wish to also draw the attention of J&K Govt. authorities to urgently constitute high powered committee to review and initiate revival/rehabilitation process so as to ensure that all the dysfunctional units are satisfactorily made functional through active participation/advice of the various Govt. departments and agencies. Association of Industries (Regd.) Gangyal further requests the Hon'ble Lt. Governor to personally intervene in the matter so as to ensure that no further action is initiated till the total revival/ reha-

bilitation of the impacted units. Association of Industries (Regd.) Gangyal also takes this opportunity to seek the intervention of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Chief Secretary J&K UT and Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department J&K UT to ensure the immediate release of huge amount of nearly Rs. 300 crores of material supplied to various Govt. Department/agencies the delay of which is bound to further escalate the sickness amongst the impacted units. Vice President of Association of Industries (Regd.) Gangyal Mr. Sandeep Ohri, Mr. Pardeep Vaid, General Secretary, Mr. Ajay Kumar Mahajan, Secretary, Mr. Vishal Gupta, Treasurer President Birpur Industrial Association Mr. Deepak Dhawan and Mr. Sanjay Chopra Sr. Vice President, Digiana Industrial Association also participated in the deliberation.

# Notorious gangster Vikramjeet Singh detained under PSA

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Continuing its crackdown on organised crime and wanted criminals, Police Station Gangyal, under the guidance of SSP Jammu, executed the PSA warrant of wanted criminal Vikramjeet Singh @ Vikky and lodged him in prison today. The PS team was led



by SHO Gangyal, Sh. Har-mohindar Singh and PSI Aaqib Lateef. It is important to note that Vikramjeet had 15 FIR's registered against him in various police stations, and had multiple warrants out for his arrest. His detention marks another step in improving law and order in Jammu District.

## Office of the Executive Engineer, Electric Division (JPDCL) Udhampur Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL), Jammu Power Development Department

Email: xenmreudh@gmail.com Tel No. 0199278040 Fax No. 0199278040

### Short Term Notice Inviting Tender

e-NIT No: ED/UDH/145 of 2023-24


• **INVITATION:-**

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, the Executive Engineer (Distribution), Electric Division, JPDCL Udhampur, hereinafter referred as 'Employer', invites online e-bids from reputed Companies or Class 'A' registered Electrical Contractors for **Survey, Supply, Transportation, Carriage, Erection, Testing and Commissioning for Shifting of 100 KVA Sub Station at Bus Stand Mounгри, (Kainthgali Block Boundry Udhampur to Bariote Upto Mounгри (Part-I) on turnkey basis.** Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful/conscious study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications.


• The tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested Bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below:

A	Tender Document Sale/Download Start Date	14.03.2024; 4:00 PM
B	Tender Document Sale/Download End Date	22.03.2024; 04:00 PM
C	e-Bid submission (start) date & time	14.03.2024; 10:00 AM
D	e-Bid submission (end) date & time	22.03.2024; 03:00 PM
E	Submission of Hard Copy of Tender Fee & EMD Instrument (End) date & time	22.03.2024; 04:30 PM
F	Commercial and Technical Bid opening date & time	23.03.2024; 03:00 PM
G	Online financial e-Bid opening date & time (Only of the technically qualified Bidders)	Will be communicated to the Technically Qualifying Bidders.
H	Venue of opening of techno-commercial Bids	Soft Copy Electronically & Hard copy in the Office of the Executive Engineer, (Distribution), JPDCL Udhampur.
I	Tender Value	Rs. 8.30 Lakhs
J	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs. 600/- (Non-Refundable)
K	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 16600 /-

- The Bidders need to submit the proof/cost of e-Bid document as stated in the above table through Demand Draft from any Nationalized/Scheduled bank in favour of Executive Engineer, Electric Division, JPDCL Udhampur, payable at Udhampur. The original demand draft shall be submitted in a separate envelope to the Office of the Executive Engineer, Electric Division, JPDCL Udhampur and should reach at least one day before opening of commercial and technical e-Bid. The scanned copy of the Demand Draft must be uploaded along with the e-Bids.
  - Bidders must quote for all the particulars of the item in the Technical Bid and in the price schedule/BOQ of financial bid. The bids of Bidders who will not quote for all the particulars for any item in technical and financial bids shall be liable to be rejected at the discretion of the Employer keeping in view the interest of the JPDCL.
  - All the e-Bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of EMD in the form of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee only from any Nationalized/Scheduled bank only pledged to Executive Engineer, Electric Division, JPDCL Udhampur, with the payable at Udhampur. No Interest shall be payable on Earnest Money deposited with the Department.
  - Hard Copy of original instrument of EMD shall be submitted to the office of the Executive Engineer, Electric Division, JPDCL Udhampur, at least one day before opening of commercial and technical e-Bid.
  - The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site <http://jktenders.gov.in>. This is conveyed to the technically qualified Bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids shall be opened accordingly online on the same Web Site.
  - The e-Bids will be electronically opened in the presence of Bidder's representatives, who choose to attend at the venue, date and time mentioned in the above table. An authority letter of Bidder's/OEM representative will be required to be produced.
  - The JPDCL reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids/ the e-Bid process without assigning any reason thereof if any major lapse/deviation is found. The decision of the JPDCL, will be final and binding.
  - In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being declared a holiday for JPDCL office then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the appointed time and place.
  - All the required documents excluding Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded by the e-Bidders electronically in the PDF format, whereas Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD.
  - To participate in e-bidding process, Bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding.
- Hard Copy/ORIGINAL INSTRUMENT of EMD & Cost of Tender Document must be delivered to the Office of the Executive Engineer, Electric Division, JPDCL Udhampur in sealed cover at least one day before the scheduled date of opening of the commercial and technical e-Bids. The sealed cover shall be super scribed as "COST OF TENDER DOCUMENTS & EMD INSTRUMENT AGAINST e-NIT NO: ED/UDH/ 145 of 2023-24 Dated: 14-03-2024".



**Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir**  
**Office of the Project Officer,**  
**Soil & Water Management,**  
**Command Area Development, Jammu.**



**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
**e-NIT No. 25 of 2023-24 dated 14-03-2024**

For and behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No.	Name of Work	Advertised Cost(Rs. Lacs)	Bid Document Fee (Rs)	Earnest Money (Rs)	Time allowed for completion	Time & date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor with limits (in Rupees Lacs) up to which works can be allotted
1							
<b>Name of the Project:- Poonch Minor Irrigation CAD Project under CAPEX Budget 2024-25Dist.Poonch</b>							
1	Construction of field channel at DinglajanyarKhul	33.16	500/-	2% of advertised cost of tender	270 days	06-04-2024	Class A-above 25.00 Class B-10.00 to 50.00 Class C-5.00 to 25.00 Class D-upto 15.00
2	Construction of field channel at KunniyanKhul	14.80	500/-	2% of advertised cost of tender	270 days	06-04-2024	

**Position of A.A.A.** :- Accorded  
**Position of T.S.** :- Accorded  
**Major Head of Account** :- 4705 – Capital Outlay on CAD  
**Position of funds** :- CAPEX Budget 2024-25

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, drawings, Bill of Quantities (BOQ), set of terms & conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per schedule given below:-

1	Date of publishing of Tender Notice	15-03-2024
2	Period of downloading bidding document	From 15-03-2024 to 06-04-2024, 1600 hrs
3	Bid submission Start Date	15-03-2024, 1000 hrs
4	Bid submission End Date	06-04-2024 upto 1500 hrs
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	08-04-2024 on or after 1300 hrs in the office of the Project Officer, SWM, CAD, Jammu.
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after Technical Bid evaluation is completed.

- 1) Bids must be accompanied with the cost of tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & Date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly credited to Account Head 0702 favouring the Project Officer, SWM, CAD, Jammu.
- 2) All the bidders shall have to deposit Earnest Money @ 2% of advertised tender cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of the Project Officer, SWM, CAD, Jammu.
- 3) The 1<sup>st</sup> lowest bidder (L-1) has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR before award of contract favouring the Project Officer, SWM, CAD, Jammu (as per circular by the Finance Department). A copy of treasury challan/receipt and relevant documents have to be submitted to the Project Officer, SWM, CAD, Jammu at the time of award of contract.
- 4) The 2% Earnest Money Deposit on advertised cost shall be released as and when L-1 submits Performance Security @ 3% of his quoted rates before allotment of the contract.
- 5) The Performance Security @ 3% of contract in the shape of CDR/FDR shall be released only after successful completion of work (100%) in case of the successful bidder.
- 6) The time and date of opening of Financial Bids shall be notified on the website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail on their submitted e-mail address. The Financial Bids of the Responsive Bidders shall be opened online in the office of the Project Officer, SWM, CAD, Jammu, the date of which shall be intimated separately.  
No:- SWM/E-Tendering/CAPEX/2023-24/299-302

Date:-14 – 03 – 2024

Sd/-  
**Project Officer**  
**Soil & Water Management**  
**Command Area Development**  
**Jammu**

**DIP/J-16198/23**  
**Date: 16-3-24**

**DIP/J-5863-P/23**  
**Date: 16-3-24**

Sd/-  
**Executive Engineer**  
**Electric Division JPDCL**  
**Udhampur**

## Scores of people join Shiv Sena Hindustan at Natral village, Bishnah

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

A meeting was organized by Shiv Sena Hindustan in the village Natral of Block Bishnah under the chairmanship of Jammu and Kashmir President Pt Rajesh Kesri, in which dozens of youth, influenced by Shiv Sena Hindustan activities, joined the party. The new entrants include Rohit Kumar, Rahul Kumar, Sanjay Kumar, Rajat Kumar Ravi Kumar, Dheeraj Kumar. Speaking on the occasion, Kesri said that nowadays drugs are being sold a lot in the border areas, keeping this in view, we have launched a campaign in every village to eradicate drug addiction, for this purpose a meeting was held today in Natral Village and all the youth were asked to pledge that they will not consume any kind of drugs and will promote



our party and will help the candidates contesting elections. For the last one year, Shiv Sena has been working in every village of RS Pura Border. Kesri urged the parents of the children in the meeting and even the small children of 14-15 years of age to stay away from the consumption of drugs and other dry intoxicants which were growing in the society. He said young generation is a ray of hope of the society, which is the responsibility of every parent

and every social worker to save. Kesri further said that as long as the young generation does not obey their parents and respect their elders, drug sellers will dominate the young generation. Today's young generation should also pay attention to the progress of the country and take care of their family and their health. Attention should also be paid to this because intoxication makes the body hollow from inside like a termite besides others.

thinking power, added Kesri. Kesri observed that because of this intoxication the children in the border areas have lost their parents and siblings. They lost their lives at such a young age due to drug addiction. He requested the young generation to respect their elders and also pay attention towards their religious activities so that their mentality becomes capable of serving the country's progress and become great officers by focusing on their studies and health. Prominent among those present on the occasion include Bishnah Block President Rajkumar Baba Vice President Sanjeev Sharma, Arnia President Balwant Saini, Dheeraj Kumar, Suresh Kumar, Ashwini Kumar, Deshraj Fauji, Rakesh Kumar, Rajesh Kumar, Darshana Devi, Rajni Devi, Neeru Devi, Pooja Devi besides others.

## Former Sarpanch starts blacktopping of road in Kotli Shah Doula Panchayat

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
RS PURA, MAR 17

Former Sarpanch and senior Congress leader Badrinath Sharma on Sunday kick-started blacktopping work of Railway line Patri village of Kotli Shah Doula Panchayat in RS Pura Jammu South constituency. The blacktopping of 1 Km of road will be completed with an estimated amount of Rs 15 lakh rupees, he added. The Black Topping work of the said road was the longest pending demand of the locals, the locals thanked the Congress leader for keeping his promises, the total length of the blacktopping of road stretch is about 1 Kilometer. The locals and the prominent persons thanked Congress leader for his efforts, as the said developmental work has been ignored for the last several years, the issue was raised by



the local residents of the Village, when he was on Election campaign, and assured that he will complete this work, and now the work has been started, this positive change is worth appreciating said locals. Sharma said that after becoming the Sarpanch of the Panchayat, he has continuously paid attention to the development of the Panchayat and today every village of the Panchayat has the facility of a Pucca road. He said that all the promises made during elections have been fulfilled and each and every link road has been constructed. He assured the villagers that the development works would be continued. He urged the government to prioritize the timely completion of essential road projects and ensure that the promises of development translate into tangible improvements for the people of the region.

## Blood donation camp organised by Sant Nirankari Mission branch RS Pura

### 101 Units of Blood donated by devotees

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Today, the 17th of March, 2024 marks a commendable event in the annals of humanitarian service as the Sant Nirankari Mission Branch RS Pura, under the divine guidance of Her Holiness Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj, hosted a voluntary Blood Donation Camp at the Sant Nirankari Satsang Bhawan RS Pura. This event stands as a testament to the mission's dedication toward serving humanity and fostering a sense of compassion among individuals. The camp saw an overwhelming turnout of donors from various age groups, not just from the local branch in RS Pura but also from nearby areas like Miran Sahib, Arnia, and Sai Kalan. This wide participation is indicative of the strong community spirit and the shared ethos of selfless service that the Sant Nirankari Mission promotes. This camp was inaugurated by Sh Jugal Kishore ji Ex Member Parliament Jammu West while speak-



ing on the occasion he said that Voluntary blood donation camps organized by the Sant Nirankari Mission are a commendable effort towards addressing the critical need for blood in hospitals and blood banks across various regions. The Sant Nirankari Mission, a spiritual organization that emphasizes universal brotherhood and the importance of selfless

service, has been instrumental in promoting and conducting these life-saving events. Sh Ajit Singh Zonal Incharge Jammu while speaking on the occasion he said that self-realisation through God realisation is the fundamental objective of human birth. Beyond the physical act of donating blood, these camps serve as a power-

ful platform for educating the public about the health benefits of blood donation, including the promotion of hemoglobin levels, improved blood flow, and the joy of giving. They also play a critical role in debunking myths and fears surrounding blood donation, making it a more widely accepted and celebrated act of kindness. He said that since 1986 from the last 38 years Blood Donation Camps are being organized by the Mission and nearly 600 blood donation camps organised in India every year. Master Tara Singh Sanjog R S Pura welcome all presented in the Camp. Other Dignitaries presented on the occasion were Dr Zulfikar Ahmed Consultant, Dr. Aifa from Blood Bank GMC Jammu, Gian Chand Khetriya Sanchalak Jammu and several senior citizens and social workers of the society. The camp was held in collaboration with blood & transfusion dept. of Govt. Medical College Jammu and JKSAACS.

## 16th Triennial Conference of BMS J&K is scheduled on 23rd, 24th March at Katra, poster with charter of demands released

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) Jammu Kashmir is going to hold its two days triennial conference at Chinta Mani Trust Katra in which hundreds of delegates from all districts of UTs of J&K and Ladakh belonging to manufacturing, construction, service, power, transport, health, banking, postal, BSNL, Railways, Cooperatives and hospitality industries will participate and deliberate on various important issues confronting the working classes in Govt., Semi Govt. and Private sectors. The 16th triennial conference of BMS is being organized in line with legacy of over 48 years of BMS in J&K and this conference will set the agenda and target of BMS for focused struggle on issues taken up in the conference for coming years. The charter of demands upon which the BMS J&K will focus in coming years is released today by Sh. Ashok Choudhary Ji (Orga-



- g) Providing Rs. 3000/- monthly pension as social security to construction workers.
- h) Stoppage of outsourcing jobs to contractor workers in all sectors.
- i) Establishment of Skill Employment Corporation in J&K and Ladakh.
- j) Establishment of Shrine Board for Dharamarth Trust and ensuring wages to its employees on pattern of SMVDB.
- The two day conference will have sessions on various important topics including balance of work and life so that physical and mental health of working classes is ensured while achieving

nizing Secretary BMS J&K and Ladakh) in the form of poster for conference wherein genuine demands of working classes have been highlighted including: a) Linking of minimum wages with DA in J&K. b) Ensuring coverage of ESI and EPF in all factories/establishments. c) Solving issues of Daily wagers, contractual workers and NHM employees. d) Bringing Aanganwadi workers and helpers into the fold of minimum wages. e) Central minimum wages for power projects on Chenab river. f) Ensuring 80% local

professional targets. The delegates will discuss how to curb exploitation of working class, poor functioning of ESI and PF and labour laws implementation. The conference will pass important resolutions while fixing targets next three years to make inroads for BMS in left out sectors. BMS National Organizing Secretary Sh. B. Surendren Ji and North India Organizing Secretary Sh. Pawan Kumar Ji and other senior functionaries of BMS along with various trade unionists will grace the occasion and new State Executive committee of BMS will be elected for next three years. The press conference was addressed by Sh. Ashok Choudhary (Organizing Secy. BMS J&K) and attended by Neelam Sharma (Gen. Secy. BMS J&K), Harbans Choudhary (working president BMS J&K), Ravi Hans, Rohit Seth, Mukesh Kumar (Secretaries BMS J&K), Shamsher Chand, Ghar Deen, Sewa Ram, Subash Chander and others.

## Notorious Drug peddler held with 35 gms heroin by Domana Police, Jammu



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAR 17

The Jammu Police continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, a notorious drug peddler was arrested by Police team of Police Post Ponichak led by Incharge PP Ponichak at Bhagatpur while on patrolling duty at Ring road under the JD of PS Domana on Saturday. The heroin (Chitta) peddler arrested has been

identified as Ajay Kumar alias Sachin S/O Madan Lal R/O Khour Deonian. During investigation it has come to fore that the accused is main drug supplier and supply heroin to the innocent youth and operate on ring road. A case FIR No.63/2024 under NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Domana & investigation is underway. People have applauded efforts of Jammu Police in acting tough against the drug peddlers.

## NIT Srinagar conducts awareness program for MSMEs in Jammu Industrial Cluster

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAR 16

An awareness program rally aimed at sensitizing Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) on the Design Innovation scheme, a sub-component of MSME, concluded on Saturday in Jammu cluster. The program was organized by the IIED Centre of NIT Srinagar and sponsored by the Ministry of MSME, New Delhi. It took place across various Industrial Clusters in Kashmir, including Bari Bharamana of Samba Industrial Estate, Katra cluster, and Jammu cluster. Velladurai Jt., Director MSME, J&K, and Dr Saad Parvez Head, IIEDC are the Chairman, Saheel Alaqband Assistant Director MSME, Srinagar and Dr Dinesh Kumar Rajendran, Assistant Professor Mechanical is the Nodal Officer for MSME Design & IPR Scheme are the convener of the program and Dr Noor Zaman Khan and Dr Ved Parkash are the

coordinator of the event. Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. A. Ravinder Nath and Registrar Prof. Atikur Rehman said MSMEs are the major sources of employment having a 30% GDP contribution of the Indian economy, particularly in developing countries where large-scale industries are limited. "There is a need for such industries in the region and NIT Srinagar is committed to use its resources for the benefit of the Indian Economy," they said. The program commenced with a welcome address delivered by Shri. Tarun Singla, Senior Vice President of the Bari Bhramana Industrial Association. He extended a warm welcome to the President of BBIA, Shri. Lalith Mahajan, and other industrialists participating in the program. Singla expressed gratitude to Dr. Dinesh Kumar Rajendran, the Nodal Officer for the MSME aware-



ness program in Jammu and Kashmir. President of Bari Brahmana Industrial Estate, Mr. Lalith Mahajan, highlighted that Bari Bhramana is the oldest industrial cluster in Samba, Jammu, boasting over 400 industries encompassing diverse sectors such as steel, plastic, pharmaceuticals, distilleries, and chemical industries. These industries employ hundreds of thousands of individuals directly and indirectly. Mr. Mahajan emphasized that this industry is often likened to the Australia of the Indian subcontinent due to its

remarkable development spanning decades, evolving from a modest beginning to its current robust stature. This industry caters to different sets of people's needs and highly contributes to the economy of the state. He also added collaborating with premier institutes like NIT Srinagar on solving the Industrial Design problem will help the community grow better and benefit and also bridge the gap between Industry and Institute. Dr Dinesh Kumar Rajendran delivered the awareness session to the industrialists about the Design

Scheme of MSME. He explained about the two components of the scheme having opportunity to get funding upto 40 lakhs for the growth and betterment of the industries in collaboration with the educational Institute. Dr Rajendran added this scheme from the ministry of MSME will add an additional feather to the crown of the developed Industrial Estates of Jammu. He also pointed out what are the potent design interventions that can be made based on the research survey conducted across the industries of Jammu. He elaborated the industrialist about the Design Thinking problem solving technique and how to tackle the Industrial problem with Design approach. In the Katra Industrial cluster Dr. Eswarmoorthy Muthusamy from SMVDU Katra empathises on potential growth of energy in development of Industry and making them self-sustained. He

also discussed the various design problem relevance in renewable energy sectors such as solar and wind making things more energy efficient. On the occasion, Mr Tarun, Vice President of Bari Brahmana Industrial Estate, introduced the industrialists about the various aspects of design. He highlighted industrialists about better design that can improve the productivity and profit of the company. Dr. Dinesh Kumar Rajendran, the Nodal Officer of the program, delivered the formal vote of thanks, concluding the session with an optimistic note. He expressed appreciation for the engaging session with the Jammu industrial estates and expressed hope for enhanced collaboration in the future for mutual benefit. He also mentioned that similar awareness rallies are planned in the upcoming weeks to benefit the industrial clusters of Kashmir.

## District Election Officer Rajouri chairs meeting with Political Parties regarding Lok Sabha Elections 2024

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, MARCH 17

District Election Officer Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat today presided over a meeting with representatives from various political parties. The objective was to underscore the importance of adhering to the highest ethical standards outlined in the Model Code of Conduct, and other applicable guidelines of ECI in view of the forthcoming Lok Sabha Elections, 2024.

The meeting served as a platform to sensitize political parties about the imperative nature of upholding integrity, fairness, and transparency throughout the electoral process. All issues were deliberated upon during the session, encompassing crucial aspects such as complying as per MCC provisions, obtaining permission for media advertisements, campaign vehicles, initiation of candidate bank accounts a day prior to the nomination period and the other important aspects.

The discussions held during the meeting under-



scored the collective commitment of all political stakeholders towards fostering an environment characterized by ethical conduct, accountability, and respect for democratic principles.

DEO reiterated the pivotal role of political parties in upholding the democratic ethos of the nation and emphasized the need for cooperation and adherence to the guidelines set forth in the Model Code of Conduct of ECI. He urged all parties to exhibit utmost integrity and responsibility, thereby setting a positive precedence for a free, fair, and peaceful electoral process.

The meeting served

as a reaffirmation of the collective commitment towards ensuring a democratic electoral process characterized by integrity, transparency, and ethical conduct. The District Election Officer expressed confidence in the cooperation and adherence of all political parties to the guidelines outlined, thereby fostering conducive environment for the smooth conduct of the Lok Sabha Elections.

ADC Rajeev Kumar Khajuria; ACR, Jhangir Khan; Deputy DEO Shakeel Ahmed and DIO, Mohd Nawaz Choudhary besides representatives of political parties attended the meeting.

## Lok Sabha Election 2024: DEO addresses media; Training session of election manpower held in Ramban

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
RAMBAN, MARCH 17

In preparation for the Lok Sabha Election 2024, the Election Department Ramban conducted a one day training session for all the officers and officials involved in the election process.

Presided over by District Election Officer, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, the session focused on ensuring smooth implementation of election protocols and guidelines. The training session witnessed the participation of dedicated individuals committed to upholding the integrity of the electoral process.

ADDC, Roshan Lal, ADC, Varunjeet Singh Charak, ARO Ramban S. Harpal Singh, ARO Banihal, Rizwan Asgar and Nodal Officers of various committees were also present on the occasion.

Led by a National Level Master Trainer, Riyaz Ahmed Bhat participants were sensitized to the provisions and meticulous execution of the Model Code of Conduct and the Expenditure Monitoring



during the Lok Sabha Election 2024.

Various specialized teams including the Video Viewing Team, Video Surveillance Teams, Media Certification and Monitoring Committee, Election

Flying Squad, Expenditure Monitoring Committee, Material and Stationary Monitoring and other Committees, along with Police Officers, attended the session under the guidance of the DEO.

Their collaborative efforts aim to ensure transparency, fairness, and adherence to ECI regulations throughout the election process.

In view of the Lok Sabha Elections sched-

uled to be held on April 19, 2024, in Ramban district as part of the 04 Udhampur Parliamentary Constituency, the District Election Officer, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, also convened a press conference today.

Addressing media representatives, the DEO reiterated the critical importance of every participant in preserving the democratic process's integrity. The DEO emphasized the pivotal role each individual plays in upholding the sanctity of democracy and urged them to discharge their duties with the utmost diligence and impartiality.

The DEO underscored the District Administration's unwavering commitment to conducting free, fair, and credible elections, ensuring that the electoral process remains transparent and inclusive.

Media personnel were encouraged to disseminate accurate information regarding election procedures, schedules, and guidelines, thereby contributing to public awareness and participation in the democratic process.

## Training Session on Vulnerable Mapping Conducted by District Election Authority in Doda



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MARCH 17

The District Election Authority in Doda organized a training session on vulnerable mapping for Sector Officers and Police Officers. The session was held under the supervision of Additional Deputy Commissioner Sudershan Kumar and the guidance of Deputy District Election Officer Om Prakash.

Led by District Level Master Trainer (DLMT)

of coordination among all officers and officials deployed for the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections. He stressed upon the need to complete all necessary formalities to facilitate smooth conduct of the elections.

The training session, attended by civil officers and police officers, also addressed arrangements for movement during the election period and discussed vehicle logistics. Deputy District Election Officer Doda provided instructions to participants on conducting the election process and emphasized the timely submission of the vulnerable mapping report once the election date is finalized. He assured that all necessary arrangements, including vehicle availability, would be made promptly to support the election process effectively.

Dr. Akhtar Hussain, the session provided detailed information and guidance on vulnerable mapping to all sector officers, zonal magistrates, and police officers in the district. Attendees were briefed on the importance of accurately mapping vulnerable areas to ensure the integrity and transparency of the electoral process.

During the meeting, ADC acting as the nodal officer of election, emphasized the importance

## District Administration Doda, Education Department organize "Nasha Mukht Bharat Programme"



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MARCH 17

District Administration Doda and Education Department jointly organized "Nasha Mukht Bharat" programme at Government Higher Secondary School Boys Doda.

The programme was organized to advocate the message "Say No to Drugs" and Nasha Mukht Bharat was orchestrated through

the collaborative efforts of the District Administration and the Education Department. This impactful event, aimed at raising awareness against drug abuse, witnessed a huge crowd of students of different schools and parents.

Chief Education Officer Doda, Parkash Lal Thapa inaugurated the programme in presence of Principal GBHSS Doda and officers of J&K Police.

Chief Education Officer commended the Cultural Heads and Tanveer Ahmed Wani, Principal of GBHSS Doda, for proactive involvement in advancing educational outreach initiatives within the community. Recognizing the pivotal role played by educational institutions in shaping societal values and behaviors, he underscored the importance of collective action in combating the pervasive issue of drug addiction. Through a series of engaging activities and informative sessions, participants were empowered with the knowledge and motivation to reject the allure of drugs and embrace healthier lifestyle choices.

As the program traversed through resonant chants of "Say No to Drugs" echoed, serving as a poignant reminder of the collective commitment to building a drug-free society.

## DEO Jammu gears up officers for implementation of MCC

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MARCH 17

In view of the ensuing Lok Sabha elections 2024, District Election Officer, Sachin Kumar Vaishya has issued a circular detailing the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct to maintain the sanctity of the electoral process. The circular, directed to all district officers and officials, outlines essential measures to ensure a level playing field for all political entities.

The circular mandates non-partisanship among government officials, prohibits the use of government resources for electioneering and details the permissible use of government facilities. It emphasizes the importance of impartiality in govern-



ment conduct, especially concerning the display of political figures' photographs and messages in government buildings and on official websites.

The circular also addresses other issues to ensure that the Model Code's integrity is upheld.

## DEO Poonch reviews preparations for LS Election 2024

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
POONCH, MARCH 17

District Election Officer, Yasin M. Choudhary, who is also the District Election Officer (DEO), chaired a meeting to assess the progress of the upcoming Lok Sabha Election-2024, focused on ensuring proper arrangements at polling booths, adherence to Election Commission guidelines and maximizing voter participation.

The meeting was attended by the ADC Sandesh Kumar Sharma, ADC Tahir Mustafa Malik, Deputy DEO Saleem Ahmed and all the appointed Nodal Officers responsible for various election-related assignments in the district.

DEO stressed the need to fulfill basic requirements at all 474 polling stations and also directed the concerned to launch



the meeting covered operational, logistical, and administrative aspects essential for the smooth functioning of the electoral process. The total number of polling stations in Poonch district is 474 and the Election Commission of India (ECI) has announced the polling date for District Poonch on May 7, 2024 and with the counting scheduled for June 4,

awareness campaigns to encourage maximum voting turnout.

DEO directed the nodal officers to be well-prepared for their respective roles and responsibilities during the election.

Their commitment to upholding electoral laws, regulations, and ethical standards was stressed to ensure the integrity and fairness of the electoral process.

The discussions during

2024. The DEO's focus on meticulous preparations and maximum voter participation reflects the district's commitment to conducting a successful and democratic Lok Sabha Election in 2024.

## DM Rajouri directs all gun license holders to deposit weapons in nearest Police Stations within one week

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, MARCH 17

As the schedule for the Lok Sabha is announced, the District Magistrate Rajouri, Om Parkash Bhagat directed all the civilians possessing licensed weapons to deposit the licensed arms and ammunition at the nearest police station within a week.

The District Magistrate, who is also District Election Officer (DEO), besides asking for deposition of weapons, has also directed all the printing presses, operating within his jurisdiction, to clearly indicate in the 'Printline' the names and addresses of the printer and publisher

of any election pamphlets or posters.

The district administration cautioned the printing press owners/operators against any violation of the provisions of section 127 A of Representation of People's Act, 1951 and the instructions of Election Commission of India, underlining that the same would be viewed "very seriously" which may in appropriate-cases include even the revocation of the license of the printing.

The move aimed to ensure free, fair and transparent elections in the district as per the guidelines of Election Commission of India for Lok Sabha Election, 2024.

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
BANDIPORA, MARCH 17

In view of Lok Sabha Elections-2024, the District Magistrate/ District Election Officer (DM/DEO) Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman on Sunday ordered that all printing presses, operating within territorial jurisdiction of District Bandipora, shall indicate clearly in the print line the names and addresses of printer and publisher of any election pamphlets or posters or such other material printed by them.

An Order No. 31-DEO/Bpr of 2024 Dated: 16-03-2024 reads that in terms of section 127A of Representation of People's Act, 1951, and in pursuance of the instructions contained in para 5 (1) (a), (b) and (c) of the letter No. 3/9/(ES00S)/94-J.S.II dated 2nd September, 1994 from Election Commission of India, it is hereby ordered that all printing presses, operating within territorial jurisdiction

of District Bandipora shall indicate clearly in the print line the names and addresses of printer and publisher of any election pamphlets or posters or such other material printed by them.

Further, these printing presses shall also send the copies of the printed material (along with three extra copies of each such printed material) and the declaration obtained from the publisher as required under Section 127 A(2), to the office of District Election Officer, within three days of its printing. It is also enjoined upon the concerned printing press owners/operators that any violation of the provisions of section 127 A of Representation of People's Act, 1951 and the above instructions of Election Commission of India would be viewed very seriously which may in appropriate-cases include even the revocation of the licence of the printing press.