



## Awareness event organised at ANMT School Doda to mark National Dengue Day

J I NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 16

To mark the National Dengue Day 2024, the District Malaria Unit, under the banner of District Health Society Doda, today organized an awareness programme and debate competition here at ANMT School Doda.

Incharge Chief Medical Officer, Dr Abdul Gafoor Ahmed was the Chief Guest at the event attended by ANMT School Principal Anusuya Bhan, Principal Taran Paramedical Institute Ghat Farzana Tabassum, Mashhood Latif, Rubena Ishtiaq, Saima Kousar besides Staff of CMO Office, Malaria Section and students of ANMT were present on the occasion.

The programme started with the Guest Lectures delivered by Umar Anayat (District Epidemiologist) and Dr Nasir Masood (Medical Officer). They underlined the significance of the day and highlighted that dengue can be prevented by controlling the mosquito breeding



through measures such as removing stagnant water resources, using mosquito nets and wearing protective clothing and taking other preventive measures.

As many as 6 students from different paramedical institutes viz ANMT School Doda, Taran Paramedical Institute Ghat and Hussain Paramedical Institute Ghat participated and highlighted the impor-

tance of the day. Dr Javed Ahmed Parray, Mohd Shafi Attu (HE) and Roma Sharma acted as Jury, while Farooq Ahmed (JHI) coordinated the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Guest Dr Ab Gafoor Ahmed educated participants about the Dengue virus, its prevention and control. "Dengue is one of the most common vector borne diseases in

India and it is essential to be aware of the preventative measures that individuals should take to battle the illness," he said.

IEC material on Dengue prevention was also distributed among the participants by District Malaria Unit Doda.

In the debate competition, Mehar Ul Nisa of ANMT Doda, Zahid Shafiq of Hussain Paramedical Institute Ghat and Sehar Younis of Taran Paramedical Institute Ghat were declared as 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively, who were awarded with Mementos and Certificates.

Faizan A Trambo conducted the proceedings of the programme.

Similarly, National Dengue Day was also observed at the Medical Blocks of Assar, Bhaderwah, Gandoh, Ghat and Thathri, by organising awareness programmes under the supervision of the concerned Block Medical Officers.

## DDC Rajouri discusses annual action plan under PMKKKY

J I NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, MAY 16

In a significant step towards the holistic development of mining-affected areas, District Development Commissioner Rajouri Om Prakash Bhagat today presided over an important meeting to discuss the annual action plan under the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY).

The objective of the PMKKKY scheme is to implement developmental and welfare projects/programmes in mining affected areas that complement the existing ongoing schemes/projects of State and Central Government; to minimize/mitigate the adverse impacts, during and after mining on the environment, health and socio-economics of people in mining districts; and also to ensure long-term sustainable livelihoods for the affected people in mining areas.

Care has been taken to include all aspects of living, to ensure substantial improvement in the quality of life. High priority areas like drinking water supply, health care, sanitation, education, skill development, women and child care, welfare of aged and disabled people, skill development and environ-



ment conservation will get a major share of the funds.

Acknowledging the importance of meticulous planning and strategic allocation of resources, the District Development Commissioner directed the concerned officers to prepare a comprehensive and effective plan for the fiscal year 2024-25, specifically tailored to address the needs of the mining-affected areas.

Emphasizing the significance of a well-defined roadmap, he stressed the need for thorough consultations with concerned stakeholders to identify the key developmental priorities and formulate targeted interventions. The aim is to ensure that the upcoming projects and initiatives are specifically designed

for sustainable change, uplifting the lives of those residing in mining-affected regions.

Through concerted efforts and strategic initiatives, the PMKKKY scheme shall continue to pave the way for sustainable development, upliftment, and enhanced livelihood opportunities in the mining-affected areas of Rajouri. The meeting was attended by the ADDC, Raj Kumar Thapa; SE PWD (R&B), Devi Dayal; SE Hydraulics, Bhram Jyoti Sharma; CPO, Maqsood Ahmed; ACR, Mohammad Jhangir Khan; DPO, Mohammad Nawaz Choudhary; ALC, Pradyot Gupta; EXEN Jal Shakti Rajouri, Ashwini Sharma; EXEN Jal Shakti Nowshera, Bipin Kumar and other concerned officers.

## Loksabha Elections- 2024 SVEEP Cell Rajouri holds awareness program at Sain Ganji RA Shrine

J I NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, MAY 16

The Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation Cell Rajouri, under the guidance of District Election Officer, Om Prakash Bhagat and led by Nodal Officer SVEEP Prof Mohammad Iqbal Raina today visited Sain Ganji RA Shrine. The team interacted with devotees and spread awareness about the upcoming election. The SVEEP team members included Dr. Khalid Rayaz, Prof Ajaz Nazir, and Mr Aftab Ahmed Shawl.

The team engaged with devotees, educating them about the importance of participating in the electoral process and ensuring a high voter turnout. The visit aimed to reach a significant number of potential voters and encourage them to actively participate in the upcoming election.

Prof Mohammad Iqbal Raina, the Nodal officer SVEEP, expressed gratitude to the team members for their dedication.

## Training imparted to Polling Staff of Zainapora AC at Shopian

J I NEWS SERVICE  
SHOPIAN, MAY 16

The District Administration Shopian today organised a training programme for Election Staff (PO, P1, P2, P3) of Zainapora AC of Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency in the meeting Hall DC Office, here.

The training programme organised under the supervision of Additional District Development Commissioner, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone was aimed to enhance the preparedness of poll staff for upcoming Lok Sabha Elections, in Zainapora AC of Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency ensuring fair, transparent and smooth conduct of elections.

The training session featured demonstrations by master trainers on the proper sealing, installation and functioning of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs). The polling staff was sensitized about their crucial roles and duties during the electoral process while following the guidelines of ECI to ensure the integrity of the electoral process.

The ADDC emphasized upon the polling officers to perform their duties with utmost zeal and dedication, upholding principles of democracy and ensuring transparent and impartial electoral process.

## Water Quality Assessment Team inspects Filter Plant in Doda Town

J I NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 16

Acting under the direction of Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh, the Water Quality Assessment Team visited the Water Filter Plant in Doda Town. The purpose of the visit was to evaluate the quality of drinking water and identify potential contaminants or hazards.

During the visit, the team led by Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Er Sudesh Kumar Bhagat closely monitored the water testing process and engaged with the lab's staff to ensure compliance with established protocols.

The team members explained that they are responsible for identifying all sources of drinking water within the municipal jurisdictions of Doda, Bhaderwah, and Thathri.

This includes public taps, bore wells, reservoirs, and private wells. The team collected the water samples from Filter Plant Manchain Doda and maintained a detailed chain of custody to ensure proper record-keeping and compliance with regulatory standards. Comprehensive testing will be conducted to identify any potential health risks.

## DC Samba reviews change of land use cases at DLC meeting

J I NEWS SERVICE  
SAMBA, MAY 16

Deputy Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma today chaired a meeting of District Level Committee on Jammu and Kashmir Agriculture Land conversion for non-Agricultural purposes here in DC office.

The DC, who is the chairman of the Committee, instructed the officers not to allow fragmentation of agriculture land or any illegal conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural purposes, affecting the agricultural production in the District.

The DC directed concerned members to ensure timely issuance of NOCs to the applicants after proper verification of documents.

A total of 23 cases were reviewed, out of which 03 cases were approved,



comprehensive testing will be conducted to identify any potential health risks.

The team conducting the water quality assessment comprised Umar Anayat (Epidemiologist), Sanjeev Rana (I/c Legal), Faizan A Trambo (I/c Distt Media Desk Health Deptt) and Shabir Ahmed (In-Charge Sanitary Inspector) and other officials from Jal Shakti Department, working under the guidance of CMO Dr Om Kumar.

Their collective expertise ensures that the process adheres to all regulatory requirements and that the data collected is reliable for maintaining public health and safety.

The visit underscores the commitment of local authorities to ensure the safety and quality of drinking water. It is part of a broader initiative to promote public health and hygiene within the region, demonstrating a proactive approach to addressing potential health risks associated with water contamination.

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## Women's College Batpora, Zakura organises Annual Cycle Race-2024



J I NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 16

The Department of Physical Education of the Srinagar Women's College Batpora, Zakura in collaboration with NCC, NSS units and Eco Club today organized an Annual Cycle Race-2024 from Nishat to Maulana Rumi Gate, University of Kashmir.

A total of 25 students of various semesters participated in the race.

Principal of the college, Prof. Dr. Tehmina Yousuf flagged-off the race in presence of other faculty members.

Nazima (4th sem), Ishrat Ishaq (2nd sem), Nafeesa Manzoor (2nd

sem), Shafia (4th sem) and Ruqiyah Nabi (2nd sem) bagged 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st position respectively. Trophies and medals were given to all the position holders, besides certificates of participation were given to all the participants.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal of the college underscored the vital role Games and Sports play in fostering the spirit of unity, teamwork and discipline amongst the participants.

In her deliberations, she stressed upon the need to actively participate in sports activities along with the academic pursuits.

## DDC assesses progress of development projects in Doda

J I NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 16

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Doda, Harvinder Singh today reviewed progress of work on development schemes and mega projects taken up the Central Road Fund (CRF) and NABARD and being executed by PWD (R&B) division Doda.

The meeting was attended by CPO Manesh Kumar, XEN PWD (R&B) division Doda, AEES, AEs, JEs and members of the contract Association.

During the meeting, the DDC assessed the status of road construction, maintenance, and repair works being carried out by the Public Works department. He emphasized the importance of quality workmanship and adherence to timelines to provide better connectivity and



infrastructure facilities to the residents of Doda.

The DDC reviewed the progress of work on the mega projects like buildings of GMC Doda, Multi-Storey Car Parking, shopping complex etc.

The officers reported that work on Multi-Storey Car Parking is space as raft of multi-storey car parking is complete while 65% of ground floor is complete. Regarding the shopping complex, it was informed that the basement slab has been

completed and further work is in progress.

The DDC directed the concerned officers and officials to expedite the pace of work on all ongoing projects and to ensure that they are completed within the stipulated time frame. He stressed the need for close coordination between different departments and agencies involved in the execution of these projects to avoid any delays or bottlenecks.

## Liquidation process of JAKFED assets starts in Poonch



J I NEWS SERVICE  
POONCH, MAY 16

The District Committee, appointed under the chairmanship of Deputy Registrar Cooperative Societies, Vishal Deep Chandan, today conducted a first comprehensive assessment and survey of immovable and movable assets related to the erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir Cooperative Supply and Marketing Federation Ltd (JAKFED).

The evaluation took place today at the JAKFED premises in Gundi, Tehsil Haveli.

The liquidation process follows the closure of JAKFED by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir last year. As part of this transition, surplus employees from JAKFED were redeployed to various departments. Moreover as per its MOU

and various government orders, liquidation of JAKFED was set in motion last year. It is important to note that JAKFED has a good number of assets in district Poonch and determining the inventory and asset position is important for the overall project of liquidation.

During the inspection, the Committee meticulously reviewed the land and building owned by JAKFED, examining both movable and immovable assets. This assessment aims to facilitate the efficient utilization and management of resources during the liquidation process.

The process was supervised by Assistant Registrar (HQ) Amit Sharma, Sr. Supervision Natar Prakash Verma, jr. Asst Bal Krishna Khajuria, Abhinav kesar and employee of JAKFED among others.

## Bovine transportation banned in Reasi District

J I NEWS SERVICE  
REASI, MAY 16

Additional District Magistrate, in exercise of powers vested under section 144 Cr.PC has prohibited the transportation of bovine animals within the jurisdiction of District Reasi, without seeking permission from the District Magistrate.

The order shall come into force with immediate effect and shall remain in force for a period of two months. However, it shall not apply in case of transportation of bovine animals by the Government departments for departmental purposes.

Any violation of this order shall invite punitive action under section 188 of Indian Penal Code.

## Dept of Horticulture organizes Training on Holistic Agriculture Development Program

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 15

One day Capacity Building / Training Program on Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) was organised by the Department of Horticulture Jammu today on 16-05-2024 under the chairmanship of Director Horticulture Jammu Sh. Chaman Lal Sharma in the Training Hall of Centre of Excellence, SKUAST-J, Udhaywala Jammu.

Chief Horticulture Officer Jammu Sh. Ashwani Sharma, District Level-Subject Matter Specialist Pomology Sh. Sandeep Gupta, Horticulture Development Officers, besides Staff Members and Field functionaries from all the Blocks of Jammu District participated in the Training Program.

Director Horticulture while addressing the participants, impressed upon them to ensure that the benefit of all the Departmental schemes must reach the needy farmers at ground level. Thread-bare discussion was held about the ways and means, the department could adopt for the betterment of the poor farmers and removal of the bottlenecks in the implementation of departmental schemes. He emphasised to glamorize the Horticulture Profession and to make a shift from Traditional Horticulture to Smart Horticulture by adopting the latest innovations like Modified



High Density Plantation, Strawberry cultivation, Micro-irrigation technologies, Protected Cultivation techniques, Organic farming and Mechanization.

The Director instructed the officers to organize awareness camps, Kissan goshtis, etc. to ensure better implementation of departmental schemes for the ultimate benefit of the fruit growers. The Holistic Agriculture Development Plan, in particular, emerged as a focal point of discussion, showcasing the department's commit-

ment to holistic development and innovation in agriculture. With its multifaceted approach encompassing technological interventions, crop diversification, market linkages, and farmer capacity building, the plan underscores a paradigm shift towards modernized and resilient agricultural practices.

Earlier, the Chief Horticulture Officer Jammu Sh. Ashwani Sharma welcomed the Director Horticulture Jammu and briefed the chair about the status of different ongoing Hor-

ticulture developmental schemes for the upliftment of the farming community.

Several queries were raised by the HDO's and other field functionaries in context to better implementation of Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) in the field. The chair addressed all the queries of the field functionaries very effectively on the spot.

DLSMS Sh. Sandeep Gupta carried out the proceedings of the programme.

## Arun Gupta, Rajesh Bittu inaugurate 'Punjabi Kulcha Hut' at Cannal Road, Jammu

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Today Punjabi Kulcha Hut was inaugurated today at Canal Road Jammu. It was inaugurated by the Chief Guest President of Chamber of Commerce Industries, Shri Arun Gupta and along with Chairman Religious Toursim And Heritage Cultural Trust Mahant Rajesh Bittu ji, Vishal Malhotra President Cannal Road Shopkeeper Association, Vijay Kumar, former councilor Amit Gupta, Rajiv Gupta, Rajesh Gupta. On this occasion, Vishal Malhotra, owner of Punjabi Kulcha Hut, was congratulated and wished for the future.



Mr Arun Gupta says that this newly opened Punjabi Kulcha Hut on Canal Road is a very good thing and people from Punjab will get a new taste here and I appeal to the people in Jammu to come to this food point and taste it so that this food point

continues to do well and along with this I extend my heartiest congratulations to Vishal Malhotra ji and his family.

Mahant Rajesh Bittu ji said that I congratulate Vishal ji and appeal to the people of Jammu to come here once and taste

the Punjabi Kulcha Hut and then you will come to know that now you can get the taste of Punjab in Jammu as well. Vishal Malhotra, while talking to the media, said that I thank the Chamber of Commerce and Industries Shri Arun Gupta ji, my brother Mahant Rajesh Bittu ji, former corporator Amit Gupta ji who have come here and that everyone should come to my inauguration ceremony and please welcome me and I appeal to the people of Jammu to come to Punjabi Kulcha Hut once and taste the kulcha and give them your blessings.

## Pegasus FC hosts spectacular celebration for AFC Grassroots Day 2024 in Jammu

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Pegasus FC, a leading football club in Jammu, proudly hosted an unforgettable celebration in honor of AFC Grassroots Day. The event, held at BOMIS grounds in Jammu, witnessed the participation of 100 enthusiastic young footballers who immersed themselves in the joy of the beautiful game. Under the watchful guidance of Head Coach Rohit Salgotra and the dedicated efforts of Club Manager Deepanshu, along with coaches Imran, Rizwan, and Aakash, the day was filled with excitement, learning, and camaraderie. Volunteers also played a pivotal role in ensuring the



smooth execution of the event, contributing to its resounding success. The vibrant atmosphere resonated with the cheers and laughter of the young participants as they engaged in various football activities and drills, honing their skills and fostering a deeper love for the sport. From exhilarating matches to skill-building exercises, every moment was

brimming with energy and enthusiasm. As the day drew to a close, the highlight of the event unfolded with the distribution of medals and certificates to all the participants, recognizing their dedication and passion for football. It was a heartwarming sight to witness the pride and joy on the faces of these budding athletes as they were celebrated

for their efforts. Pegasus FC extends its heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of this event, from the coaches and volunteers to the participants and their families. Together, we reaffirm our commitment to nurturing the grassroots football community and inspiring the next generation of football stars.

## Nissan Motor India Establishes New Sales & Service Network in Srinagar

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 16

Nissan Motor India Pvt. Ltd. (NMIPL) today inaugurated a new state-of-the-art dealership and service workshop in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir. The addition of the new sales and service customer touch points to Nissan's pan-India network demonstrates the company's growing commitment to the Indian market and its valued customers. With the addition of these touch points, Nissan has expanded its network to 272 touch points across India.

The new Kashmir Nissan Showroom (Kitab Mobility Pvt. Ltd.) in Srinagar has a total area of 6527 sq. ft. while the state-of-the-art service workshop is spread across a total area of 12200 sq. ft. The new showroom and service workshop



are equipped with high quality amenities and are staffed by knowledgeable, well-trained, and passionate sales and service professionals, to ensure that customers enjoy a seamless car-buying and ownership experience.

Commenting on the opening of the new touch point, Mr. Saurabh Vatsa, Managing Director, Nissan Motor India Pvt. Ltd. (NMIPL), said, "Srinagar is a pivotal location and city for Nissan, it is the gateway to our plans in Jammu & Kashmir and beyond.

With the inauguration of our new dealership and service workshop in Srinagar, our goal is to create a seamless and enjoyable car-buying journey, dedicated to delivering an ownership experience that exceeds the expectations of our customers. These new touch points enable us to fulfil our customers' automotive needs and enhancing their overall satisfaction, with unmatched dedication and service."

As part of Nissan's steadfast commitment to

the Indian market and to meet the evolving customer needs, the company expanded its Nissan Magnite family with two significant additions: the Magnite EZ-Shift and the Magnite KURO Special Edition in October 2023. These latest additions to the bestselling Nissan Magnite family promise to deliver the highest value to customers in India, offering a range of benefits that cater to diverse needs.

In line with this commitment, Nissan Motor India operates on a PHYGITAL distribution approach, providing a hassle-free, one-stop solution to customers for all their needs. This approach offers a seamless and convenient experience with an integrated offline-online payment option, which can be accessed at the customer's preferred showroom.

## Students from Sewa Bharti, Jammu Visits CUJ

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Sewa Bharti, J&K and Ladakh in collaboration with Central University of Jammu today organized an educational visit to Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) laboratories in CUJ. Thirty five students of Dristi Girls Hostel visited the various labs of ISRO and were briefed about them in detail. During the visit the girl students from Sewa Bharti performed cultural events at the university with a special programme where they sang the glory of "Bharat Maa" in 16 different languages of India.

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu Prof. Sanjeev Jain, appreciated the selfless service provided by Sewa Bharti in nation building and the region. He emphasised that the university will bring out collaborative plans with Sewa Bharti on education so that the



expertise of CUJ faculty may be utilised for the education of girls residing in their hostels. He gave a slogan "Ak din Sewa Bharti ke Saath" (One day with Sewa Bharti) so that university faculty can contrib-

ute to their humanitarian works. Prof. Jain facilitated Sh. Jaidev Dada, Sewa Bharti Northern region, organisation secretary, for his dedication and contributions to the cause.

Earlier Prof. Vinay

Kumar, Convener SDCSS, ISRO welcomed all the students. During the program Registrar Prof. Yashwant Singh, Deans, Heads and Faculty members of various departments were present.

## Arms, Ammunition recovered in Kralpora, Kupwara

JINNEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, MAY 16

In a major operation carried out by the joint security forces of Kupwara Police, Army's 3 Naga and 97 Bn BSF in north Kashmir's frontier Kupwara district, based on specific information received by Kupwara Police a cache of arms and ammunition were recovered.

On a specific information of Kupwara Police a naka was established at Lone Harie and during naka checking one terrorist associate namely Mushtaq Ahmad Lone



S/o Ab Rahman Lone R/O Patru Keran was successfully apprehended by naka party and from his possession and disclosure substantial quantity

of arms and ammunition have been recovered that includes Pistol 02, Pistol Magazine 02, Hand grenades 10 and 54 9 mm rounds.

Meanwhile, a formal case in this regard has been registered in Police Station Kralpora and an investigation has been taken up.

## Manya secures 100 out of 100 in accounts

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Manya Dutta of KV Nagotra secured 95.2% in 12th class of which result was declared recently. Born to Manirsh Dutta and Jyoti Dutta, Manya secured 100 out of 100 in accounts. Sharing her views, she shares that the entire credit goes to my teachers, parents and moreover my mentors who supported and taught me in everything. Without their support, I cannot achieve this rarest feat in accounts



subject. Father of Manya Dutta, Sh. Manirsh Dutta said that she deeply understands everything which is a great sign of being successful and now the result is in front of everyone. I am proud of her and wish her to achieve every goal which she has set for herself, he concludes.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
E-Tender Notice

DEN/Track/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) with closing date-11.06.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revise bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information login to [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Bid System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
16.05.2024	28.05.2024	11.06.2024/ 15:00 Hrs.

S.N.	Tender No.	Details of Tender				
1.	45-2024-25-Track-DRM-FZR	Misc track work i.c.w. Pre and post attention works in connection with screening of shoulder ballast left by FRM over Firozpur Division.	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earrest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
			89,98,335,92/-	1,80,000/-	60 Days	12 Months

Similar Nature of work:- CTR/TRR/TRF/TTR including raising of track, Deep screening, distressing of track, pre & post works for track maintenance machine like tamping machine/ballast screening/regulating machines/ballast screening/regulating machines & TTR by T-28.

Note 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.  
No.: 45-2024-25-TRACK-DRM-FZR Date: 16.05.2024 1486/2024  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



## Samsung launches Three New Refrigerators Featuring Next-Generation AI Inverter Compressor in India

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 19

Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, today announced the launch of three new refrigerators that ensure smarter living for Indian homes by helping consumers customise their choices. The new refrigerators feature Samsung's next generation Artificial Intelligence-powered Inverter Compressor. The AI Inverter Compressor, the heart of Samsung's new refrigerators, transforms the traditional internal design by optimizing motor and energy efficiency while saving electricity costs. Samsung's eighth generation compressor brings AI to the fore - marking a revolutionary change from its first compressor introduced 27 years back. The AI Inverter Compressor comes with a segment-leading 20-year warranty, guaranteeing long-lasting performance and energy efficiency.

The new AI refrigerators come in three models - the 809L 4-Door Flex



French Door Bespoke Family Hub™ Refrigerator in Clean Charcoal + Stainless Steel colour, and the 650L 4-Door Convertible French Door models' in Clean White in glass finish and Black Caviar in steel finish.

"Samsung is entering a new era of home appliances with Bespoke AI, offering refrigerators featuring a high-efficiency AI Inverter Compressor that delivers exceptional performance. By utilizing the AI Energy Mode, consumers can achieve energy savings of up to 10%. Samsung remains committed to developing AI Inverter

Compressors and associated technologies, ensuring that our refrigerators provide long-lasting reliability and reduced energy consumption," said Saurabh Baishakhia, Senior Director, Digital Appliances Business, Samsung India.

The AI Inverter Compressor boasts noise levels of less than 35 dB/A during a typical operation, comparable to the tranquillity of a serene library. Unlike traditional fixed-speed compressors, this advanced technology responds promptly to minor fluctuations in temperature. It generates optimal cool air while

minimizing energy usage by adaptively modifying the motor velocity based on factors such as surrounding temperature, operational mode, and even temperature shifts resulting from door openings and closings.

Samsung 809L Family Hub™ AI Refrigerator comes with 80 cm Family Hub™ Screen with the innovative "AI Vision Inside" feature, allowing users to effortlessly manage food inventory through internal cameras that can identify 33 food items while AI technology helps in providing recipe suggestions. The 650L

Convertible French Door AI refrigerators come with integrated Wi-Fi connectivity through which users can remotely monitor and manage the refrigerator's settings.

Furthermore, to increase the energy efficiency and durability of the AI Inverter Compressor, Samsung has been continuously researching, developing, and improving the manufacturing process of the internal motor, ball bearings, pistons, valves, and other components. As a result, the AI Inverter Compressor has achieved an internal motor efficiency of over 95 percent. Compared to the previous compressor, the new AI Inverter Compressor's energy efficiency in the low-speed operation range of 950-1,450rpm (the range in which refrigerators typically operate) has also increased by more than 10 percent. Furthermore, the new AI Inverter Compressor has more than quadrupled the leveraged inertia during the motor's operation compared to the conventional model.

## Illegal Mining: 211 Vehicles seized, Rs. 72 lakh fine/ penalty realised in first quarter at Pulwama



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
PULWAMA, MAY 16

In order to curb the menace of illegal mining in the district, the Enforcement teams comprising Mining, Revenue, Police and I&FC besides others continued operations against illegal mining across different locations.

In a statement, DMO informed that A total of 211 vehicles/ machinery indulging in illegal transportation/ extraction of minerals have been seized from offenders and fine/ penalty to the tune of Rs. 72,23,000 has been realised from the offenders.

Besides, FIRs against 25 persons/ vehicles found to be involved in illegal mining have been lodged in various police stations of the district. The proac-

tive stance taken by joint teams ensuring environmental sustainability and the preservation of natural resources has resulted in seizures and deterrence by booring the offenders.

Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr Basharat Qayoom issued unequivocal instructions to prevent and deter illegal mining throughout the district during various District Mining Task force meetings.

District Administration has warned violators against resorting to illegal means and asked to follow proper procedural norms.

To ensure that various govt works are not hampered, disposal permits for a quantity minerals have been issued under rules thereby providing legal source of material for different developmen-

tal activities. The permit holders have been cautioned not to violate the terms and conditions of the permits and in some cases the permits found to be violating the norms were cancelled immediately.

Moreover, a large quantity of minerals from legal blocks of neighbouring districts are being transported to other parts of Pulwama and Srinagar via Pulwama district. Such block holders have been directed to carry all requisite documents as mandated under law.

DMO Pulwama has advised people to desist from indulging in any kind of illegal mining, and procure the material from legal sources only otherwise stringent action shall follow against the offenders.

## Golden Jubilee Torch of ICAR handed over to KVK Samba

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi has developed a concept of relaying digital torch among different KVKs throughout the country to mark the Golden Jubilee Celebration of establishment of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in India. The first KVK was established in 1974 in Pudukcherry. Under the patronage of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu, the Golden torch has been transferred to Dr. Sanjay Khajuria, Chief Scientist & Head, KVK Samba by Dr. Punit Choudhary, Chief Scientist & Head, KVK Jammu. The ceremony of handover of torch is arranged by Dr. Amrish Vaid, Director Extension, SKUAST-Jammu. During the occasion, Dr. Hema Tripathi, Associate Director Extension highlighted the importance of celebrating Golden Jubilee foundation of KVKs. In India, there are 731 KVKs working for uplifting the economy of farmers in India.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras



are the centres for agriculture extension created by Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) and its affiliated institutions at the district level. KVKs are an integral part of the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) and serve as the link between the NARS and the farmers. In addition, KVKs are playing crucial role in transfer of technology from lab to land and also produce quality technological products (seed, planting material, bio-agents, livestock) and make it available to farmers, organize frontline extension

activities, identify and document selected farm innovations and converge with ongoing schemes and programmes within the mandate of KVK. Dr. Hema Tripathi lauded the efforts of all KVK staff for their outstanding service to the farming community. She underlined the necessity for KVKs to act as district agri-tech epicentres for entrepreneurship development and livelihood security of the farmers. The event was attended by Dr. Jasbir Singh Manhas, Dr. Pawan K Sharma, Dr. Sudhir Jamwal and supporting staff of the University.

## GoI asks educational institutions to publish map of India in conformity with survey of India

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 16

The Government of India (GoI) has asked all the educational institutions across the country not to tamper with the map of India and publish it in conformity with the survey of India.

The government has termed tempering of map as a punishable offence and whosoever does will be punished with imprisonment which will extend upto six month or with fine, or with both.

In an order issued by the ministry of education, GoI, a copy of which is with the news agency, it has been ordered, "Whosoever publishes a map of India, which is not in conformity with the maps of India as published by Survey of India (SoI), shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to six months, or with fine, or with both."

"The Higher Educational institutions are requested to ensure compliance with the aforementioned law," the order reads.

The survey of India

publishes the map of India as per the guidelines issued by the GoI. All up-to-date information on SoI maps shall be available at the various offices, map sales counters and Geospatial Data Centres (GDC) under the SoI.

The information provided by SoI among other things includes all relevant details of maps such as scale, information content, date of data capture, price, mode of data dissemination, whether ministry of defence clearance available for issue as Open Series Map (OSM) etc.

At present India has 28 states and eight union territories and each of them has its own identity, history and administrative setup. According to the GoI, both Pakistani Occupied Kashmir (POK) and Aksai Chin are part of India and they are under illegal occupation of Pakistan and China, respectively.

As per the recent order, the higher education institutions have been asked to ensure compliance with this law. KNO

## DPO Poshan inspects Anganwadi Centers in Hiranagar

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KATHUA, MAY 16

District Programme Officer (DPO) Kathua Shokar Mehmod today conducted an extensive tour of several Anganwadi Centers in Hiranagar.

The DPO visited multiple Anganwadi centers including Balvidyalya in ward no.1 Gurha Morh, Dabbi, Chann Dityal B, and MC ward no.5. The primary objective of the visit was to evaluate the infrastructure, assess the functionality of Poshan Vatika, and ensure the availability of supplementary nutrition in these centers. Besides, close attention was paid to the preparation and quality of hot cooked meals served to the beneficiaries.

He emphasized the



paramount importance of enhancing the enrollment of beneficiaries in Anganwadi centers and providing high-quality early childhood care and education. Special emphasis was placed on the need for well-ventilated rooms in Anganwadis and the regular inclusion of vegetables in the hot

cooked meals to ensure a balanced diet for the children.

The DPO also took a detailed review of the status of Poshan Tracker parameters and provided invaluable insights for its enhancement, aiming for more efficient monitoring and evaluation of nutritional programs.

## GIG, Bhamla Foundation and Jamnabai Narsee Int'l School, initiate campaign, '#BhoomiNamaskar'

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Godrej Industries Group, in partnership with Bhamla Foundation and Jamnabai Narsee International School, successfully initiated the campaign '#BhoomiNamaskar', with a tree plantation drive, in honor of the upcoming World Environment Day 2024. The flag off event, held at JNI School, will involve plantation of 10,000 trees in the coming six months across schools in Mumbai. This comes in effect with the UN resolution of the year "Generation Restoration"

The '#BhoomiNamaskar' initiative, meaning "Salutation to the Earth" in Hindi, highlighted the importance of nurturing the land for a sustainable future. The campaign

serves as a powerful reminder of the need for collective responsibility towards environmental protection and land restoration. Aligned with the theme for this year's World Environment Day, "Land restoration, desertification, and drought resilience", "Generation Restoration" will work towards bringing back all that we lost due to the degradation of land. It will inspire our generation to understand and fight for the countless species facing extinction if we don't act now. Additionally, our efforts will focus on preserving and restoring vital water resources.

The '#BhoomiNamaskar' Tree Plantation Drive was graced by the presence of several eminent personalities, including Amruta Fadnavis, Jairaj

Thacker, Karan Kundra, Esha Deol, and Jackie Shroff. Their participation significantly amplified the campaign message and inspired a wider audience to join the fight against land degradation.

The event garnered significant support from esteemed organizations like the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Government of India), Maharashtra Forest Department, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), the United Nations Environment Programme and Jamnabai Narsee International School. Godrej L'Affaire, the lifestyle owned media property of Godrej Industries Group, will be amplifying this campaign digitally and



ensuring it reaches the generation that needs to take action. This collective effort emphasized the global significance of addressing environmental challenges through large-scale conservation efforts.

Burjis Godrej, Executive Director, Godrej Agrovet, said, "Godrej is a firm believer that a healthy planet is the foundation for a thriving

society. '#BhoomiNamaskar' drive, in collaboration with the Bhamla Foundation and Jamnabai Narsee International School, is a testament to our commitment towards environmental stewardship. With the support of renowned institutions such as the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Maharashtra Forest Department, the

Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, and the United Nations Environment Programme, our collective endeavour will pave the way for a shared sustainable future. It is through efforts like this, alongside esteemed organizations and inspiring individuals, that we can truly make a difference."

Asif Bhamla, Chairman, Bhamla Foundation said, "The decision to adopt 'Bhoomi Namaskar' as our campaign theme was well thought through. We chose 'Namaskar' because it holds profound cultural significance in India—it's one of the first expressions of respect we learn as children. By extending this reverence to Mother Earth, we acknowledge the damage we've inflicted and commit to rectifying it. Just as 'Namaskar'

requires both hands, so does our environmental action demand collective effort. This commitment to environmental action is even stronger when undertaken together. That's why we're thrilled to be partnering with Godrej Industries Group, a company that shares our values of environmental responsibility and social good. I'm inspired to see everyone here supporting this cause. Let's unite our hands and pledge to usher in a sustainable and brighter future for India."

Amruta Fadnavis, Founder of Divyaj Foundation, said, "Planting trees is a simple yet powerful act that can significantly contribute to environmental restoration efforts. The '#BhoomiNamaskar' campaign serves as a timely reminder that we

all have a role to play in protecting our planet and ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come. I appreciate the collective efforts that will be put in by the Bhamla Foundation, Godrej Industries Group, and Jamnabai Narsee International School for their commitment to creating a positive environmental impact."

The '#BhoomiNamaskar' initiative serves as a stepping stone towards creating a lasting positive impact on the planet. Bhamla Foundation, Jamnabai Narsee International School and Godrej Industries Group are dedicated to fostering environmental awareness and encouraging active participation in land restoration efforts for a healthier and more sustainable future.

## EDITORIAL

Democratic  
renaissance in  
Kashmir

The resounding success of the ongoing elections in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in the Valley, stands as a beacon of hope and progress towards democratic revitalization in the region. In the aftermath of the monumental abrogation of Article 370 and the subsequent reorganization of Jammu and Kashmir in 2019, these elections signify a significant milestone in the journey towards rebuilding trust and fostering political participation. One of the most encouraging aspects of these elections is the remarkable surge in voter turnout, particularly in Srinagar, which saw an impressive 38 per cent participation compared to a mere 14.43 per cent in 2019. This surge is not merely a statistical uptick but a testament to the growing faith of the people in the electoral process despite the myriad socio-political complexities that have long plagued the region. The fact that the 2024 General Election is being conducted without any significant calls for boycott reflects a burgeoning desire among the populace to actively engage in shaping their own destiny. While traditional political entities like the National Conference and the People's Democratic Party continue to wield influence, the emergence of new political players underscores the evolving landscape of Kashmiri politics. However, amidst these positive developments, challenges persist, particularly in bridging the trust deficit between the Kashmiri polity and the Central Government. The decision of the BJP to refrain from contesting in the Valley, instead focusing on Ladakh and Jammu, not only signifies a strategic recalibration but also believed to be an acknowledgment of the need to address simmering discontent and reconcile conflicting narratives with ground realities. Union Home Minister Amit Shah's acknowledgment of the participation of groups like the Jamaat-e-Islami and Hurriyat Conference in the electoral process is also a significant recognition of the shifting dynamics within the region. However, amidst the optimism, it is crucial to acknowledge the unresolved grievances and challenges that continue to linger. Critics point to issues such as arbitrary arrests, media censorship, and economic neglect, raising questions about the true extent of development and peace post the abrogation of Article 370. The successful conduct of these elections should not be viewed in isolation but rather as a catalyst for broader reforms and reconciliation efforts. The promise of statehood restoration, as reiterated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, coupled with the Supreme Court's directive to conduct Assembly elections by September, underscores the imperative for action. It is incumbent upon all stakeholders to seize this momentum and work collaboratively towards building a more inclusive and representative governance framework that genuinely reflects the aspirations of the people of the Union Territory. Only through genuine dialogue, meaningful reforms, and a commitment to inclusivity can the democratic spirit truly flourish in Jammu and Kashmir, paving the way for a brighter and more peaceful future.

ASMITTAL

Climate change is an issue of utmost importance that the world is currently facing and it is a challenge that is complex and multifaceted. Particularly the agriculture sector is vulnerable, as greenhouse gas emissions are being released into the atmosphere, causing extreme weather conditions such as heat waves and floods. This is directly impacting crop productivity and farmers' livelihoods, which is a significant threat to global food security. To counter this challenge, we must adopt environmentally friendly cultivation and processing methods. Electric tractors are one of the globally emerging excellent alternatives for future farming. It can reduce farming costs and zero emissions effectively addressing the issue of a sustainable environment and reducing our dependence on imports of crude oil. As the world's largest tractor manufacturer, India sells over 1 million tractors annually. However, the adoption of electric tractors has been slower than other electric vehicles (EVs) like two-wheelers, three-wheelers, passenger cars and electric buses. It's time to take action and promote electric tractors. This will foster an environment for mass adoption and position India as a global exporter of electric tractors. To achieve this, we must integrate electric tractors into incentivised EV policies. It's unacceptable that no incentives are being offered for electrifying tractors. Electric Tractors Could be Fetched in FAME-3 Scheme: The FAME-2 scheme (April 2019-March 2024) was a central Government subsidy that aims to promote the Fast Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (FAME). The scheme ended on 31st March, with a total outlay of Rs 10,000 crore to support the production of 7,000 electric buses, half a million electric three-wheelers, 55,000 electric passenger cars and one million electric two-wheelers. However, the scheme excludes electric tractors, which means that manufacturers cannot significantly reduce the cost of producing electric tractors. The Ministry of Heavy Industries has recently



proposed the FAME-3 scheme, which has an outlay of Rs 12,600. The scheme is expected to be implemented after the Lok Sabha elections. Farmers are hoping that the scheme will include electric tractors, which will reduce their costs significantly. With a subsidy of up to Rs 2.4 lakh (capped at 40 per cent of the tractor's base price), the burden of high purchasing costs on farmers will be greatly reduced.

To promote the use of electric vehicles, several States such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh offer concessions or a waiver on the road tax between 50 per cent and 100 per cent. Other States, including Delhi, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan, offer direct cash incentives on top of the road tax waiver through a similar approach to the central FAME scheme. The incentives range from Rs 2,500 to Rs 10,000 and the subsidy cap ranges from Rs 60,000 to Rs 2.5 lakh, depending on the battery capacity. Punjab and Haryana offer incentives (up to 40 per cent of the ex-showroom price) for e-tractors in their EV policies. Other key agricultural States should consider following this approach to promote sustainable agricultural practices.

Rationalisation of Taxes: Tax rationalisation has proven to be an effective

way of promoting electric vehicles through discounted taxes and insurance fees. The existing fiscal incentives provided for zero-emission motor vehicles should be extended to zero-emission tractors as well. While electric vehicles are charged a reduced GST of 5 per cent, e-tractors are still taxed at the same rate as diesel tractors, which is 12 per cent. Additionally, electric vehicles receive a 15 per cent discount on third-party insurance premiums, whereas this provision is not available for e-tractors. The International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT) has analysed that reducing the GST to 5 per cent or even nil and providing discounted insurance would reduce the cost gap between electric and diesel tractors by almost 40 per cent.

Infrastructure Development: Investing in charging infrastructure for electric tractors, especially in rural areas, is crucial for the rural economy to meet India's development goals by 2047. Using corporate social responsibility (CSR) funds for this purpose and establishing a charging station network with incentives will ensure widespread accessibility and convenience for farmers.

To increase demand for electric tractors, it's important to introduce them into custom hiring

centres for agricultural machinery. This will help farmers experience the benefits of electric tractors and mitigate challenges related to charging and maintenance.

R&D Investments & Training: Allocating funds for research and development in electric tractor technology can lead to innovation, efficiency improvement and cost reduction. Encouraging collaboration between Government agencies, agricultural research institutions such as the Indian Council for Agricultural Research and the manufacturers would speed up technological advancements in the sector.

Developing and certifying testing and quality assurance standards for electric tractors can attract manufacturers to this sector, addressing supply-side constraints. Institutes like the Central Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institute can set manufacturing, operational and performance standards for various electric tractors based on power output, design and usage purposes. Training and skill development initiatives for farmers, technicians and service providers on electric tractor operation, maintenance and repair are crucial. Empowering stakeholders with the necessary knowledge and skills will facilitate the transition to electric tractors and

ensure their effective use in agricultural operations.

Zero Emissions in Electric Tractor: A study by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, reveals that the agriculture sector in India is responsible for almost 14 per cent of the country's greenhouse gas emissions, with diesel-powered machinery playing a major role. However, electric tractors could be a solution to these challenges.

Currently, most tractors used in India are powered by diesel, which accounts for approximately 7.4 per cent of the country's annual diesel consumption, equivalent to the amount consumed by buses. While incentives have been introduced to encourage the electrification of buses, no such incentives have been introduced for tractors.

The adoption of electric tractors presents some challenges, such as the initial cost, infrastructure development and promoting their use among farmers. Diesel-powered machinery, notably tractors, accounts for approximately 12-15 per cent of the total cost of agricultural production, which varies by crop type and geographical region. However, electric tractors have many advantages, including zero-emission and a reduction in fuel and maintenance

costs due to having fewer moving parts. According to a study by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), electric tractors could reduce maintenance costs by up to 40 per cent over their lifetime, providing a more reliable, environment friendly and cost-effective option for farmers. The Way Forward: India's tractor manufacturers have developed advanced technology and moved beyond incentives to introduce electric tractors. However, the primary challenge at present is the cost. On-road zero-emission electric tractors cost 40 to 50 per cent more than diesel tractors. This high cost could deter farmers, even though electric tractors are more cost-effective when used in the field. Urgent support from the Government is needed in the early stages of the market to bridge the cost gap between e-tractors and diesel-driven tractors.

Central and State-level incentives would send a positive signal to the industry to invest more in zero-emission tractors. Additionally, this aligns with India's goal of improving air quality and energy security and has the potential to boost India's tractor exports. Countries such as the US, Europe, Japan and Canada have implemented strict regulations for tractor emissions and have expressed interest in decarbonising farm machinery.

The global electric tractor market is projected to grow from USD 0.7 billion in 2024 to USD 3.4 billion by 2030, presenting a strategic opportunity for India to leverage its manufacturing capabilities. It can enhance its economic competitiveness, play a pivotal role in achieving net-zero emissions, strengthen the rural economy and shape a sustainable and resilient farm future.

**The Author is Vice-Chairman of Sonalika ITL Group, Vice-Chairman of the Punjab Economic Policy and Planning Board, Chairman of ASSOCHAM Northern Region Development Council and President of Tractor and Mechanisation Association (TMA). Views expressed are personal.**

## Harnessing the power of resolution

RAVI VALLURI

Successful completion of a task releases endorphins in the body which act as a tonic and an analgesic. "Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other," said Abraham Lincoln. Resolution is the positive intent, resolve or aspiration to give a hundred per cent to achieve the targeted goal. Before treading the path, one should remain grateful and blessed for the abundance provided by nature. Half the job gets done by feeling the blessings.

Effort, skill and courage are prerequisites for brewing this heady cocktail. Achievers tap the potential from the depths of their minds and hearts and conquer the fear of failure in the process.

The mind is that element of a person that enables him to be aware

of the world and its myriad experiences to think positively and to feel the faculty of consciousness simultaneously purging negative thoughts in the bargain. One must dream big, even if ideas may appear outlandish to become high-end achievers and ensure to never kill an idea, however witless it may appear on the surface. That is the Audacity of Hope. Be it a Mandela, a Modi, or an Obama.

"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires," writes William Arthur Ward. Successful individuals foster friendships and build trust. There is no deficit in trust. They respect colleagues and only symphony is orchestrated in the environment. There is no room for any cacophony.

Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar always differenti-



ates between mere hearing and the art of listening. Listening is a trait of a humble person; while hearing is the character of a brusque and an inaccessible person. An achiever is available to all his followers 24\*7, 365 days a year. Achievers are adaptable to new ideas, thought processes, abstractions and intentions. Their

minds are not closeted by achievements or failures of the past and continuously live in the present moment. This is the trademark of their personality.

Those who are high achievers are not driven by amassing wealth. Such trailblazers and trendsetters are continuous learners. Leadership implies 3Ls for them. These are

learned, learn some more and learn even more. Top-grade sportsmen, artists and scientists are compulsive learners and are humble about their achievements. There is only one path from the top and that is downhill. High-end achievers never believe that they have reached the summit or the pinnacle or that they are too powerful.

Such a conjecture smacks of capriciousness and arrogance and that would be their nemesis. Every successful career is a lesson in humility. Rewards and recognition are meant to act as motivators, not create a glass ceiling of conceit.

Achievers are surrounded by positive-oriented people and positive thoughts, as negative emotions are a big drain on resources. It is important to ascertain positive feedback and build on the synergy of the group.

Understanding group dynamics is an important physical and psychological tool. They glean synergies of any joint venture. Achievers always work with teams and individuals who share their values, they possess long-term vision inherently and believe in themselves and the set goals.

They direct the wind and the sails. Such people need to build on their strengths and those of the organisation. It is essential and paramount to prioritise targets, the mission and vision Statements, identify a self-do list and focus on projects that can be delegated.

"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way," says John C Maxwell.

**(The writer is the CEO of Chhattisgarh East Railway Ltd. and Chhattisgarh East West Railway Ltd. He is a faculty of the Art of Living; views are personal)**



# Apni Party receives overwhelming response in Poonch in favour of Zafar Iqbal Manhas

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
POONCH, MAY 16

Assuring overall development, road infrastructure, and railway line connectivity to the Pir-Panjaj, the Apni Party held meetings with the people of Poonch district in the ongoing election campaign that has attracted overwhelming response from the masses for the developmental agenda of the Party.

These meetings were held in support of the Party candidate for the Rajouri - Poonch Lok Sabha seat, Zafar Iqbal Manhas sahab. The meetings were arranged by District General Secretary, Surjan Singh. The Party has also connected door to door campaigns in many areas and educated people about the policy

of the Apni Party to bring prosperity with the generation of employment, improvement in the educational and health sector, and promotion of the tourism sector in Rajouri and Poonch District.

"The overall development is possible when a native representative is elected to the Lok Sabha from Rajouri - Anantnag seat," S. Manjit Singh said while addressing one of the meetings here at village Degwar, Aala Peer in Poonch's ward number 17.

The Former Minister addressed several such meetings in which he said that the region deserves more attention from the Govt and adequate flow of funds to revamp the developmental activities, and connect every village with the road, and provide



electricity and health care facilities.

He said that if Zafar Iqbal Manhas is elected to

the Parliament, he would bring innovative changes in the Region that has faced deliberate neglect

for over seven decades.

"The MPs in the past whosoever had been elected, hardly listened to

the people, or visited these areas after their election to the Parliament. Zafar sahab is a native of Poonch District. Hence, he personally knows the issues confronted by the people," he added.

In another meeting at Poonch City, he said that as far as the road connectivity with the Kashmir valley is concerned, the Party is seriously concerned that the Mughal Road should be opened for 12 months for the commuters, and truckers so that the people can move freely on the important highway that links Rajouri - Poonch with rest of the Valley as an alternative route.

He further said that the Party is committed to press for the construction of two tunnels at Peer Ki Gali, and Dera Ke Gali, and will leave

no stone unturned to get a separate Parliamentary seat for Pir - Panjal.

"We believe that the region has long been neglected. Therefore, the people should elect their own representative, who shall remain available to them, and resolve their concerns," he added.

He said that "We have committed that we will fight for a Hill Development Council to develop the region on the pattern of Ladakh."

He said that the region has huge potential for tourism which would generate employment and boost the local economy as well as improve the road connectivity with the inflow of the tourists.

"We have chalked out plans of infrastructural development, improved

education, health sector, and other basic amenities in favour of the residents of Rajouri - Poonch. However, these developmental policies can be implemented if Zafar sahab is elected to the Parliament," he added. Meanwhile, SC President of the Party, Bodh Raj Bhagat, Provincial President, Jammu, Women Wing, Pavneet Kour, Laba Ram, Mangat Ram, and others also spoke on the occasion and informed people about the developmental agenda of the Party. Prominent among those who were present in these meetings include Capt. Chait Singh, Parmjeet Singh, Per Sanjeet Singh, Dilbar Singh, Sukhmeet Singh, Rajinder Singh, Harcharan Singh, Gurucharan Singh, and others.

# Col Vinod Kumar PMG Jammu Region appreciates Best Staff Members in Rajouri

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Motivation is the key word for making staff persons active in all fields. India Post always take this principal. During his speech Col Vinod PMG Jammu laid much emphasis on this aspect. He addressed ground soldiers of postal department, GDS for appreciation of their best work and also listen to problems they are facing, if any. He was interacting with postal staff at Rajouri during a special meeting on morning of 16-05-2024, aimed at motivation by appreciation. Interactive Session was organized in which Branch Postmasters shared experiences and best practices being employed by them for providing comprehensive and cutting edge postal services in this border area.

Col Vinod Kumar,



emphasised upon that women all over the world face mental load of performing of household chores everyday. He stressed upon the need of gender equality in society as people have to change their mindset which some are still thinking in obsolete manners. He mentioned that more survey should be carried out to check the reality at grass root level. Most of the time some people are investing amount with an objective to spend huge amount for marriage of the girl child.

While it should be used to send girl child in colleges for higher studies or professional courses. The actual result will be seen when the SSY accounts will start getting matured and studies will be carried out on the usage of the money with matured amount To give more pace to this scheme, he suggested that GDS staff keep liaison on with ASHA workers and maternity homes etc.

Col Vinod distributed awards amongst best performers in various fields of the Department in recognition of the excellent services rendered by them during the financial year 2023-2024. Sh. Barakh Hussain BPM Dodaj BO was awarded as best performer in POSB, Sh. Balwant Singh BPM Tulli was awarded as best performer in PLI/RPLI, Sh. Abdul Aziz BPM Dharana was given special achievement award and Sh. Mohd. Nazir bagged best IPPB performer award. While as Sh. Irshad Bhatti BPM Sangra was given best CELC performer award, Sh. Akshay Kumar BPM Serikhawaja won the Young Achiever award. Sh. Kewal Krishan BPM Dologar was given the Best BPM award.

Sh. Chandan Sharma ASPOs Rajouri presented the welcome address and Sh. Vijay Kumar Postmaster Rajouri Head Post Office gave vote of thanks on the event.

# CSIR-IIIM observes Swachhata Pakhwada

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 16

CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine has celebrated Swachhata Pakhwada from 1st to 15th May, 2024. Swachhata Pakhwada is a significant initiative of the government under Swachh Bharat Mission with the objective of bringing a fortnight of intense focus on the issues and practices of Swachhata by engaging GOI Ministries/Departments in their jurisdictions. The Pakhwada activities were organised by CSIR-IIIM, Jammu as per the Calendar of Swachhata Pakhwada for the year 2024, released by the Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Government of India. As part of the Swachh Bharat Mission mandate, it is imperative for government offices to provide a clean and healthy working environment for its employees/visitors.

In a press handout



issued, it was stated that to commence the Swachhata Pakhwada on 1st May, Director, CSIR-IIIM, Jammu administered the Swachhata pledge to scientific, technical and administrative staff and the research scholars of the institute. Later, the main activities of Swachhata were then followed like plantation of trees, cleanliness drive in whole campus, reviewing, recording and weeding out of old Physical Files done by various sections of the institute and the old and obsolete items were earmarked for disposal.

Director, CSIR-IIIM, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed expressed

happiness and appreciated all HODs, different stakeholders, especially the students, sanitation section and engineering department for the proactive participation in the Swachhata related activities of the institute. He also exhorted the staff to follow the best practices not only to keep the campus, labs, and offices clean but also adopt the cleanliness, in all walks of our lives.

Through fortnight, a series of Swachhata activities were organized with enthusiasm under the leadership of Director, CSIR-IIIM, Jammu and with the guidance of "Swachh Bharat Mission

Committee" comprising PN Gupta, Vikram Singh (Sr. COA), Ajay Kumar, Ravi Shanker, Rajendra Bhanwarria, Love Sharma, Chandra Pal Singh, Arvind Kumar Yadav, Jai Sharma (AEE Civil) and Pushap Mehta (Lab. Supervisor).

In order to create awareness about the Swachhata, a painting/drawing competition on "Swachh Bharat, Swasth Bharat" was conducted and wherein students from various schools participated. An essay competition was also held in the institute and good participation of research scholars and the staff members was observed. For undertaking the various activities during this Swachhata Pakhwada, the scientists, students, supporting staff and Safai Karamcharies of the institute participated and certificates along with "Protasahan Rashi" were given to the selected Safai Karamcharies to recognize their contribution.

# "PM Modi's commitment hailed"; Suri describes issuance of CAA certificates as historic

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 16

"Today marks a historic milestone as the first set of citizenship certificates under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) have been issued, granting Indian nationality to 14 persecuted non-Muslim migrants from Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan. This significant event, nearly two months after the rules under the contentious law were notified, signifies the unwavering commitment of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Union Government in delivering justice to those who had faced religious persecution."

This was stated by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri, who, while terming the move as historic, said that the decades-long wait of individuals, who had fled due to religious persecution in their respective countries, has finally ended. Now that the fourteen deserving individuals, showcasing the government's dedication to streamlining the citizenship process, have been issued CAA certificates, more such persecuted Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Parsis, and Christians will get their due in days to come.

Raman Suri appreci-



ated Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his steadfast resolve to uphold the rights of persecuted Hindus and other religious minorities in the three countries. The issuance of these citizenship certificates, he added, exemplifies BJP's commitment of translating promises into actions, demonstrating that the BJP indeed walks the talk. Emphasizing that the Modi Government stands firm in its commitment of granting citizenship to all eligible refugees through the CAA, Suri said that the move reaffirms the government's dedication of providing justice and rights to those who have suffered for decades.

The Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2024, outline the procedure for processing applications, ensuring a fair and transparent mechanism. The BJP leader commended the diligent efforts of the District Level Commit-

tees (DLCs) and the State Level Empowered Committee in processing the applications and granting citizenship to the deserving individuals.

Raman Suri said the enactment of the CAA had sparked protests, but it was imperative to recognize that it aimed at helping the refugees who had faced persecution on religious grounds. He added that the opposition had made several attempts to mislead the public on this crucial issue but steadfast BJP government implemented the law in its letter and spirit, which will settle the refugees and make them permanent citizens of India, enabling them to enjoy all the rights as a citizen. He added the issuance of citizenship certificates is a testament to the BJP government's unwavering dedication of ensuring justice and equality for all.

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
BEHRAMPUR PUNJAB MAY 16

Senior BJP leader Mr Devender Singh Rana today said that Jammu and Kashmir stands holistically transformed post abrogation of Article 370 during the past nearly five years with remarkable turnaround discernible in the overall situation, infrastructural development and implementation of the various welfare schemes.

"In the wake of unwavering dedication and strategic initiatives taken by visionary Prime Minister Yashasvi Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Mr Amit Shah, the Union Territory has ushered in an era of stability, development, and unity", Mr Devender Rana said while addressing a public meetings as part of the election campaign for the BJP candidate from Gurdaspur Punjab parliamentary Constituency Mr Dinesh Singh Babbu along with former Minister Mr. Rajiv Jasrotia, DDC Vice Chairman Jammu Mr. Suraj Singh and Surinder Singh Gilli. He said the BJP's commitment to inclusive governance as per Prime Minister's Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas has fostered a sense of belonging with renewed spirit of confidence among people.



So much so that the political entities believing in separatism have also now realized the futility of their misadventure and shown intent to join the mainstream. This is a huge shift in the political landscape, all because of the firm leadership at the Centre and unflinching support of the people of Jammu and Kashmir to the initiatives for bringing lasting peace in once troubled state, he said, adding that the people are for the first time having a feel of being at the centre stage of various schemes aimed at ameliorating their lot.

He said the past decade has witnessed the Modi Government surmounting numerous challenges on domestic and global fronts, and the next five years are going to be an unprecedented era of holistic development, economic growth and

social harmony, leading the Nation to become Vishavguru.

Rana explained the schemes and historic initiatives taken by the Prime Minister Modi led BJP Government in the past ten years with an objective to benefit and uplift the poor and downtrodden in the society by empowering them and equitably developing them. The growth and stability earned the country huge global attention, making every Indian proud of the state India has gained across the continents, he added.

Rana also made a mention of path breaking initiatives taken across Jammu and Kashmir with an avowed objective of ensuring development, creating infrastructural facilities, strengthening utility services and giving fillip to growth as a result of massive investments.

He said the investments are going to manifest in industrialization on a mega scale thus opening vistas of opportunities for economic empowerment and generation of jobs for professionals, technocrats, educated unemployed besides skilled and unskilled workforce. He said the Union Territory is at the threshold of a new era of peace and progress as per Naya Jammu Kashmir vision of the Prime Minister with tourism booming, gardens blooming, stone pelting becoming nightmare of the past and new hope emerging among the people about next five years focusing on sustaining the gains of the peace with development and economic prosperity getting new wings, he asserted.

Devender Rana said that encouraging turnaround in the Kashmir situation

in particular post August 2019 has led to unprecedented tourist footfall in both the regions of Jammu and Kashmir. The people have now realized the futility of alien gun culture and developed stakes in peace for development, progress, and prosperity. This has turned turtle the apple cart of those banking on boiling Kashmir and thriving on instability and unrest to further their nefarious political agenda for decades. But, seeing the peoples' preference for peace over disturbances and economic activity over shut-down syndrome, a new era of hope and promise is discernible across the Union Territory. He said the Prime Minister's mission of Naya Jammu and Kashmir is being carried forward in missionary mode.

Seeking votes for the BJP nominee for Gurdaspur constituency, Mr Rana said this will support the Prime Minister's vision of taking India to the highest pinnacles of progress and development. This will also strengthen his resolve to make Viksit Bharat by 2047, he maintained.

Among others who were present included Ashok Singh Manhas, Sanjay Gupta, Ajay Gupta, Aditya Gupta, Balbir Singh, Sangram Singh and Ajay Singh.



## BJP Govt's 10 yrs of mis-governance brought only miseries to people: Rattan Lal

JNEWS SERVICE  
POONCH MAY 16

Instead of bringing the Achhe Din promised by the BJP, the government at the Centre has brought only miseries to the common people of the nation.

This was stated by Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President JKNC while addressing a series of meetings in Block Loran and Poonch city while campaigning for NC candidate Mian Altaf Ahmed here today. Provincial President Youth and former MLA Ajaz Jan, Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone and party leaders were also present.

Addressing the gathering, Rattan Lal Gupta castigated the present dispensation for neglecting the people residing in rural and remote areas. He asserted the ruling government has miserably failed to stand on the expectations of the people

of Jammu and Kashmir despite getting mandate for consecutive two terms.

He said that during the last 10 years, the price of LPG has more than doubled, unemployment has broken all previous records with J&K leading in the unemployment chart, Central Govt failed to create 2 crore jobs per year as promised, corruption at peak, recruitment scams are taking a heavy toll, farmers committing suicide, no policies for industries, healthcare facilities at back foot, etc. He asserted that today beneficiaries of Govt schemes are facing inhumane treatment especially the old age citizens who are facing huge harassment in the name of pension cases verification.

Rattan Lal highlighted the contrast between the progress seen during the NC's regime and the stagnation under the present government. "Under Dr. Farooq Abdullah and



Omar Abdullah's regime, the entire Pir Panjal witnessed significant growth. But sadly, the development projects initiated under NC regime have been left unfinished, leaving our aspirations unmet," he said.

Rattan Lal observed that as like Kashmir, there is strong wave in favour of National Conference in Poonch district. "There's a strong desire for genuine

progress and fair representation. We must seize this momentum to change the government at the Centre," he said.

Rattan Lal urged voters to support and vote in favour of NC candidate Mian Altaf Ahmed. "Your vote is about securing a better future for our children. Be cautious while casting a vote, remember your one vote can change the life of people residing

in rural and far off areas, failing which our upcoming generation will not forget us for our mistake. Must vote for NC and let's build a prosperous future together," he added.

Ajaz Jan, Provincial President Youth JKNC, in his addressing, said that BJP has befooled the people with its hollow promises before the elections and now the people of Jammu and Kashmir have today realize that they have been totally betrayed by the saffron party. He said that the people across the state are being made to suffer in absence of basic amenities for no fault of theirs. He asserted that the government has virtually broken the spine of common people due to its anti-people policies the results of which are easily visible to everyone.

Ajaz Jan anguished over the poor condition of roads, especially the Poonch to Loran route, since 2014. The roads are

in terrible shape, risking the safety of commuters and hindering connectivity, reflecting the seriousness of government towards the rural areas, he added. He asserted that only National Conference can fulfil the aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir with its vision of a vibrant, progressive and united Jammu and Kashmir.

He appealed to the people of entire Poonch district to ensure maximum participation in the polling and vote in favour of Mian Altaf Ahmed to get rid of misrule of present government.

Among those who were present include Haji Bagh Hussain, Ch Maqsood, Mohd Afzal Sheikh, Adv Zamir Quarish, Zakir Hussain, Shamim Sahib, Ex sarpanch Khalil, Ex Sarpanch Hanief, Pir Yaseen, Jabar Sahib, Rustam Sahib, Bashir Sahib, Abdul Haq, Mohd Bashir Sahib and Zakir Shah.

## AYUSH Department Doda organizes Yoga Camp in Doda



JNEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 16:

The Department of AYUSH in collaboration with District Administration Doda on Thursday organized a Yoga Camp at Indoor stadium Doda as a prelude to 10th International Day of Yoga 2024.

The today's Yoga activity was based on theme "Yoga for Women Empowerment" and in this regard the students from Government Girls Higher Secondary School Doda were invited to participate in the event.

The Yoga camp was conducted under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Doda Sh. Harvinder Singh IAS and worthy Director Ayush J&K Dr. Mohan Singh and supervised by District Ayush Officer Doda Dr Ajay

Kumar Tickoo. During the Yoga session, about seventy students from Government Girls Higher Secondary School Doda participated in the event and the theme based Yoga Asanas were demonstrated by Yogi Anil Kumar, Dr. Nidhi Padha, Mr. Nawaz and Mr. Kem Kumar. Eleven years old Ms. Diva D/o Mr. Anil Kumar was highlight of the event as she demonstrated all yoga Asanas to the students.

At the end of the yoga session, District Ayush Officer thanked the Chief Education officer Doda, District Youth services and Sports officer Doda, District Information officer Doda, Principal Government Girls Higher Secondary School Doda and participating students for their efforts in making this program a grand success.

## Apni Party deputation calls on Relief Commissioner (M) in Jammu



JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

A deputation of the Apni Party today called on the Relief Commissioner (Migrant), Arvind Karwani to discuss various issues confronted by the migrant Kashmiri Pandits.

As per a press release, the deputation of the Party consisted of Additional General Secretary, Arun Kumar Chibber, senior leader, M.K. Yogi, General Secretary Youth Wing / Spokesperson, Abhay Bakaya, Senior Vice President District Jammu, Vaibhav Mattoo, Devansh Sharma, Vishal Jyutshi, Pran Ji pandita, Chand Ji Bhatt, Chand Ji Kher, G.I. Pandita, Virender Sathoo, Ashok Bahwno, Bansil Lal

Bhat, Pradyuman Koul, Sunita Raina, Rattan Lal Bhat, Hira Lal Bhat, Rajesh Labroo, and others.

During the meeting with the Commissioner Relief (M), the deputation highlighted the glaring difficulties which were faced by the displaced voters on May 13, 2024 during the Srinagar Parliamentary seat.

In these above cited polls, the deputation informed that around 1000 displaced Kashmiri Pandits returned back home without casting their votes and hence, the basic purpose of exercising their right was denied because their names were missing from the voter lists even as they had voter identity cards.

## DPAP will support Engineer Rashid in North Kashmir: Taj Mohiuddin



JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR MAY 16

The Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP), led by Ghulam Nabi Azad, has announced its support for Engineer Rashid from the North Kashmir Lok Sabha Seat. Addressing the media, Treasurer & Incharge North Kashmir, Taj Mohiuddin, stated, "Engineer Rashid is innocent, and people want him out of jail. He has always fought for the people's cause, so this is injustice." He further mentioned that after his son Abrar Rashid's appeal to their chairman Ghulam Nabi

Azad, they have decided to extend their support to Engineer Rashid and appeal to voters to vote for the Pressure Cooker symbol to ensure his victory. Chief Spokesperson Salman Nizami emphasized, "Engineer Rashid has consistently fought for the people. Therefore, we feel it's important to stand by someone who has made sacrifices." He also highlighted Ghulam Nabi Azad's stance on Article 370, stating, "On Article 370, it was only Ghulam Nabi Azad sahib who spoke about it, while other MPs of both NC and PDP remained silent."

## NSS unit of GDC Marheen organizes cleanliness drive



JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

The NSS Unit of Govt. Degree College Marheen, organized a cleanliness Drive under the Swachhata special campaign in the college. The programme was organized under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Anupama Gupta, esteemed principal of the college. In her address, she talked about the importance of better hygiene, sanitation and cleanliness of our surroundings. She appreciated the efforts of NSS unit for organizing a cleanliness drive in the col-

lege campus. She encouraged and supported the NSS volunteers who were actively involved in the event. She also advised the NSS volunteers to carry out the message of cleanliness and its importance to every nook and corner of the society. The entire event was organized under the supervision of Dr. Arun Dev Singh, NSS Programme officer. A large number of NSS volunteers participated in the drive, cleaned and collected garbage from the college campus by setting an example of cleanliness and hygiene in the society.

## Army Doctor provides immediate medical assistance to young girl of Surankote

JNEWS SERVICE  
POONCH, MAY 16

Swift action of Indian Army doctor at Surankote provided immediate medical assistance to a 12 years old girl Miss Uzma Shabbir. The young girl sustained severe injury to her hand from a grass cutting machine. The patient was immediately rushed to medical investigation room at nearby Indian Army post at Daraba, Poonch District. The army doctor immediately provided suturing and skin grafting to address the wound and achieved



hemostasis effectively displaying remarkable dedication to the community.

## Col Vinod honours Best Performers of Nowshera Sub-Division under Rajouri PD

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

On 15/05/2024, a Branch Postmaster's meet was organized by Rajouri Postal Division at Conference Hall Dak Banglow Nowshera. Branch Postmasters of Nowshera Sub Division participated in the meet. Col Vinod Kumar Postmaster General Jammu Region graced the meet as Chief Guest while as Sardar Bachitar Singh Principal Govt. Boys Higher Secondary School was the guest of Honour. Interactive Session was organized in which Branch Postmasters shared experiences and best practices being employed by them for providing comprehensive and cutting edge postal services in this border area.

Col Vinod Kumar PMG Jammu Region motivated and encouraged the BPMs by sharing various success stories of DoP of which he has been the part and parcel, including the one's Sukanya Samridhi



accounts of girl children of few minutes of age. Awards were also distributed amongst best performers in various fields of the Department in recognition of the excellent services rendered by them during the financial year 2023-2024. Smt. Usha Rani BPM Bharore was awarded for her top performance in POSB sector, Smt. Kushma Devi was adjudged as Top PLI/RPLI performer, CELC ka Sikanadar award was given to Sh. Aprajit Kumar BPM Prat, Young Achiever-Kayakalp award was given to Sh. Ajay Singh BPM Dhar. Life time achieve-

ment award was given to Sh. Om Prakash retired BPM Garan. Sh. Roshan Lal BPM Seher was given special achievement award and Sh. Sunil Raina BPM Bajwal was at adjudged as Best BPM.

Sh. Anshuman Tripathi Manager IPPB Rajouri also enlightened the participants about cyber fraud and ways and means to prevent the same. The participants were advised to adopt various precautions to safe guard against like cyber frauds, scams like not sharing OTP with any unauthorized person, not downloading any

unauthorized application or link on their mobile phones and computer not responding calls asking for personal or financial details

Col Vinod PMG Jammu stressed upon the participants to adopt these safeguards scrupulously and also make it a mission to aware the public in their areas about such scams and ways to prevent them. PMG Jammu also stressed that IndiaPost was committed not only to financial inclusion but also to financial literacy.

Principal Govts Boys Higher Secondary School welcomed such interactive session being undertaken by DoP and also suggested that such events be also organized at various education institutes so that young generation is educated regarding various products and services of DoP.

Syed Rouf Ahmad SDI Nowshera presented the welcome address and vote of thanks on the event.

## Dharmarth Trust celebrates Bagalamukhi Jayanti with religious fervour

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Dharmarth Trust today celebrated Bagalamukhi Jayanti with traditional fervour and gaiety here at Natraj Temple inside the premises of historical Shree Raghunathji Temple, Jammu. In this connection, a Hawan was solemnized by Pujaris of Shri Raghunath Temple followed by Aarti in the temple of Mata Bagalamukhi. Ashok Kumar Sharma, IPS (Retd), Trust's Secretary participated in the Hawan. Giving details about the significance of Bagalamukhi Jayanti, the Temple Priest said that Mata Bagalamukhi is one of the ten Mahavidyas (great wisdom Goddesses) in Hinduism. "Mata Bagalamukhi Devi removes the devotees' misconceptions and delusions (or the devotees' enemies) with her cudgel. She is also known as Pitambari."



said that Trust has the history of paying focused attention towards religious activities in the

region and the people associated with this over hundred year's old institution never fail in fulfilling their responsibility of carrying out conventional religious obligations.

He said that today's celebrations of Mata Bagalamukhi Devi Jayanti and several others in the past are being carried out flawlessly in the temples and shrines of Dharmarth Trust since decades and every constituent of the Trust gives his or her hundred percent in ensuring success of these religious functions and events.

He urged the younger generation to visit the shrines and temples to have knowledge of rich culture and traditions associated with this great land of seers and saints.

Later, a Langar was also organized for devotees who took part in the celebrations.

## Kejriwal has lost his mind after going to jail: Yogi

AGENCIES  
BANDA (UP), MAY 16

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday in a strong rebuttal to Aam Aadmi Party convener and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal's claims hinting at Yogi's removal, asserted that the AAP leader has lost his mind after remaining in jail for 50 days.

Addressing an election rally for the Hamirpur-Mahoba Lok Sabha seat in Tindwari, Yogi said, "Kejriwal, who shattered his mentor Anna Hazare's aspirations and sided with the corrupt, is now targeting me. Kejriwal has embraced Congress, against whom Anna protested, like a necklace."

It may be noted that earlier in the day, Kejriwal claimed that Yogi will be removed from the post of Uttar Pradesh CM within two months, if BJP returns to power at the Centre.

Yogi urged the public to cast their votes in favour of the party candidate Pushpendra Singh Chandel from Hamirpur-Mahoba constituency.

"Kejriwal has shattered Anna Hazare's hopes. It must be disheartening for Anna to witness the kind of politics that has arisen from his movement," Yogi said just days after Hazare while voting in the fourth phase of Lok Sabha polls berated Kejriwal for his involvement in the Delhi Liquor scam.

Suggesting that Anna Hazare might never forgive him for this betrayal. He said that since assuming power, the AAP has surrounded itself with cor-



rupt individuals. He said that with Kejriwal in jail, the people of Delhi felt a sense of relief, as if their 'cough' had subsided, but his release would likely cause them to 'cough' again. The CM highlighted the significance of the Tindwari assembly, stating its historical importance in shaping the nation's trajectory. "This assembly has not only produced a CM for the state but also a Prime Minister for the country. When I was invited to participate in a programme here, I felt compelled to attend," he said.

He underscored the remarkable transformation witnessed in Bundelkhand over the past decade. "Previously, this region was dominated by various mafias, including the mining mafia, land mafia, forest mafia and dacoits. Samajwadi Party and Congress were complicit in protecting these criminal elements," he said. Yogi said, "They would nominate such individuals as public representatives, allowing the mafia and dacoits to exploit the populace and plunder the region's resources. As a result, the youth of Bundelkhand were compelled to migrate, while daugh-

ters and sisters faced the arduous task of fetching water from afar." Asserting that the people have witnessed a transformation in Bundelkhand over the past decade, the UP CM said, "This is just the beginning. Bundelkhand will once again lead the country. Gone are the days when daughters and sisters had to travel miles to fetch water. Every household will now have access to tap water and that too, purified through RO systems."

The CM said, "In terms of connectivity, every road is being expanded to accommodate two lanes and four lanes. Tourist destinations are being developed to attract visitors. Our defence corridor will be so robust that when our soldiers fire cannons on the border, it will proudly display 'Made in Banda'."

He said that the youth here struggled to find employment in the past. "However, in the next five years, the tables will turn, and the world will come here seeking job opportunities. By linking Jhansi to Chitrakoot, Mahoba, Hamirpur, and Banda, we aim to establish developed cities comparable to Noida and Greater Noida,"

he said. In a scathing critique of the opposition, Yogi asserted that those who once left Bundelkhand yearning for water and development, compromised the safety of sisters and daughters, robbed youth of job opportunities, and plundered resources, should now be made to yearn for every vote. "Ensure that such individuals lose their deposits in the current elections," he said.

He said that parties like SP, Congress, AAP, and RJD belong to the same category. "When they come into power, they exploit the common man. Fortunately, we have witnessed the transformation of India. The nation's reputation is growing globally, with welfare schemes benefiting the poor. After 500 years, Lord Ram has finally returned to his rightful place," he said.

He said that when Lord Ram embarked on his journey to the forest, he specifically chose Chitrakoot and Bundelkhand. "Ram, whom Nishadraj eagerly awaited, has now reclaimed his rightful throne," he said. Yogi emphasised that every family that has cast their vote for the 'lotus' symbol can rightfully claim credit for the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya. "This collective virtue unites you all," he said while urging voters not to support sinners, tyrants, corrupt individuals, or traitors.

He highlighted that their votes have contributed to liberating India from terrorism, Naxalism, mafias, and dacoits.

## Bangladesh considering top-order switch at T20 World Cup

AGENCIES  
DHAKA, MAY 16

Bangladesh are yet to lock in positions for their batters at the T20 World Cup, with the promotion of a veteran all-rounder Shakib Al-Hasan to No.3 still being considered.

Shakib has batted mainly at No.5 or No.6 at T20I level in recent times, but has performed well when coming in at first drop for Bangladesh in the past. The 37-year-old has scored seven of his 12 half-centuries at T20I level when batting at No.3 and even appeared in this position against India at the most recent T20 World Cup in Australia.

Skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto has batted at No.3 for Bangladesh over the last 12 months, but the 25-year-old was utilised as an opener in Australia at the last edition of the 20-over showcase.

Shanto to lead Bangladesh's squad for T20



World Cup Bangladesh coach Chandika Hathurusingha has suggested that none of his batters were locked into set batting positions for the T20 World Cup and Shanto said the option of promoting Shakib to No.3 was a possibility they were seriously considering. "It depends on the condition and the strength of the opposition but it can happen (Shakib batting at No.3)," Shanto told Cricbuzz.

Litton Das, Tanzid Hossain, Soumya Sarkar are other top-order batters Bangladesh have in their 15-player group for the T20

World Cup and Hathurusingha said all players will need to be ready to bat in any position, based upon the status of the game and the conditions of the pitch. "In T20 cricket, yes. Batting order will be changing. That's normally cricket. It's about where you bat and how best you bat," he said.

Bangladesh are drawn in Group D at the T20 World Cup alongside Sri Lanka, South Africa, Nepal, and the Netherlands, with their opening match of the tournament coming against Sri Lanka in Dallas on June 7.

Bangladesh have pro-

gressed to the second round of competition at the last four editions of the T20 World Cup, but are yet to earn a semi-final berth despite having appeared at every tournament since its inception in 2008.

While Hathurusingha would love to see that change this time around, the former Sri Lanka international has set his side the first goal of making it into the Super 8s stage of the tournament.

"I understand as a country now, we have high aspiration because we have been playing good cricket generally out of ICC events and it's the same (here)," he said.

"We have high expectation as players and the staff and as well as the fans and the country. The first step is to get through this difficult group stage. We are in a very strong group. Then we take, if we get through that one, that's the main target, first one, and then we'll take it from there."

## 'You won't see me for a while' - Kohli hints at post-retirement plans

AGENCIES  
BENGALURU, MAY 16

Former India captain and legendary batter Virat Kohli recently disclosed his plans for life after cricket.

Kohli has given a hint of his post-retirement plans in an emotional interview.

The 35-year-old India batter has been a formidable force, a match-winner, and a game-changer for India over the last decade. Since his international debut in 2008 in an ODI game against Sri Lanka at Dambulla, Kohli has featured in 113 Tests, 292 ODIs, and 117 T20Is.

His tally of 26,733 international runs across formats is studded with 80 centuries, putting him right behind another India great Sachin Tendulkar, who holds the record for the most international centuries (100).

Kohli is showing no sign of slowing down - he's in tremendous form in the ongoing IPL, sitting atop the run charts with 661 runs in 13 innings at 66.10. During a recent gala dinner hosted by Kohli's Royal Challengers Bangalore team, a significant question was raised to the batting stalwart regarding his retirement plans and the motivations behind his drive to score.

"It's quite simple," Kohli told RCB. "I think as a sportsman, we do have an end-date to our careers. So I am just working



backwards. I don't want to finish my career thinking 'oh, what if I have done this on that particular day' because I can't keep going on and on forever."

"So it's just about not leaving any undone business behind and not have any regrets later, which I am sure I won't," he said.

Kohli hinted at taking a break after retiring and expressed his desire to give his best for as long as he continues to play.

"Once I am done, I will be gone, you won't see me

for a while (smiles). So I want to give it everything I have till the time I play, and that's the only thing that keeps me going," he said.

Kohli is set to feature in the upcoming ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 in West Indies and USA, marking his sixth consecutive appearance in the tournament.

He holds the record for most runs in the history of Men's T20 World Cups, leading the list with 1141 runs. Given Kohli's current form, he could elevate that tally further.

India are in Group A of the tournament, alongside arch-rivals Pakistan, Ireland, Canada and co-hosts USA. They begin their T20 World Cup campaign on 5 June against Ireland at the brand new Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in New York before taking on Pakistan four days later.

## I want to win Gold in Olympics for India one day: Prince Deep Singh

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, MAY 16

The Indian Junior Men's Hockey team is gearing up for their tour of Europe scheduled for later this month and Prince Deep Singh, the team's goalkeeper, is thrilled at having a chance to gain some much-needed exposure playing against teams from other countries.

The Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team, led by Rohit, will be playing matches in Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands between May 20 and 29. Among the twenty players selected to be a part of the tour is Prince Deep Singh, who has been picked alongside Bikramjit Singh to shoulder the goal-keeping responsibilities.

Coming from a humble background in the Pathankot district of Punjab, Prince Deep Singh picked up a hockey stick in 2016 for the first time. "I watched the Indian team play on TV and was particularly fond of PR Sreejesh's game. It made us want to try playing



the sport. As I started to enjoy it while playing with my friends, I moved to an Academy," he said.

Prince Deep Singh slowly moved up the ranks and went on to represent Roundglass Punjab Hockey Club Academy in the 2nd Hockey India Junior Men Academy National Championship 2022 before having an opportunity to represent Punjab in the 5th Khelo India Youth Games 2022 which took place in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh where they won the Bronze.

He also represented Hockey Punjab in the 13th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship that took place in June 2023 in Rourkela, Odisha. Although the team finished in fifth place, Prince

Deep left a mark with his goal-keeping prowess during the tournament and over the year across other domestic tournaments as a result of which he was drafted in to be a part of the 40-member Junior Men's National coaching camp in Bengaluru earlier this year.

Speaking about his experience during the camp, he said, "I got to learn a lot. Getting to be among the best Junior players in the country makes you want to put your best foot forward. I worked on getting better with each practice session and it helped that everyone involved motivated me." "We all got to know each other well, both as players and individuals. That goes a long way in

creating a positive team environment," he added.

The Indian Junior Men's team's tour of Europe will help the players develop their game and learn about what they need to work on going into the season. Prince believes it is an opportunity for him to take his game to the next level.

He said, "When you play against teams from other countries, you have to bring your A-game. I see this as an opportunity for the team as well as for myself to identify what we're doing well and what we need to tweak to be able to reach greater heights in the game. That is the reason for this tour and I believe we're going to make full use of it."

"Right now, I'd like to do well for the nation at the Junior level and help us win tournaments with every chance I get and then go on to represent the senior Indian Men's Hockey Team. I want to win the Gold in the Olympics for India one day. That is the ultimate dream," he concluded.

## Australia to host 2026 AFC Women's Asian Cup

AGENCIES  
CANBERRA, MAY 16

Football Australia (FA) has celebrated the country being awarded the hosting rights for the 2026 Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Women's Asian Cup.

The AFC Executive Committee on Wednesday officially ratified the recommendation of the AFC Women's Football Committee that Australia host the 2026 tournament.

The 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand broke attendance records for the tournament, and FIFA President Gianni Infantino described it as the best ever Women's World Cup.

Matches for the 12-team 2026 Women's Asian Cup will take place in the states of New South Wales (NSW), Queensland and Western Australia (WA), all of which hosted World Cup games, including a semifinal and the final at Sydney's Stadium Australia in NSW.

Australia last hosted the Women's Asian Cup in 2006 when the national women's team, the Matildas, made the final for the first time but lost to China on penalties. Australia went on to win the tournament for the first time in 2010 and made the final again in 2014 and 2018 but were defeated by Japan on both occasions. The Matildas are currently on a streak of playing in front of 12 consecutive sell-out crowds in Australia and will next play warm-ups with China in Adelaide on May 31 and in Sydney on June 3.

## Congress never gave due share to backwards since Independence: Shah

AGENCIES  
PATNA, MAY 16

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday alleged that the Congress had never given its due share to backwards since Independence.

Addressing a mammoth public meeting here in support of NDA candidate Devesh Chandra Thakur from Sitamarhi Lok Sabha seat, Shah said the Narendra Modi government not only gave them due respect but also expanded reservation facilities for them in educational institutions, apart from government services.

He said the Congress had never given its due share to backwards since Independence.

Kaka Kalekar Committee gave its report in 1955 with recommendations to provide reservation to backwards in government services but the then Congress government headed by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had kept it in cold storage, he said.

Similarly, the Mandal Commission had given its report for reservation to backwards in government services during the regime of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi but again it was given same treatment as given to Kaka Kalekar Committee report in 1955, he added.

"When debate was held in Lok Sabha for implementation of Mandal Commission recommendation, Rajiv Gandhi, father of Rahul Gandhi had strongly opposed it in House for more than two hours," Shah also a senior BJP leader, said adding that Narendra Modi government had given reservation to backwards in all educational institutions being run by Central gov-



ernment.

Backward Commission was given the statutory status by Narendra Modi government which was being denied by Congress since long, he pointed out.

BJP leader said RJD chief Lalu Prasad had never thought of felicitating great social leader Karpoori Thakur with Bharat Ratna.

Prasad was an influential Minister during Congress-led UPA government at the Centre for five years since 2004 and RJD was also in power in Bihar for 15 years since 1990 but never bothered for honouring Karpoori Thakur, he added.

"It was Prime Minister Narendra Modi who had honoured Karpoori Thakur with Bharat Ratna award this year," Shah said adding Lalu was sitting in the lap of same Congress which denied its rights to backwards. RJD leader never thought of protecting interests of poor and deprived and rather he took special care in promoting his own family

members, he alleged. "Lalu is making all efforts to ensure that his son Tejaswi Prasad Yadav could become Chief Minister of Bihar",

BJP leader said adding that Lalu had been promoting his one daughter after the other in politics. His two sons were already in politics, he stressed.

Shah said that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi did not stop in playing the political game even during the Corona pandemic.

When Narendra Modi government had decided to for massive vaccination drive across the country to save millions of lives during pandemic, Gandhi had questioned the efficiency and efficacy of vaccine, he lamented.

He said both Rahul Gandhi and his sister Priyanka Gandhi got vaccinated silently in night but both leaders continued to mislead the people.

It was highly irresponsible behaviour of Gandhis during Corona pandemic, he remarked.

## Omar Abdullah questions timing of Amit Shah's Kashmir visit

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 16

National Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah on Thursday questioned the timing of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to Kashmir.

Expressing surprise, Omar said Shah is visiting the Valley despite the fact that no BJP candidate is in fray in Kashmir and that he is leaving behind the campaign for his party, BJP.

"Doesn't it look strange that despite BJP having no candidate in fray here, the Home Minister is visiting Kashmir, leaving behind his campaign for the Lok Sabha election", he told media persons in north Kashmir's Bandipora dis-

trict where he addressed an election rally.

Amit Shah is likely to arrive in Srinagar this evening on a two-day visit to meet the party workers.

Omar is contesting from Baramulla Lok Sabha seat and is pitted against the separatist turned mainstream political leader Peoples Conference Chairman Sajad Lone, Mir Fayaz of Peoples Democratic Party and jailed leader Abdul Rashid Sheikh aka Engineer Rashid.

"Perhaps it is the outcome of the Srinagar Parliamentary seat that has been won by our candidate Aga Ruhullah Syed and they (BJP) are now desperate to try to defeat the National conference in the other two Lok Sabha

seats", the former Chief Minister claimed.

He claimed that "the people are with us (NC) and we will register our win in the other two seats—Anantnag and Baramulla as well with good voter turnout".

On Jamaat-e-Islami expressing its willingness to contest polls, the NC Vice President said he has already demanded that the ban on them should be revoked and in the upcoming Assembly election they should participate.

Omar claimed that in the past Jamaat used to support different candidates behind the curtain. "They (Jamaat) will now have their own candidates in the fray should they (Jamaat) take part in the

elections", he added.

Asked about jailed leader Engineer Rashid who is contesting from Baramulla, whose supporters have managed to create a wave in his favour in the constituency, the former CM said that "everyone has the right to campaign in the elections". He said "this wave" won't affect his prospects of winning the elections adding that "it is affecting those who were till yesterday claiming that they, People's Conference President Sajad Lone is winning the election".

"He (Sajad) now says that my defeat is necessary rather than his victory as if he has accepted his failure..."

## Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal pays tribute to Malti Joshi

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, 16 MAY



On the sudden demise of popular writer Padma Shri Smt. Malti Joshi a condolence meeting was organized under the chairmanship of Hon'ble President of Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal, Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh Prant and Vice-Chancellor Central University of Jammu, Prof. Sanjeev Jain. It is noted that popular writer Mrs. Malti Joshi passed away today in Delhi at the age of 90. Mrs. Malti Joshi leaves behind a large family including two sons, Mr. Hrishikesh ji and Mr. Sachchidanand

erature. While delivering the condolence message, Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain said that in this hour of unbearable grief, we all express our deep condolences to his family and prayed to God to give strength to the entire family to bear this immense loss and grant the departed soul a place at your feet. On this occasion, the executive members of Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal, Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh province expressed deep condolences and paid tribute to the departed soul by observing silence for two minutes.

Joshi ji (All India President, Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal). Mrs. Joshi was suffering from cancer for some time. Mrs. Malti Joshi, the author of more than fifty story collections in Hindi and Marathi languages, is considered to be the most popular Hindi story writer after Shivani.

Many universities of the country have done Research work on his lit-

erature. While delivering the condolence message, Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain said that in this hour of unbearable grief, we all express our deep condolences to his family and prayed to God to give strength to the entire family to bear this immense loss and grant the departed soul a place at your feet. On this occasion, the executive members of Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal, Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh province expressed deep condolences and paid tribute to the departed soul by observing silence for two minutes.

## CBC organizes Awareness programme on Electoral Participation at GDC Poonch

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Central Bureau of Communication, Field Office Poonch, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India (J&K, Ladakh) organised a programme under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) to create awareness among citizens about the importance of their participation in the on going Lok Sabha Elections-2024 at Government Degree College (GDC) Poonch.

The event organized by CBC Poonch aimed to engage young voters and highlight the importance of casting their votes in the electoral process. The event was attended by Dr. Jasbir Singh, Principal Govt. Degree College Poonch, Dr. Mohd Akram, SVEEP Co-ordinator GDC Poonch, Sh. Ravinder Singh, District SVEEP Co-ordinator Poonch, Dr. Nusrat Kouser HOD Political Science GDC Poonch, Dr. Yogesh Sharma, HOD Philosophy GDC Poonch other faculty members of GDC Poonch, Teachers & Students of GGHS, GBHSS, Christ School and Jamia Zia Ul Uloom School. Attendees were provided with informative literature highlighting polling process, registration process, use of EVM, facilities for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and Senior citizens and useful apps for voters.

Dr. Jasbir Singh Principal in his address motivated the first time voter to participate actively in the electoral process and urged the audience to spread the message regarding polling day participation to be held 25th Mat 2024.

Dr. Nusrat Kouser and Dr. Yogesh Sharma also spoke during the programme. Speakers also stressed upon gathering for exercising their franchise and also motivating near and dear ones to cast their vote on the poll day. Dr. Mohd Akram, SVEEP coordinator GDC Poonch also addressed the gathering and explained about the initiatives of district administration for free and fare elections in Poonch while welcoming the audience.

During the programme, informative sessions on various topics related to the electoral process and the importance of ethical voting was held. The programme received positive feedback from the participants, who found it informative and engaging. Participants also appreciated the efforts of the CBC Poonch for organizing such a programme and creating awareness about the electoral process. Vijay Mattoo I/c CBC Poonch in his address enlightened the students about working and organization of Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India. He urged the first time voters to participate actively in the Biggest Festival of Democracy and spread the word for motivating all sections of society to contribute in fortifying democratic principles by exercising their Right to Vote.

## National Dengue Day observed at ANMT Doda

JNEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 16:

To mark the celebration of National Dengue Day 2024, the District Malaria Unit under the banner of District Health Society Doda today organized an awareness programme cum debate competition at ANMT School Doda.

Incharge Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr Ab Gafoor Ahmed was the Chief Guest, while Principal ANMT School Doda Anusuya Bhan, Principal Taran Paramedical Institute Ghat Ms Farzana Tabassum, Mashhood Latif, Ms Rubeena Ishtiaq, Ms Saima Kousar besides Staff of CMO Office, Malaria Section and students of ANMT were present on the occasion.

Earlier, the programme was started with the Guest Lectures given by Mr Umar Anayat (District Epidemiologist) and Dr Nasir Masood (Medical Officer) who underlined the signifi-



cance of the day. They also highlighted that dengue can be prevented by controlling the mosquito population through measures such as removing stagnant water resources, using mosquito nets and wearing protective clothing and other important measures which can prevent the spread of the dengue infection.

On this occasion, 06 students from different paramedical institutes viz ANMT School Doda, Taran Paramedical Institute Ghat and Hussain Paramedical Institute Ghat participat-

ed, and highlighted the importance of the day.

Dr Javed Ahmed Parry, Mohd Shafi Attu (HE) and Ms Roma Sharma performed the work of Judges, whereas Mr Farooq Ahmed (JHI) managing and coordinated with the whole event.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Guest Dr Ab Gafoor Ahmed educated participants about the Dengue virus, its prevention and control. "Dengue is still one of the most common vector borne diseases in India and it is essential to be aware of

the preventative measures that individuals should take to battle the illness," he said.

On this occasion, IEC material on Dengue prevention was also distributed among the participants by District Malaria Unit Doda.

In the debate competition, Mehar Ul Nisa of ANMT Doda, Zahid Shafiq of Hussain Paramedical Institute Ghat and Sehar Younis of Taran Paramedical Institute Ghat were declared as 1st, 2nd and 3rd Positions respectively, who were awarded with Memontos and Certificates.

Mr Faizan A Trambo conducted the proceeding of the programme.

Similarly, National Dengue Day was also observed in all Medical Blocks viz Assar, Bhaderwah, Gandoh, Ghat and Thathri, where awareness programmes were held under the supervision of Block Medical Officers.

## BJP neglected Rajouri-Poonch in 10years rule: Congress

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Congress has hit out at the BJP for neglecting Rajouri-Poonch especially in connectivity, as it failed to sanction the Jammu - Poonch railway project and initiate the long awaited tunnel on Mughal road during ten years rule at the centre.

The railway project to Poonch was surveyed in 2012 at the cost of over 13000 cr besides the tunnel on Mughal road was proposed, to provide all weather alternate highway road from Jammu to Srinagar via Rajouri-Poonch but after ten years rule, these vital projects are no where.

Addressing series of meetings in Nowshera area of Anantnag - Rajouri Lok Sabha constituency today JKPC Senior vice President & Chief spokesperson Ravinder Sharma lashed out at BJP for neglecting these vital & Strategic rail & road links for ten years ignoring the most genuine needs of border population and the defence requirements in the sensitive border belt.

UPA govt had initiated the move to lay Jammu Poonch railway line and a tunnel to give all weather road connectivity to Kashmir but these projects were abandoned by BJP govt.

Accompanied by senior

## Dharmarth Trust celebrates Bagalamukhi Jayanti with religious fervour

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Dharmarth Trust today celebrated Bagalamukhi Jayanti with traditional fervour and gaiety here at Natraj Temple inside the premises of historical Shree Raghunathji Temple, Jammu. In this connection, a Hawan was solemnized by Pujaris of Shri Raghunath Temple followed by Aarti in the temple of Mata Bagalamukhi. Ashok Kumar Sharma, IPS (Retd), Trust's Secretary participated in the Hawan. Giving details about the significance of Bagalamukhi Jayanti, the Temple Priest said that Mata Bagalamukhi is one of the ten Mahavidyas (great wisdom Goddesses) in Hinduism. "Mata Bagalamukhi Devi removes the devotees' misconceptions and delusions (or the devotees' enemies) with her cudgel. She is also known as Pitambara."

Ashok Kumar Sharma said that Trust has the history of paying focused attention towards religious activities in the region and the people associated with this over hundred year's old institution never fail in fulfilling their responsibility of carrying out conventional religious obligations. He said that today's celebrations of Mata Bagalamukhi Devi Jayanti and several others in the past are being carried out flawlessly in the temples



and shrines of Dharmarth Trust since decades and every constituent of the Trust gives his or her hundred percent in ensuring success of these religious functions and events.

He urged the younger generation to visit the

shrines and temples to have knowledge of rich culture and traditions associated with this great land of seers and saints.

Later, a Langar was also organized for devotees who took part in the celebrations.

## NAAC Peer Team visits GDC Kilhotran for Accreditation

JNEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 16

A three-member Peer team from National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), visited Government Degree College Kilhotran, Bhalessa on 14th and 15th May, as the College went in for its first ever accreditation.

The Peer team comprised of Dr Nirmala Babu Rao (NAAC Chairman) Professor, Department of Botany, Osmania University Hyderabad; Dr Guruvappa Nagaraja (NAAC Member Co-ordinator) Professor, Department of Economics, Andhra University, Andhra Pradesh and Dr Sandhya Nair (NAAC Member) former Principal, R S Mundle Dhrampeth Arts and Commerce College, Kerala.

The two-day visit began with welcoming the NAAC Peer Team with Guard of Honour by NSS volunteers. On the first day of the visit, Principal GDC Kilhotran Dr Javid Iqbal Zargar welcomed delivered a powerpoint presentation about the College's current status and its recent developments in terms of infrastructure expansion and steps being taken to



implement National Education Policy 2020.

Dr Aslam Rather, IQAC Coordinator, also delivered a powerpoint presentation on the role of College IQAC for ensuring quality initiatives and its sustenance in the college for evolving, enhancing and sustaining excellence in its academic and administrative practices.

NAAC Peer team also interacted with the HoDs of all teaching departments of the College. They also met with the stakeholders of the college, i.e., Parents, Students, Alumni and Director College Development Council, University of Jammu. The team assessed the infrastructure of the College, visited various departments and laboratories and interacted with the teaching and non-teaching staff. The team also visited Principal Quarter

which has recently been constructed and other projects which are under process in the college. On the first day of the visit, College anthem was also unveiled by the NAAC Peer Team followed by a graceful cultural event.

Visits to different facilities like the college library, girl's hostel, browsing centre, NCC, NSS, sports, continued on the second day. The visits were followed by an interaction with the IQAC members and conveners of different college committees. The two-day visit concluded with an exit meeting in which the NAAC Peer team was formally welcomed by the College Principal Dr Javid Iqbal. The NAAC Chairperson gave valuable suggestions for further qualitative development of the institution and handed over the report to College Principal.

## Indian govt must ensure well-being, safety of PoK residents: Wazir

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Responsibility of Indian Government to ensure well being and safety of PoK residents said Wazir

During a media interaction. Sudershan Singh Wazir Chairman Sikh United Front J&K, referred to a massive protest going on in PoK by locals against the oppression and exploitation being done by Pakistani government and paramilitary forces. He added that it seems that Pakistan has forgotten that PoK is integral part of India and in past Indian parliament has passed unanimous resolution twice by declaring PoK as integral part of India and it would be assimilated back into India anytime sooner.

Mr Wazir said that BJP and NDA government had passed Citizenship amendment act and yesterday in Delhi 300 people hailing from minority communities of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan has been granted citizenship certificate under CAA, while on one side Indian government is granting citizenship to foreigners but on the other side they are ignoring the people



residing in PoK.

Mr Wazir appealed to Prime Minister of India, Defence minister of India, Finance minister of India and Home minister of India Amit Shah who is currently on a two day visit to Jammu and Kashmir that PoK is regarded as integral part of India then why the present Indian government is becoming a mute spectator against the atrocities going on against the people of PoK who actually are Indians. He pleaded to Indian government to call upon the Pakistani ambassador and warn them against the ongoing cruelty on the Indians in PoK and it must be stopped immediately as this is unacceptable and intolerable for the Indian government. While referring to the yesterday speeches of Prime Minister of India and Honorable Home minister of India who both said that PoK will be taken back as it is

an integral part of India. Mr Wazir said that we ourselves being the refuge of PoK, Indian citizen and especially citizen of J&K request Indian government to put international pressure on Pakistan government until PoK is assimilated back. It is the responsibility of Indian government to ensure the well being and safety of PoK citizens.

Other Sikh organizations and leaders who participated in the media briefing are Darbinder Singh President Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, Mohinder Singh Chief Organizer Bhai Kanhiya Nishkam Sewa Society J&K and Ex member DGPC Jammu, Rajinder Singh Gen. Secretary Shiromani Akalidali J&K, Ravinder Singh Sarpanch, Gen. Secretary Shiromani Akalidali J&K, Surjeet Singh Kuku Ex President Sikh Naujawan Sabha Simbal, Kultar Singh and Tejpal Singh.

## National Dengue Day: Awareness drive launched in Kathua: IEC Van to target High-Risk areas

JI NEWS SERVICE  
KATHUA, MAY 16

To mark National Dengue Day, a programme was organised in the office of Chief Medical Officer Kathua, here today.

The stakeholder departments resolved to support the Anti-Dengue campaign, recognizing the importance of collective action in combating the viral disease.

Themed "Connect with Community, Control Dengue" the drive took off with enlightening lectures delivered by medical professionals, including Dr. Vijay Raina, Chief Medical Officer, and Dr. Uttam Chand, District Health Officer and Dr. Radha Krishan, District Tuberculosis Officer. The experts underscored the importance of proactive measures in combating dengue. Similar events



were held at the Block Headquarters, underscoring the widespread commitment to public health. The events aimed at educating and engaging the community in preventive measures against dengue. Following the informative session, an IEC van adorned with informative content was ceremoniously flagged off by the CMO. The van will traverse

high-risk areas of urban Kathua, spreading awareness among vulnerable communities.

Emphasizing preventive measures and the availability of free testing and treatment facilities in Government Hospitals, the initiative aims to empower individuals to take charge of their health and well-being.

Pertinently, the Nation-

ally Dengue Day is observed annually on May 16 to raise public awareness about dengue fever, a mosquito-borne viral infection prevalent in over 100 countries worldwide. The day serves as a platform for communities, organizations, and governments to come together and take proactive measures to prevent and control the spread of dengue.

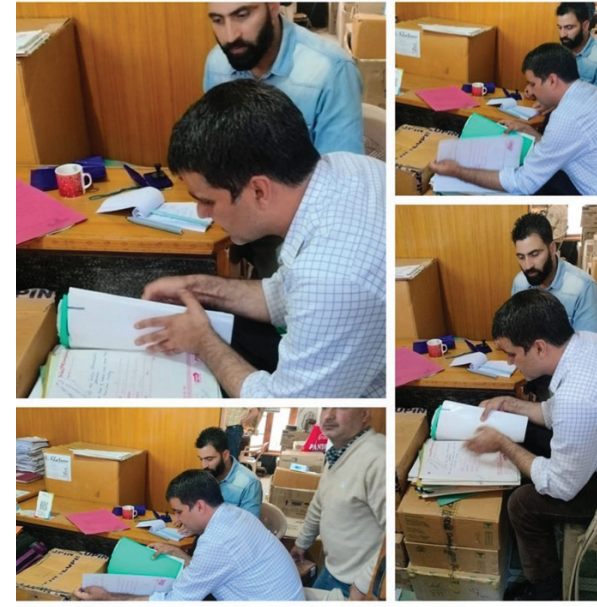
## Drug Control Department Anantnag ensures compliance in Wholesale Sector

JI NEWS SERVICE  
ANANTNAG, MAY 16

A team of officials from Drug Control Department Anantnag headed by the Drug Control Officer today undertook thorough inspections across the district including at Sangam Bijbehara, Achabal and Chenichowk to assess the operational status of wholesale firms and ensure adherence to regulatory directives.

The team scrutinized a total of 63 premises to ascertain their operational status and compliance with issued guidelines. It was discovered that 36 firms were non-operational. Notices have been promptly served to these entities, urging them to provide explanations for their prolonged closure.

Concurrently, measures have been initiated to revoke the licenses of these non-compliant firms, with



photographic evidence substantiating their inactive status.

Furthermore, the inspection uncovered commendable efforts by operational wholesale firms in the area. Many of these establishments have

embraced modern practices, such as installing CCTV cameras and adopting computerized billing systems. These initiatives align with regulatory requirements, enhancing transparency and accountability within the wholesale sector.

## TLSC Chadoora organizes Blood Donation Camp

JI NEWS SERVICE  
BUDGAM, MAY 16

Tehsil Legal Services Committee (TLSC) Chadoora under the aegis of J&K Legal Services Authority today organized a 'Blood Donation Camp' at Tehsil premises Chadoora.

The event was held under the directions and guidance of Khalil Ahmad Chowdhary, Chairman District Legal Services Authority Budgam and under the chairmanship of Mir Wajahat, Chairman TLSC Chadoora and 313 Blood Donors Volunteers Trust Kashmir in collaboration with Sub-District Hospital Chadoora, garnering overwhelming support from the local community.

The main aim of

the programme was to educate the public about the importance of blood donation, its lifesaving impact, and dispelling myths or misconceptions surrounding the donation process and providing individuals with an opportunity to contribute to the well-being of others, empowering them to make a tangible difference in their community.

Qualified medical professionals from Sub-District Hospital Chadoora supervised the donation process, ensuring the highest standards of safety and hygiene. Donors were guided through each step of the process, from registration to post-donation care, with utmost care and professionalism.

The event witnessed

the first donation from Mir Wajahat Chairman TLSC Chadoora/ Sub-Judge Chadoora. Additionally several Bar Members and locals also participated and donated their share.

Donors, volunteers and attendees were awarded certificates of appreciation for their valuable contribution by Chairman TLSC Chadoora.

The event saw a remarkable turnout of around 60 points, with individuals from all walks of life coming forward to donate blood. Their generosity and compassion exemplify the spirit of community solidarity and support during times of need, helping to alleviate shortage of blood supply in hospitals and healthcare facilities to a certain extent.

## DLSA Kupwara conducts Awareness programme at GHSS Hatmulla

JI NEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, MAY 16

As per the strategic Action Plan-2024 of JK Legal Services Authority, an awareness programme regarding NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection Scheme - 2015) was conducted at Govt. Higher Secondary School Hatmulla, here.

The programme was organised by District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Kupwara in collaboration with the Education Department, Kupwara.

The programme was held under the supervision of Chairperson, DLSA (Pr. District & Session Judge) Kupwara, Shazia Tabasum and under the immediate guidance of Secretary DLSA/Sub-Judge, Kupwara, Manzoor Ahmad Khan.

The programme was



aimed at creating awareness among the participants about the various Constitutional provisions specific to children and their rights, develop a conceptual understanding of various rights of children and child protection policies and procedures, and gain an in-depth and nuanced understanding of Child Friendly Legal Services available to Children under the NALSA Scheme - 2015.

Speaking before the gathering, Resource Person, Tawseef Raja (Assistant Legal Aid Defence Counsel Kup-

wara), gave an elaborate speech on NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children & Their Protection) Scheme - 2015 and the history behind enactment of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. He also highlighted the prevention of child exploitation and to combat the alarming issues of child abuse and trafficking.

He stressed on the trauma faced by the child victim and the importance of their mental health and sought the intervention of the Support Persons to mitigate the survivors

from being re-traumatized.

Resource Person emphasized the significance of understanding the constitutional framework of child rights and child protection. Apart from the constitution rights, he also stressed upon various legislations like, 'The Child Labour Prohibition & Regulation Act, Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, Right of Children to Free & Compulsory Education Act-2009 and POCSO Act.'

Principal Govt. Higher Secondary School, Hatmulla applauded the efforts of DLSA Kupwara for organising programmes in education institution of district

The programme was attended by Staff Members of Govt. Higher Secondary School, Hatmulla, students and Para legal Volunteers, DLSA Kupwara.

## Govt Polytechnic Jammu organizes technical visit for students to Electrical Central Workshop Narwal



JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 16

Government Polytechnic College Jammu, under the guidance of the Principal Er. Arun Bangotra and HoD Electrical Engineering Department Er. Manjeet Singh, organized a Technical Visit for the students of 4th Semester Electrical Engineering Department to Electrical Central Workshop Division Narwal. The Technical visit served as a valuable opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of real world applications within their field of Study. The event underscored the importance of such initiatives in fostering academic growth and Practical

knowledge among aspiring engineers.

A group of Technical Experts consisting of Er. Bhanu Partap Singh Jamwal Technical officer, Er. Punica A.E, Er. Sanjeev Dutta J.E and Er. Pratiksha J.E briefed the students regarding Repair/Reclamation of Distribution Transformers with Capacity ranging from 25 KVA to 630KVA. The Students were taken around the workshop premises and imparted know how about the various works being carried out like Opening of transformers, Rewinding of Transformers with the use of Winding Machines (HT winding and LT winding and reconditioning of LT winding), Assembling

of Transformer, Heat Treatment in three Ovens for obtaining the desired Megger value of the assembled transformer, designing the transformer for Star and delta connections, filtration of oil by using Oil filtration plant, sampling of filtered oil to obtain desired BDV of oil and finally filling the transformer body with transformer oil followed by closing of repaired transformers.

The students were further updated about testing of repaired transformers in the Testing lab, including HV Test and LV Test, Meggar Test, Core losses test, Copper losses test and open circuit, Short Circuit test, Double voltage double frequency test and turns

ratio test.

In addition to this, Technical Experts apprised the students regarding the History of Electrical Central Workshop Division, which was set up in the year 1986 over a large area. The team informed that approximately 600 to 650 Repaired Transformers are kept ready to meet the demand. The Transformer Testing Laboratory in the Central Transformer workshop is one of the unique Testing labs in the Province, they said.

Er. Devika Bhardwaj and Er. Vicky Sharma faculty Electrical Engineering Department were also present along with Students during the Technical Visit.

## GDC Kishtwar organises Seminar on 'Hazardous effect of Plastic Waste on Environment'

JI NEWS SERVICE  
KISHTWAR, MAY 16

Eco Club and NSS Unit of Government Degree College Kishtwar, in collaboration with the Pollution Control Committee, on Thursday hosted a seminar on the critical issue of hazardous effects of plastic waste on the environment and strategies to manage it, as part of the Mission Life: Life Style for Environment Programme.

The event featured esteemed keynote speakers, Dr. Mohan Snehi (Divisional Officer, Pollution Control Committee Kishtwar) and Dr. Ravi Sharma (Senior Manager Environment, Kiru Hydro Electric Project CVPP).

Dr. Snehi gave a comprehensive overview of plastic types, shared intriguing facts and delved into the significant problems and hazardous effects of plastic on the ecosystem.

Earlier, the seminar commenced with a warm welcome address by Dr. Sehrish Gazal, HOD Environmental Sciences.

Dr. Ravi Sharma highlighted the challenges posed by plastic and showcased his creative side by



presenting his composition titled "Nanhi se Bacchi" on environmental pollution. His thought-provoking poetry resonated with the audience, prompting reflection on individual responsibilities towards environmental preservation.

The College Principal Prof. Basharat Iqbal commended the speakers for enlightening lectures and lauded the Committee for

organizing an engaging and informative session crucial for the current environmental scenario. He stressed the significance of the role of an individual in protecting and safeguarding our environment.

Around 150 students actively participated in the seminar, gaining valuable insights.

The faculty members in attendance included Prof. N.K.Manhas, Dr.

Prelude to 10th Int'l Day of Yoga 2024: Ayush Doda hosts Yoga Camp

JI NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 16

Department of AYUSH in collaboration with District Administration Doda organized a Yoga Camp here in the Indoor stadium as a prelude to 10th International Day of Yoga 2024. The Yoga activity themed "Yoga for women Empowerment" was attended by the students from Government Girls Higher Secondary School.

The Yoga camp was conducted under the guidance of the Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh and Director Ayush J&K, Dr. Mohan Singh and supervised by District Ayush Officer Dr. Ajay Kumar Tikoo. About seventy students from Government Girls Higher Secondary School participated in the event and the theme based Yoga Asanas were demonstrated by Yogi Anil Kumar, Dr. Nidhi Padha, Nawaz and Kem Kumar. Eleven year old Diva was the highlight of the event as she demonstrated all yoga Asanas before the students.

At the end of the yoga session, the District Ayush officer thanked the Chief Education officer, District Youth services and Sports officer, District Information officer, Principal Government Girls Higher Secondary School and participating students for their efforts in making this program a grand success.