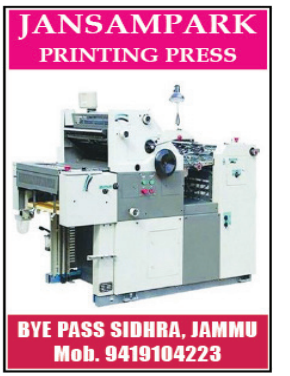




# JINDRAH IMAGES



DAILY | JAMMU | VOL NO: 11 | ISSUE NO: 120 | PAGES: 12 | PRICE: Rs 2/- | RNI NO: JKENG/2013/49471 | POSTAL REGD. NO. JK-497/22-24 | dailyjindrahimages.com/Epaper.php | jindrahimages123@gmail.com

## People of my country are my successors: PM Modi

AGENCIES  
MAHARAJGANJ (BIHAR), MAY 21

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday anointed all his countrymen as his successor. Reacting sharply to the successor jibe by the Opposition, Modi declared that he has no heir except for the people of his motherland who will be the next-in-line to his legacy.

Addressing a rally here in Bihar in favour of NDA candidates, Modi said: "I do not have any successor and legacy, people of the country are my only successor and legacy".

Modi spoke out on the successor issue with an intention to put an end to spiralling conjectures that Modi will vacate office as he turns 75 (as per his own diktat) and the mantle will fall on Union Home Minister and longtime associate Amit Shah "his successor".

Modi said he would strive for the development of Bihar and Bharat for the bright future of their successor, the people of the country.



Reiterating his commitments for taking strong and major decisions for welfare of the poor, the Prime Minister said that he does not want his successors to face the pangs of poverty any more and appealed to them to again elect a strong government at the Centre for securing a bright future for their next generation.

"Whenever the opposition comes together, they nurture communalism, casteism and dynastic culture to an extreme dimension," Modi alleged adding that the leaders of the opposi-

tion parties were concerned only about their own sons and daughters and not for the common people.

He said as June 4, the day for declaration of Lok Sabha elections results, was getting closer the opposition was finding it unbearable to digest that voters were once again going to elect Narendra Modi.

The Prime Minister said that to provide justice to the poor and common people his government introduced "Nyaay Samhita" (judicial code) changing the

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## Indian Philosophy must be taught in all universities of J&K: LG Sinha

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

The Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha Tuesday said that the Indian Philosophy must be taught in all universities of Jammu and Kashmir.

According to the news agency Sinha said this while chairing a meeting of the Higher Education Council at Raj Bhawan.

Sinha on the occasion said that in the past two years, the Jammu and Kashmir



Higher Education Council has taken many important steps for the comprehensive and holistic transformation.

"Nowadays, due to the major positive reforms, the higher educational institutions of Jammu and Kashmir are being

praised." "I think many of our Vice Chancellors in Jammu

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## JK Govt issues urgent reminder for deputation of assistants for Training Secretariat Course

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

The General Administration Department (GAD) here on Tuesday issued an urgent reminder to all Administrative Secretaries regarding the deputation of Senior Assistants and Junior Assistants for the J&K Secretariat

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## Government Orders 4% Hike in Dearness Allowance for J&K Employees

KNO CORRESPONDENT  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

The Finance Department of Jammu and Kashmir Government on Tuesday announced a 4% increase in Dearness Allowance (DA). This decision, detailed in Government Order No. 8-F of 2024, will be effective from January 1, 2024.

As per the news agency

the order, signed by Principal Secretary Santosh D. Vaidya, stated that the revised DA rate will now be 50% of the basic pay per month. This increment is applicable to all government employees working in regular pay levels as recommended by the 7th Pay Commission.

Key points from the order include the revised DA will be paid in cash from May 2024

onwards, with arrears for the period from January to April 2024. Payment calculations will follow specific rounding rules: fractions of less than 50 paise will be ignored, while those of 50 paise and above will be rounded to the next rupee. The increased DA is classified as part of the monthly salary and does not include any other special pay types.

## PoJK woman repatriated in Poonch

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

A 45-year-old woman from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) was handed over to Pakistan Army along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, two days after she was detained after she inadvertently crossed to the Indian side, officials said.

Naseem Fatma, a native of Sakhi Nath village in Kotli district, was detained by the Indian army late Saturday night from forward village

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## Two officers of APD given addl charges

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

The Agriculture Production Department has assigned temporary assignments to two officers.

As per an order, Satish Sharma, currently the Joint Director (Extension) Jammu, will look after the responsibilities of Joint Director of the State Land Use Board

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## Lt Governor interacts with Yuva Sangam's youth delegation from Maharashtra under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today interacted with the youth delegation from Maharashtra, at Raj Bhawan.

In his address, the Lt Governor welcomed the Youth who are on a five-day visit to J&K for Yuva Sangam, under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative. He said the initiative aims to strengthen people-to-people connect between youth, including on-campus and off-campus students, of the two regions.

"Yuva Sangam reflects the spirit of NEP 2020 with focus on experiential learning and youth are provided with

opportunity to explore the rich diversity of the country and diverse facets of ancient heritage. During the tours, multi-dimensional exposure under five broad areas-Tourism, Traditions, Development, People-to-People connect and Technology is provided to the youth delegation," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor highlighted deep spiritual, cultural, emotional and creative bond between J&K and Maharashtra. He said since Bhakti-Kaal, the two region's traditions are deeply rooted in devotional beliefs. He also informed the delegates that land has been provided to construct Maharashtra Bhawan in J&K UT.

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## Max may cross 44°C by May end in Jammu: Official

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

With already no respite in sight, the weatherman has further predicted that the maximum temperature by May end can breach 44 degrees Celsius in Jammu amid an ongoing heatwave condition.

The IMD official here on Tuesday said that there is no major forecast of rain and the weather will generally remain dry till May end.

"As the day temp is recorded between 41 degrees to 42 degrees, it is expected to cross



44 degrees in coming days, probably by May 27-28," said an official.

As per a year-wise detailed

IMD image, the maximum temperature recorded on May 26, 1984 in Jammu was 47.4 degrees and it was an all-time

record. As per the image, on May 23, 2023, maximum temperature recorded was 42.0; on May 15, 2022 it was 43.9; on May 27, 2021, it was 41.6; on May 28, 2020 it was 42.6; on May 31, 2019 it was 44.1; on May 30, 2018, it was 43.5; on May 27, 2017, it was 41.7; on May 20, 2016 it was 43.2; on May 26, 2015 it was 40.5 and on May 29, 2014 it was 41.8 degrees Celsius.

The official said that from May 21 to 28, generally dry weather with possibility

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## JK Govt Appoints Nodal Officers for "No Dues Certificates" amid ongoing Elections

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 20

In a move aimed at streamlining the electoral process, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has appointed the Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu as "Union Territory Level Nodal Officers" responsible for handling requests for "No Dues Certificates" from prospective candidates.

According to Government Order No. 1065-JK(GAD) of

2024, issued by the General Administration Department (GAD) and dated May 20, 2024, this appointment is a critical step in ensuring that candidates meet all necessary prerequisites before participating in the upcoming elections. The order, signed by Commissioner/Secretary to the Government Sanjeev Verma, IAS, covers the responsibilities of the newly appointed nodal officers.

The "No Dues Certificate" is an essential document

that candidates must obtain to confirm they have no outstanding obligations or dues, which is a requisite for eligibility in the electoral process. The appointment of nodal officers aims to facilitate a smooth and efficient process for candidates to obtain these certificates.

The directive has been circulated to several high-ranking officials and departments, including all Financial Commissioners, the

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## ACB registers case against officers/officials of enforcement wing

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday registered a case against officers/officials of Enforcement Wing, then Chief Town Planner, then VC JDA and the beneficiary Hilal Rather

Anti-Corruption Bureau registered a Case FIR No. 06/2024 Police Station ACB Jammu under section 5 (1) (d) r/w 5 (2) of J&K PC Act Samvat 2006 and 120-B RPC against officers/officials of Enforcement wing, then Chief Town Planner and then Vice Chairman of JDA as well as beneficiary namely Hilal Ahmad Rather on the outcome of a verification to look into the allegations that JDA has illegally approved construction of IT Park in favour of Hilal Rather on back dated site plan for three-storey building by knowing the fact that there is no provision to regulate an illegal construction.

The verification conducted revealed that back dated permission was granted for construction of IT park in favour of Hilal Rather by BOCA

(JDA) with the conditions that building shall be used only for IT purpose but

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## Jackie praises people of Kashmir for support during "Singham Again" shoot

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

Bollywood actor Jackie Shroff on Tuesday expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the authorities and people of Kashmir for their unwavering support during the shooting of the film "Singham Again."

In a video shared by the Information and Public Relations Department of Jammu and Kashmir on 'X', Shroff praised the region and its people.

"The way this place (Kashmir) is beautiful, the same way your people are beautiful. It was a lot of fun. Everyone enjoyed it," he said.



Shroff mentioned that the shooting of "Singham Again" was wrapping up, and the team was preparing to return to Mumbai after a delightful experience in Kashmir. He

emphasized the exceptional support received from the authorities, adding, "We had the full support of the people and felt very nice to see so many tourists visiting here."

Reflecting on the overall experience, Shroff noted, "Everyone enjoyed it, including the people of Kashmir who witnessed the film shooting, and we enjoyed the trip the most."

He extended his gratitude to the J&K Government for their unwavering support to the film industry professionals who visit to shoot movies and other projects. He praised the warm hospitality and

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## NDPS Cases: Property, assets worth Rs 2.25 cr attached in Rajouri

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Sending a clear and unequivocal message across to those involved in drug-related offenses, the Jammu and Kashmir Police have attached property and assets worth Rs. 2.25 crores belonging to individuals involved in cases under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, a spokesperson said on Tuesday.

The property and assets were attached in less than a month in Rajouri district.

The police spokesman here said continuing with its reso-



lute move to combat and free Rajouri from the menace of drugs, police attached the property of an alleged drug peddler, namely Mohd Shakoor alias Shakoor, a resident of Dhani Dhar, Rajouri.

The arrested person is accused in ten FIRs registered in different police stations of the district under the NDPS Act, said the spokesman. Notably, the accused had

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## Div Com Jammu reviews progress of work on DAK expressway in Reasi District

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
REASI, MAY 21

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, today reviewed the progress of work on Delhi-Amritsar-Katra (DAK) expressway in the Reasi District. He also undertook a comprehensive sector wise review of developmental initiatives in the district.

Chairing a meeting of district officers, the Divisional Commissioner took appraisal of the progress of the projects being implemented by the concerned departments and issued directions pertaining to the district's development.

District Development Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan, apprised the chair on the to-date progress of DAK Expressway and other ongoing projects. He gave a detailed



presentation, highlighting the progress of work on Delhi Amritsar Katra Expressway in Reasi.

The Div Com directed the Deputy Commissioner to expedite the land acquisition and compensation processes, for timely completion of the ambitious road project.

In addition to the DAK Expressway, the meeting also reviewed projects across sectors including Education, Health, PHE, PWD, PDD and PMGSY and the achievements under the District Capex budget.

The Div Com, after assessing the status of works under various departments, directed the Executive Engineers to double their efforts to ensure early execution of the projects. He emphasized the importance of resolving interdepartmental issues to streamline project execution.

He directed the Jal Shakti Department to proactively address water supply challenges in the district.

The Div Com directed for close monitoring of the works being executed by the Public Works

Department to ensure use of the quality material and timely completion of major road projects, including macadamization works and construction of bridges. He issued the exclusive direction for the completion of the Reasi to Ransoo road project by June end.

The Div Com stressed on accelerating the pace of works across all developmental works, for their time-bound completion.

The meeting also delved into the status of minor mineral blocks in Reasi district, discussing procedures, environmental clearances and measures against illegal mining activities.

ADDC, ADC, PO Poshan, SE PWD, ACR, ACD, CMO, CEO, SDM's, XEN's and other district officers were present.

## YSS Ganderbal hosts thrilling Inter-School, Inter-Zonal District level Sports Competitions

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
GANDERBAL, MAY 21

Youth Services and Sports (YSS) Ganderbal, in alignment with its calendar of activities, showcased a vibrant display of sporting prowess today, hosting an array of exhilarating sports events spanning all four zones of the District.

The day kicked off with an electrifying inter zone district level football competition for girls under 14 years at BHSS Hariganwan ground. The event witnessed spirited participation from all corners of the district, with Zone Tullamulla clinching victory in a riveting final match against Zone Kangan, securing the championship with a 1-0 win.

The winning teams were honored with trophies, underscoring their remarkable achievements. Meanwhile, at BHSS



Kurhama, Zone Tullamulla orchestrated an action-packed inter-school zonal-level Kabaddi competition for boys under 14 years, drawing the participation of 18 teams and 160 students.

Hyderia Model School Tullamulla emerged victo-

rious, showcasing exemplary sportsmanship and skill, and was duly recognized alongside the commendable efforts of the runner-up, BHSS Kurhama.

The day's festivities extended to intramural sports competitions in

Kho-Kho at MS Larson and Kabaddi at MS Kurag, attracting a plethora of enthusiastic students eager to showcase their athletic talents and forge unforgettable memories on the field.

In tandem, Zone Kangan played host to an enthralling Inter school Zonal level Kabaddi event for girls under 17 and under 19 years at the scenic Zonal Office Kijpara Kangan.

GHSS Kangan triumphed in both categories, demonstrating their prowess in Kabaddi and securing well-deserved victories over spirited opponents.

The commendable performances of all teams were celebrated during a ceremonious trophy presentation, amplifying the spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie.

## Chairman DLSA, Ganderbal chairs UTRC meeting

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
GANDERBAL, MAY 21

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Ganderbal under the aegis of J&K Legal Services Authority conducted quarterly meeting of the Under Trial Review Committee (UTRC) in District Ganderbal today, for the quarter of April-June, 2024.

The meeting was convened in order to expedite the identification and review of prisoners who are eligible to be considered for release, as well as to accelerate the regular functioning of UTRC and review all eligible under-trial prisoners (UTPs)/Prisoners.

The meeting was chaired by Chairman, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Ganderbal, Ritesh Kumar Dubey with the members of the Under Trial Review Com-



mittee (UTRC).

In the meeting, the committee reviewed cases of eligible UTPs/Prisoners shortlisted by the Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal for consideration. The committee recommended 03 cases of UTPs/Prisoners and directed Legal Aid Defense Counsels to take necessary steps and file applications/bail applications.

The meeting was attended by Secretary,

DLSA Ganderbal, Nusrat Ali Hakak; Senior Superintendent of Police, Sandeep Gupta; Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Gulzar Ahmad Khan; Chief Prosecution Officer, Ganderbal, Shafat Ahmad; DYSP DAR, Nazir Ahmad; Officer Incharge, Subsidiary Jail, Dignibal Ganderbal, (ASI), Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel, Ganderbal and Assistant Legal Ad Defense Counsel, Ganderbal.

## Lok Sabha Elections 2024: SVEEP Team organises mega voters' awareness rally at Rajouri

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, MAY 21

The SVEEP Team Rajouri today organised a grand voters' awareness rally, drawing the participation of around one thousand students and staff of various educational institutions including from PG College, BHSS, GHSS, HEM and others.

The awareness rally was organised under supervision of District Election Officer, Om Prakash Bhagat.

The rally was flagged off by District Election Officer traversed through various routes with students displaying placards adorned with enlightening messages concerning SVEEP and chanting empowering slogans such as "my vote my choice," "my vote-my right," "mera vote- mera haq," and "vote for democracy," "my vote-my future". The rally culminated at



the illustrious Sports Stadium Rajouri.

At the Sports Stadium, attendees were treated to the riveting final match of the T20 Rajouri Cup, a collaborative endeavor of the District SVEEP Cell and the Sports Association Rajouri. The tournament which commenced on April 21, 2024, witnessed the participation of 34 competitive teams and culminated today amidst enthusiastic cheers and applause.

The event reached its pinnacle with prize distribution ceremony, wherein the victorious and Runner-up teams, alongside organizers, were bestowed with mementos, cash

prizes and medals by District Election Officer.

Earlier, the District Election Officer lauded the relentless efforts of the District SVEEP Team in orchestrating diverse activities across the District under SVEEP. He emphasized the imperative role of voter participation in fortifying democracy and urged the sports enthusiasts and student community to actively propagate the message of SVEEP in their respective localities, thereby striving towards the target of achieving 75% voter turnout in forthcoming election.

The program culminated with a gracious vote of

thanks from DNO SVEEP Prof. Mohammad Iqbal Raina, underscoring the collaborative spirit and unwavering dedication towards fostering a vibrant democratic ethos within the community.

Principal PG College Rajouri Prof Shamim Ahmed Azad, Dy DEO Shakeel Ahmed Malik, ACR Rajouri Jangheer Khan, DNO SVEEP Prof. Mohammad Iqbal Raina, Chief Education Officer Rajouri Mohammad Mushtaq, Principal BHSS Rajouri Rakesh Kumar, Principal GHSS Rajouri Gulzar Husain, Manager J&K Sports Authority Rajouri, along with dedicated members of the SVEEP team viz ; Khalid Rayaz, Ajaz Nazir, Mohammad Azam, Mohammad Ayaz Raina, Aftab Shawl, Aashiq Shawl and representatives from the JK Police department, also remained present at the occasion.

## BMO led team inspects patient care in SDH Gandoh

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 21

Block Medical Officer, leading a departmental team, today visited Sub District Hospital Gandoh to conduct a thorough physical verification of the general store and general patient care in the health institution.

The team meticulously inspected the facility, ensuring that all medical supplies and equipment were properly accounted for and stored under appropriate conditions.

This verification process is a part of regular checks to maintain high standards of healthcare services. Such inspections are crucial for ensuring that the healthcare facilities remain well-stocked and that the inventory management is up to date and efficient.

## J&K Legal Services Authority is making all efforts to ensure good health of jail inmates: Justice Tashi

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

Understanding the importance of ensuring healthcare facilities to jail inmates in UT of J&K, the J&K Legal Services Authority under the patronage of Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, who is also Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority and under the directions of Justice Tashi Rabstan, Senior-most Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority held a Mega Medical Check-up Camp at Central Jail, Srinagar in collaboration with DLSA Srinagar, Department of Prisons, UT of J&K, Directorate of Health Services, Kashmir and Department of Health & Medical Education.

Justice Tashi, who was the Chief Guest on the occasion was accompanied by Rajni Rabstan, Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary and Muzamil Kabli, Under Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority was warmly received by Deepak Kumar, DG Prisons, Jawad Ahmed, Principal District & Sessions Judge (Chairman, DLSA) Srinagar, Sheikh Zulfikar Azad, Superintendent, Central



Jail Srinagar, Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, Director, Health Services Kashmir, Prof. (Dr) Iffat Hassan Shah, Principal, GMC Srinagar, Jahangir Ahmed Bakshi, Secretary, DLSA Srinagar and Dr. Aijaz Shah, Principal, Govt. Dental College, Srinagar.

The Mega Medical Check-up Camp was conceptualized by Justice Tashi Rabstan who in his address stressed upon organizing such type of camps on regular basis to curtail the filing of petitions in the courts by the under trials for their medical examination. He further said that the jail

inmates are immensely benefitted in such programs as all the specialist doctors of various departments like General Medicine, Surgery, Ophthalmology, Dermatology, Orthopaedics, Psychiatry, Cardiology, Dental & Oral Medicine, Gynaecology, ENT etc. are available for consultation and advice to the needy inmates.

Prof. (Dr) Iffat Shah, Principal, GMC Srinagar, Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, Director, Health Services Kashmir, Prof. (Dr) Aijaz Shah, Principal, Govt. Dental College, Srinagar and Dr. Aijaz Ahmad, Consultant, Insti-

tute of Mental Health and Neurosciences Kashmir in their respective addresses appreciated the efforts of Legal Services Institutions in bringing all the stakeholders on one platform for good health and wellbeing of jail inmates besides acknowledging the importance of organizing such camps on regular basis. They also assured complete support to J&K Legal Services Authority in all such future endeavours.

Dr. Mushtaq also informed the gathering that all the investigation and body profile testing shall be done in the camp,

which can roll over to one more day depending upon the medical needs of prisoners. He further said that all the medicines that would be prescribed by doctors including spectacles by the ophthalmologists shall be provided to the patients free of cost.

The opening remarks were presented by Sheikh Zulfikar Azad, Superintendent, Central Jail, Srinagar whereas Jahangir Ahmad Bakshi, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Srinagar conducted the proceedings of the program and Saba Shawl, Staff Officer to DG Prisons presented vote of thanks.

Those who attended the program include Dr. Tahir Sajad, CMO Srinagar, Shabir Ahmad, Deputy Superintendent, Central Jail, Srinagar, Dr. Aijaz Ahmad, Dr. Mir Mushtaq, Dr. Aasim Farooq, Dr. Aasifa, Dr. Sameena, Super-Specialist and Specialist doctors, Para-Medical staff, Technicians, Lab Assistants etc of Health Department, GMC Srinagar, Govt. Dental College Srinagar and Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Kashmir, Security personal of CISF, staff of Central Jail, Srinagar and PLVs of DLSA Srinagar.

## "Nasha Mukh Bharat" DIPR Cultural Unit organizes Symposium, Painting Competition at GHS Meen Sarkar Samba



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Cultural Unit, Department of Information and Public Relations, Jammu today organised a Symposium and Painting Competition on the topic "Nasha Mukh Bharat" at Government High School Meen Sarkar Samba.

The event was organised to engage with the students and sought their views on the challenges posed by drug abuse. The students efficiently underlined the steps needed to be taken to combat drug abuse. They also present-

ed skits, rap, poems, songs etc.

Students were judged on parameters of Pronunciation, Modulation of Voice, Factual Representation, confidence etc.

Manjeet Kour, Charnder Prabha and Bhupinder Kour were the Judges for the day. Nisha Chadda, teacher of the school, hosted the event.

A total number of 10 students participated in the Symposium competition. First position was secured by Priya, second position by Jafia and third position was bagged by Khushi.

In the painting competition Sania, Madhu and Tania got first, second and third prizes.

Headmaster of the School, Bharat Prasad educated the students regarding the topic and lauded the Department of Information & Public Relations for organising the programme in the school.

Among others, staff members and students witnessed the programme.

The whole programme was conducted under the supervision of Cultural Officer Jammu, Nasir Ahmed Khan.

## GDC Ramgarh organises campaign to provide Water to Birds

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBHA, MAY 21

National Service Scheme unit 'Prabha' of Government Degree College Ramgarh, in collaboration with Department of Environmental Sciences, organized a campaign to provide water to birds to highlight the importance of showing compassion to all living beings in the college premises.

The event was conducted under able guidance and leadership of Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, the Principal of the College. In her address, she emphasized the importance of such initiatives which will support our local ecosystem. She appreciated the initiative of NSS Unit and applauded the efforts. The NSS volunteers initiated the drive by placing earthen pots filled with water throughout the college premises to quench the thirst of birds, butterflies etc. Prof. Brham Dutt, Program Officer, NSS and PTI Ashok Kumar supervised the whole drive, and Dr. Shivali Panigotra compiled and reported the event.

This initiative aims to provide essential hydration to birds during the hot



summer months, enhancing biodiversity and fostering a connection with nature among students and faculty. Moreover, the NSS volunteers promise to regularly maintain

and refill the earthen pots to ensure a continuous supply of fresh water for the birds.

All the faculty and NSS volunteers actively participated in the drive.

## ITI, Polytechnic students shine at India Skill Competition 2024

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Director Skill Development J&K, Sudershan Kumar congratulated students of Different ITIs for their success at India Skill Competition 2024.

The Skill Development Department of Jammu and Kashmir is proudly celebrating the remarkable achievement of its students at the prestigious India Skill Competition 2024, organized by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in New Delhi on March 19, 2024. The ITI students from J&K competed with talented individuals from across different ITIs of the nation, showcasing their expertise and vying for top honours in various skill categories. The students from ITIs of Jammu and Kashmir displayed excep-

tional skills and dedication, bringing home several medals and making the region proud. Their success is a testament to the quality of training and the emphasis on skill development by the department. The Director expressed immense pride and joy over the accomplishments of the students. In his congratulatory message, he stated, "Our students have made us incredibly proud by winning medals at the India Skill Competition 2024. Their hard work, dedication, and the high-quality training provided by our institutes have been instrumental in their success. This achievement not only highlights the talent within ITIs of J&K but also reinforces our commitment to fostering skills that meet national and international standards."

The Director also extended his gratitude to the trainers and faculty members who have worked tirelessly to mentor and prepare the students for this competition. "Our dedicated trainers deserve special recognition for their unwavering support and guidance. Their efforts have been crucial in shaping the future of our students and enabling them to achieve such prestigious accolades," he added. The Skill Development Department, J&K, remains committed to providing world-class training and opportunities for its students, ensuring they are well-equipped to excel in their chosen fields. The success at the India Skill Competition 2024 is a significant milestone in this journey and sets a benchmark for future achievements.

## Lok Sabha Elections 2024: Final Orientation/ Training programme organised for Presiding Officers, Polling Staff at Shopian



**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
SHOPIAN, MAY 21

In order to carry out election duties efficiently and to enhance the preparedness for upcoming Lok Sabha elections, the District Election Office, Shopian today organised two training sessions for the Presiding Officers and Polling Staff at Government Degree College, Shopian.

The training cum orientation session was held under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner, Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb,

who is also District Election Officer (DEO) Shopian.

Addressing the participants, the DEO briefed the Officers about their responsibilities during the forthcoming Lok Sabha Elections-2024 of Zainapora Assembly segment of the Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency.

The DEO, while briefing the Presiding Officers thoroughly about their responsibilities, urged them to put forth every effort to conduct Lok Sabha elections smoothly

in a transparent manner. The staff has already been familiarized with EVM, VVPAT operations and acquainted with the necessary knowledge and skills by Master Trainers.

DEO apprised that various rounds of training were conducted in the district to acquaint staff and asked for effective and efficient conduct of elections.

Principal, GDC, Shopian; ACR, CEO, ACP, District Informatics Officer and other Officers/officials were present on the occasion.

## DDC Ramban inspects restoration work land subsidence hit Pernote area

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, MAY 21

Deputy Commissioner Ramban Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary today inspected the ongoing restoration work on the damaged Ramban-Gool Road and other affected public utilities and power supply infrastructure in the land subsidence hit Pernote area.

Accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Varunjeet Singh Charak, OC 52 RCC SK Gautam and other officers and locals including public representatives, the Deputy Commissioner assessed the progress of the restoration work on the 400KV Kishanpur-Wanpoh Power Transmission Line and the Ramban-Gool Road connectivity.

The OC 52 RCC briefed the Deputy Commis-



sioner about the ongoing road restoration efforts and informed that the Gool-Ramban road will be made traffic-worthy within a week providing much needed relief to the public.

During the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner issued on-the-spot directions to the officers to accelerate the restoration work to facilitate the people. He emphasized

the urgency of the situation and the need for swift action to restore normalcy.

Meanwhile, several individuals and deputations met with the Deputy Commissioner to discuss their issues and demands. The Deputy Commissioner listened attentively and issued directives to the officers for the early redressal of their concerns.

## DC Ganderbal emphasizes foolproof mechanism for annual Kheer Bhawani mela

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
GANDERBAL, MAY 21

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambrir today conducted a visit to the Kheer Bhawani temple, Tulamulla where he convened a meeting to review arrangements for annual Kheer Bhawani Mela. Threadbare discussions were held on lodging, bedding, repairing works of lavatory blocks, lighting, sanitation, barricading, establishment of joint control room, health facilities, parking of vehicles, fool-proof security, and availability of essential commodities, route plan and general face-lifting in and around the temple.

The DC directed the concerned departments



for making necessary arrangements for uninterrupted power and drinking water supplies, transport, security, fire tenders, ration, accommodation, medical facilities, macadamization of roads and other related arrangements at the temple. The EO Municipal Council was directed to start intensive sanitation drives within as well as approaching road stretch to the temple prior to the Mela besides signing an MOU with the authorities of Temple, shopkeepers and Civil Society Tulamulla which will ensure daily garbage collection

and maintenance of cleanliness. The DC discussed department-wise facilities provided for the devotees. He stressed on the concerned authorities to be proactive and make every possible effort for smooth conduct of the Mela.

Later, the DC took a round of the temple and reviewed arrangements put in place. He directed the concerned officers to ensure that the devotees visiting to pay obeisance are provided with requisite facilities, and foolproof mechanism should be put in place to ensure smooth conduct of this Mela.

## Randomization for shop pitching during SANJY-2024 held at Ganderbal

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
GANDERBAL, MAY 21

The randomization process for the pitching of shops during the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2024 was conducted today in the V.C Room of the DC Office Ganderbal. The randomization process was overseen by Deputy Commissioner, Shyambrir and Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani.

It was carried out for several key locations along the Yatra route, including Baltal, Domail, Railpathri, Barimarg, and Sangam. A total of 134 applications were selected for pitching of shops at these designated locations.



The approval and allocation of shops through randomization ensure a fair and transparent process, providing equal opportunities to all applicants. The successful completion of this process marks a significant step in the preparations for the upcoming SANJY 2024, ensuring that all necessary amenities and services will be available to pilgrims along the route.

The DC expressed his satisfaction with the

smooth conduct of the randomization process and emphasized the administration's commitment to facilitating a well-organized and safe pilgrimage for all devotees.

The district administration remains dedicated to ensuring that all arrangements for the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2024 are completed efficiently, prioritizing the convenience and safety of the pilgrims.

## LMD slaps Rs 50k fine on LPG Agency for distributing underweight Cylinders

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

The Legal Metrology Department (LMD) has imposed a fine of Rs: 50,000 on a Srinagar based LPG Agency for distributing underweight LPG Cylinders among the consumers.

The erring Gas Agency was slapped with a fine during intensified market checking inspections conducted by the department in order to check the quantity of LPG Cylinders so as to avoid any underweight distribution among the consumers.

The LPG oriented inspection was earlier on conducted in various parts of Srinagar

during which around 20 LPG Domestic Cylinders were found underweight and were accordingly seized. The matter was taken up with the LPG marketing companies as well who have assured to the department that such complaints and any underweight distribution of LPG will be dealt with strictly as per their company policies.

Earlier, the directions were issued by Controller Legal Metrology Department J&K, Majid K.A Drabu wherein in the field executives of LMD were directed to conduct the special inspection drives against LPG Dealers in terms of the provisions of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and

LPG Regulation (Supply and Distribution Order) 2000. Moreover, the Department has requested consumers to remain vigilant while purchasing LPG and has asked them to insist on payment receipt while receiving the delivery. The weight is written on every LPG Cylinder and every customer should insist on checking the weight of the cylinder by using the weighing scale lying with the delivery van. Any instance of refusal for conducting the weight or overcharging by LPG delivery person may be brought into notice of the Department so that the proper legal action can be taken.

## Commissioner SMC/CEO, SSCL reviews progress of projects under NCAP

**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

The Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Dr. Owais Ahmed who is also CEO of SSCL today reviewed the progress of projects under the National Clean Air Program (NCAP) in a meeting held here.

The Commissioner reviewed the status of works being executed by Roads and Buildings (R&B) and SSCL under NCAP including the transfer of the Slaughterhouse to R&B and issues being faced regarding the transfer of roads from R&B to SMC.

The meeting was attended by Chief Engineer Central R&B, Joint Commissioner SMC, Financial Advisor/Chief Accounts Officer (FA/CAO), SMC, Joint Commissioner (Works) SMC, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) SMC, Executive Engineer City Roads Division and senior officials from SSCL, SMC and urban Forestry.

During the session, Dr. Owais emphasized the importance of exe-

cuting projects under the National Clean Air Program to address environmental challenges and ensure public health.

Dr. Owais stated that SMC is committed to the National Clean Air Program and today's meeting provided valuable insights into the progress and challenges of key projects. He said they are dedicated to accelerating the efforts to achieve tangible improvements in air quality and environmental sustainability.

The attendees exchanged views on streamlining processes, enhancing coordination among departments, and mobilizing resources efficiently to meet the objectives of the NCAP.

The meeting concluded with a consensus to address identified issues promptly and ensure the smooth execution of projects under the NCAP. Dr. Owais Ahmed reiterated the commitment of SMC and SSCL to promoting a cleaner and healthier environment for the residents of Srinagar.

## DC Jammu sets timelines for execution of JJM works



**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya today chaired a meeting with the Jal Shakti Department officers to discuss progress of Jal Jeevan Mission works in the district.

In the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the ongoing projects and addressed the challenges hindering their progress. He confirmed that the district administration is ready to support the resolution of any legitimate issues. He emphasised the importance of diligent work to ensure the projects are

completed within set timelines.

Sachin Kumar called for a detailed compilation of obstacles faced in each project within a week to facilitate the efficient execution of Jal Jeevan Mission works. He recommended sustained inter-departmental cooperation to hasten the projects' completion while also mandating weekly review.

Besides Jal Shakti Department officers, the meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Revenue Dr Rajesh Kumar, Chief Planning Officer Uttam Singh, Sub-Divisional Magistrates, and other concerned personnel.

## Cleanliness drive held at Srinagar Women's College, Zakura



**J1 NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

The NSS Unit of Srinagar Women's College, Zakura today organized a cleanliness drive to clean the college campus.

The event was conducted under the guidance of the Principal, Professor Tehmina Yousuf.

During the drive, volunteers diligently cleaned the campus, demonstrating their commitment to maintaining a clean environment.

Following the cleanup, a counseling session was held for the students, encouraging them to take responsibility for keeping the campus litter-free.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav  
Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement System  
Sr. Divisional Material Manager, N.Rly., Store Branch DRM Office, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India, invited tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items:-

Tender No.	Description	Qty.	Due date
94245543A	Procurement of micro-controller based multipurpose tri-colour LED rechargeable torch	1618 + 2911 + 64 = 4593 Nos.	10.06.2024

NOTE: Above tenders with detailed description are uploaded on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. The firm, who desires to participate against e-tenders, is advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a class III digital certificate from certifying Agencies authorized under IT Act 2008 by Govt. of India. Manual offers against e-tenders will not be accepted.  
Tender Notice No. 04/2024-25 Dated: 20.05.2024 1519/2024  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



## BJP's 10 years' golden period elevated Nation to new heights: Yudhvivir

JINNEWS SERVICE  
MENDHAR, MAY 21

Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President, asserted that the ten years of governance under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been a golden period for the common people of India and that on the basis of its unprecedented functioning the BJP led Govt is all set to govern the world's largest democracy for the third consecutive term after the 2024 Parliamentary elections.

The senior BJP leader expressed this while interacting with people at Mendhar area of District Poonch. DDC Member and District General Secretary Wajid Bashir Khan Tickoo also accompanied the senior BJP leader.

Yudhvir Sethi said that during the ten years of BJP Rule India has achieved unprecedented heights at the national and international level with priority focus on development and economic fronts. He said



Saubhagya Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi, etc.

Sethi said that in order to ensure equitable development so that rural areas receive focussed attention, the Prime Minister has launched most of these schemes for rural areas as major portion of the land mass in the states and UTs across the nation. He said that the ultimate aim of implementing these schemes for the residents of rural areas is to make them self-sufficient and self-reliant i.e. Atmanirbhar. The senior BJP leader said that there are multiple schemes through which youth can be encouraged for employment so that they don't have to leave the village and move towards the cities.

DDC Member Wajid Bashir Khan Tickoo assured the senior leader of Party that the whole Mendhar unit of BJP will work hard to achieve the set target for 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

that India's status at the global level witnessed an unprecedented elevation during the short span of ten years with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi being the most sought after global leader to find solutions to the vital global issues.

The senior BJP leader asserted that the several flagship schemes launched by Modi government proved to be the game changer in transforming the nation especially impacting the Indian economy benefiting the citizens through financial inclusion, excellent financial services

besides strengthening banking sector and promoting entrepreneurship on a massive scale. He highlighted some of the significant schemes including Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Make in India, Digital India, Ayushman Bharat, Ujjwala Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Smart Cities Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Startup India, Stand Up India, Skill India, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana,

## Tata Motors' subsidiaries - TPEM, TMPV join hands with Bajaj Finance, offers financing program for authorized passenger, electric vehicle dealers

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21



In a bid to improve options and ease of financing for the dealers, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles (TMPV) and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM) - subsidiaries of Tata Motors, India's leading automotive manufacturer, have joined hands with Bajaj Finance, part of Bajaj Finserv Ltd., one of India's leading and most diversified financial services groups, to extend supply chain finance solutions to its passenger and electric vehicle dealers. Through this memorandum of understanding (MoU), the participating companies will come together to leverage Bajaj Finance's wide reach to help dealers of TMPV and TPEM access funding with minimal collateral.

The MoU for this partnership was signed by Mr. Dhiman Gupta,

Chief Financial Officer, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Ltd. and Director, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd. and Mr. Siddhartha Bhatt, Chief Business Officer, Bajaj Finance Ltd.

Commenting on the partnership, Mr. Dhiman Gupta, Chief Financial Officer, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Ltd. and Director, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd., said, "Our dealer partners are integral to our business, and we are happy to actively work towards solutions to help them in ease of doing business. Together, we aim to further grow the market and offer our New Forever portfolio to an increasing set of customers. To that effect, we are excit-

ed to partner with Bajaj Finance for this financing program, which will further strengthen the access of our dealer partners to increased working capital."

Speaking on this partnership, Mr. Anup Saha, Deputy Managing Director, Bajaj Finance Ltd., said, "At Bajaj Finance, we have always strived to provide best-in-class processes by using the India stack for financing solutions that empower both individuals and businesses. Through this financing program, we will arm TMPV and TPEM's authorized passenger and electric vehicle dealers with financial capital, which will enable them to seize the opportunities offered by a growing passenger

vehicles market. We are confident that this collaboration will not only benefit dealers but also contribute to, and enhance the growth of, the automotive industry in India."

TMPV and TPEM have been pioneering the Indian automotive market with its groundbreaking efforts in both ICE and EV segments. The company's overarching New Forever philosophy has led to the introduction of segment leading products which are being appreciated by consumers at large.

Bajaj Finance is one of the most diversified NBFCs in India with presence across lending, deposits and payments, serving over 83.64 million customers. As of March 31, 2024, the company's assets under management stood at Rs 3,30,615 crore.

## Eye Camp with Free Distribution of Spectacles inaugurated at DPS Katra

JINNEWS SERVICE  
KATRA, MAY 21

Maharaja Hari Singh Social & Education Foundation Trust, in collaboration with Mehar Chand Mahajan Trust and National FICCI FLO, organized a free eye screening and spectacles distribution camp for the government school students of Reasi, Katra, Kakryal, Panthal, and adjoining areas at Delhi Public School SMV-DU-Katra.

The camp was held at Delhi Public School, Katra and it will continue until May 27, 2024.

Adding historic significance to the event, Dr. Ritu Singh, Granddaughter-in-law of Maharaja Hari Singh Ji, along with Vivek Mahajan and Anushree Mahajan, Trustees of Mehar Chand Mahajan Charitable Trust, came together to organize a mega eye screening and spectacles distribution camp in the Holy Town Katra.

The inaugural function was graced by Chief Guest Alok Kumar Maurya, IFS, Additional CEO SMVD Shrine Board Katra; Guest of Honour Mushtaq Ahmed, CEO Reasi; Kunwarani Dr. Ritu Singh Ji, Founder/Trustee MHSSEF; Vivek Mahajan, Trustee Mehar Chand Mahajan Charitable Trust & Director of AVCOM Info Tech Pvt. Ltd.; and Anushree Mahajan, Trustee Mehar Chand Mahajan Charitable Trust.

The National FICCI FLO President Joyshree Das and other members joined the event virtually. Members of FICCI FLO JKL were also present.

Advisors of Maharaja Hari Singh Foundation, Seema Murthy Gupta, Swati Dedeechi, and Ankita Bansal, attended the event, along with FICCI FLO JKL members Payal Saraf, Tania Kukreja, Parakh Jain, Ridhima Jain, Shveta Aggarwal, Ruhika Aggarwal, Sakshi Aggarwal,



al, Monika Bhatia, Sanah Malhotra, Dr. Sandeep, and Sonam Reen.

The ceremony began with the chanting of shlokas and the traditional lighting of the lamp, creating a pious atmosphere. With the divine backdrop of Trikuta Hills and Mata Vaishno Devi's presence, all the dignitaries were felicitated with potted plants.

In this eye screening camp, approximately

2,200 students will be covered. Through the collaborative efforts of both trusts, experts from VisionSpring are provided for eye screening and spectacles distribution, which is extremely beneficial for the students. VisionSpring provides affordable eyeglasses, vision screening, and training, enabling non-profits, social entrepreneurs, government agencies, and corporate clients to bring the

wonder of clear vision to low-income communities. VisionSpring has deputed a trained team consisting of one Coordinator, two female Optometrists, one Counselor, and/or one Mobilizer to conduct vision screenings.

On the first day, the camp witnessed 250 government school students from Govt Higher Secondary School Panthal, accompanied by their teachers. The Chief Guest, Mr.

Alok Kumar Maurya, IFS, Additional CEO SMVDSB, appreciated the efforts taken by both trusts.

Vivek Mahajan and Anushree Mahajan, Trustees of Mehar Chand Mahajan Charitable Trust, also emphasized the importance of this camp.

Joyshree Das Verma, National President FICCI FLO, addressed the gathering and congratulated Kunwarani Dr. Ritu Singh, Anushree Mahajan, and the GB members of National FICCI FLO for hosting such a noble cause camp that will impact 2,000 children.

Kunwarani Dr. Ritu Singh, Founder and Trustee MHSSEF, expressed strong support for eye screening camps for the underprivileged. She extended heartfelt thanks to Alok Kumar Maurya for gracing the event and to all the dignitaries present. She appreciated the cooperation of Ashok Kumar, Director of School Edu-

cation, Jammu, for supporting the noble cause by sending government school students to the camp. She further stated that this camp will be beneficial for the students.

Dr. Ritu Singh also highlighted the importance of collaboration for noble causes that foster empowerment through health drives, among others. She also lauded the efforts of Joyshree Das Verma, Anushree Mahajan, Simi Sharma and Manikarnika and the entire administrative staff of DPS Katra for organizing this camp.

At the end of the event, all the dignitaries were honored with Mata Rani blessings in the form of Chuni, Prashad, Silver Coins, and Khadi certificates of appreciation by MHSSEF. Refreshments were distributed among the students of Govt Higher Secondary School Panthal.

## PM Modi has blessings of people: Vibodh

JINNEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, MAY 21

In a big jolt to National Conference and PDP, top social and political leaders from Rajouri-Poonch including senior AAP leader and General Secretary Jammu Province, Nazim Mir, Qammar Bhatt, Waqar Ganie, Nasar Mughal, Zahid Hussain Malik, Sahid Afradi, Sahid Bukhari, prominent youth leader Shahbaz Mughal and President Transport Union, Rajouri Ajaz Mir along with hundreds of their supporters joined BJP at BJP headquarters, Rajouri. Vibodh Gupta, while welcoming the new entrants, said that BJP has worked for the welfare of people irrespective of region and religion. He highlighted that social and political activists from across the Union Territory are inspired by the vision of the Modi government and are joining the BJP, aiming for a resounding victory in the ongoing LS elections.

Vibodh emphasized that there is a strong wave of support from the voters of Anantnag-Rajouri LS seat to Apni Party's candidate, Zaffar Manhas,



ensuring that the progress, development, and empowerment initiatives initiated under the Modi government continues. He strongly asserted that all efforts to "defame" and "destabilise" Jammu and Kashmir by the leaders of National Conference will fail as Prime Minister Narendra Modi has the "blessings" of the people. Speaking at the event, Senior BJP leader Surjeet Singh Slathia expressed that people are highly enthusiastic about voting in favour of the BJP-aligned Apni Party in the Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary seat to strengthen Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He also welcomed new members to the party and emphasized that the far-sighted vision of the Modi government has impressed the public in large and led them to join the BJP to serve the nation with selfless commitment and

dedication. Slathia also highlighted various decisions taken by the BJP government that have benefitted all sections of Rajouri, Poonch, and Anantnag, as their long-pending demands were fulfilled. Welcoming the new entrants, Prafull Pansheriya, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs from Gujarat, who is touring Jammu and Kashmir to campaign in the Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha seat, stated that the influence of Modi's policies is evident in Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary seat. He highlighted the significant support shown by the people towards the decisions of the Modi government in Jammu and Kashmir. Pansheriya emphasized the importance of defeating candidates from the National Conference (NC) and the People's Democratic Party (PDP) to pave the way for peace and

development. District President Dinesh Sharma also welcomed new entrants to the party fold and expressed confidence over defeat of National Conference and PDP candidates in the Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary seat.

Speaking on the occasion, new entrant Nazim Mir said that the vision and policies of the Modi government inspired him to join the BJP for the service of the people. He expressed gratitude to BJP J&K General Secretary Vibodh Gupta for widely propagating the policies and schemes of BJP in the twin border districts of Rajouri-Poonch.

Senior BJP leader who congratulated the new entrants and spoke on the occasion were Prabhari Jugal Dogra, senior BJP leader Baldev Balaria, District President, Jammu Parmod Kaphie, Abdul Gani Shawl, senior BJP leader Pushpinder Gupta, Koushal Gupta, Kapil Saryal, Manzoor Nayak, Shazia Tabssum and Samreen Khan.

Young BJP leader Radhish Sharma conducted stage proceedings.

## Yuva Sangam Phase-IV: VNIT Nagpur delegation arrives for 6-day tour to Kashmir



JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, 21 MAY

As part of the Yuva Sangam program launched under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) initiative, a delegation of 52 members from Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology (VNIT) Nagpur, Maharashtra, arrived on Monday at National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar.

The delegation of 52 members, including students and faculty members, arrived at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar campus on Monday, 20th May. They will stay in the Valley until 26th May.

After a warm reception, a comprehensive orientation program was

conducted by NIT Srinagar for VNIT students and faculty members. It was aimed to provide essential information and guidance about the do's and don'ts for the week-long exposure tour.

The event was graced by Director National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar Director Prof. A. Ravinder Nath and Institute's Registrar, Prof. Aatikur Rehman, Dean Alumni and International Affairs Prof. Nazir Ahmad Sheikh, Dean P&D Dr. Yashwant Mehta and other dignitaries. During the tour, the delegation is expected to visit historical places in Kashmir. They will also learn about the culture and traditions of the people in the region.

Dr. Ranjeet Kumar Rout, Dr. Mohd Mohsin Khan, Dr. Nitika Kundan are the Nodal Officers, Dr. Mohd Rafiq Teli is Public Relation Officer, Dr. Pankaj Kumar is Social Media Officer and Dr. Janani L. is Faculty Coordinator of Yuva Sangam Phase-IV NIT Srinagar.

NIT Srinagar is collaborating with Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology (VNIT) Nagpur, Maharashtra, as a paired institution for this program.

In the Yuva Sangam phase IV, the participants from the paired institutes will be exchanged under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) campaign of the Ministry of Education.

## JKP booked wanted, notorious drug peddler

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 22

Acting tough against drug peddlers and to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Jammu & Kashmir Police in Jammu District booked the wanted and notorious drug peddler under PIT NDPS Act in Sub Division R.S.Pura and lodged him in District Jail Kathua.

This wanted, notorious drug smuggler namely Chirag Attri S/O Sh. Ved Ram Attri R/O Chak Jaralan, Tehsil Bishnah District Jammu was booked under PIT-NDPS Act after obtaining formal detention orders from the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu. The booked drug smuggler has been detained and subsequently lodged in District Jail at Kathua.

Pertinent to mention that multiple cases under NDPS Act were registered against the above mentioned drug peddler, who was involved in promoting drug abuse & trade by supplying drugs to local youth of the area.

Despite his involvement in multiple FIRs, he did not mend his activities and was again involved in promoting drug abuse trade by supplying drugs to local youth.

The above said notorious drug peddler/criminal has remained successful every time in securing the bails from the Hon'ble Court and in order to refrain the subject from indulging in criminal activities, a dossier (PIT NDPS Act) was recommended against him, upon which, the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu had issued a PIT NDPS Act warrant against him.

The arrest was made by a team of Police Station Bishnah under SHO P/S Bishnah under the close supervision of SDPO R.S.Pura & SP Headquarters Jammu & overall supervision of SSP Jammu.

The locals of the area have appreciated the efforts of Jammu Police in taking tough stand against the drug peddlers.

## EDITORIAL

## Ripples in spice industry amid safety concerns

The recent ban on Indian spices by Singapore, Hong Kong, the Maldives, Australia, and Nepal due to alleged contamination with ethylene oxide (ETO) has sent shockwaves through the industry. This development, involving popular brands like MDH and Everest, could potentially slash spice exports by up to 40%, as per the Federation of Indian Spice Stakeholders. The detection of ETO, a carcinogenic chemical, in spice mixes raises severe health concerns and calls for an urgent overhaul of India's food safety protocols. India's stature as the world's largest producer, consumer, and exporter of spices is now under threat. The country's spice exports exceed \$4 billion annually, with the domestic market valued at \$10 billion. However, recurring quality issues, including the 2014 lead contamination in food coloring and recent bacterial rejections by the US FDA, have marred this reputation. The seizure of over 60,000 kg of adulterated spices in Gujarat last month further exemplifies the crisis. Given the serious health risks posed by ETO, business as usual is not an option for the spice industry. The government's immediate response with stricter quality controls and expanded inspections is a step in the right direction. Yet, these measures must yield tangible improvements to restore global confidence and ensure consumer safety. The presence of carcinogens in spices is a public health issue that demands transparent and decisive action. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) however have reported that no traces of ETO were found in sampled spices from MDH and Everest facilities. While this is a reassuring preliminary finding, it does not entirely dismiss the contamination concerns raised by foreign authorities. The possibility of contamination during transport, storage, or handling still looms large. Therefore, continuous vigilance and comprehensive quality checks throughout the supply chain are imperative. The government's response must include clear and proactive communication with consumers and international regulators. The public needs assurance that their health is not being compromised. The government's silence on holding culpable companies accountable only fuels consumer anxiety. It is crucial to send a strong message that stringent actions are being taken against any lapses in food safety standards. Transparent operations and a collaborative approach with international food safety bodies are essential to safeguard India's spice legacy. The FSSAI's pan-India inspection drive is a positive move, but it must be followed by consistent enforcement and rigorous testing. The reputation of Indian spices, which significantly contribute to the economy, hinges on maintaining the highest quality standards. The implications of this crisis extend beyond economic losses. It is about preserving trust in a cultural and culinary heritage that dates back centuries. The spice industry is a source of livelihood for millions, from farmers to traders. Protecting this sector means protecting their futures as well. The allegations of ETO contamination in Indian spices are a critical wake-up call. The government, industry stakeholders, and regulatory bodies must work in unison to ensure that Indian spices meet international safety standards. By implementing stringent quality controls, enhancing transparency, and maintaining open communication with global partners, India can reaffirm its position as a leading and reliable exporter of spices. It is a collective responsibility to ensure that the spices, which are a symbol of India's rich heritage, continue to be a source of pride and not of concern.

## Celebrating the power of cultural diversity

RAJDEEP PATHAK

The "World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development", celebrated annually on May 21st, stands as a beacon of hope in a world often marred by conflicts stemming from cultural, religious and socio-economic differences. In such a situation of growing discord, dialogue emerges as a powerful tool for fostering understanding, cooperation and ultimately, development. Dialogue serves as the cornerstone of development in a world, characterized by its diversity. The 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner from South Africa and Theologian Desmond Tutu had eloquently stated, "We are different so that we can know our need for one another," thus necessitating the essence of cultural diversity - an opportunity to learn, grow and empathize with others.

UNESCO established the "World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development" in response to the 2001 terrorist attack that destroyed the Bamiyan Buddha statue in Afghanistan. In December 2002, the United Nations General Assembly officially designated May 21st as this day. The 2002 Universal Declaration recognized the need to "Enhance the potential of culture as a means of achieving prosperity, sustainable development and global peaceful coexistence".

Moreover, with 89% of all current conflicts in the world occurring in countries with low intercultural dialogue, to forge effective cooperation and sustain peace, strengthening intercultural dialogue becomes a necessity. Further, according to UNESCO data (<https://www.un.org/en/observances/cultural-diversity-day>), the cultural and creative sector is one of the most powerful engines of development worldwide. It accounts for more than 48 million jobs globally - almost half of which are held by women - representing 6.2% of all existing employment and 3.1% of global GDP. It is also the sector that employs and provides opportunities for the largest number of young people under the age of 30.

However, the cultural and creative sector still does not have the place it deserves in public policies and international cooperation. Thus, in a bid to change this, in September 2022, delegations from 150



States gathered in Mexico for MONDIACULT 2022 - the largest world conference devoted to culture (in the last 40 years) - where they unanimously adopted the historic 'Declaration for Culture' affirming 'culture' as a "global public good" and calling for it to be integrated "as a specific goal in its own right" in the Development Agenda beyond 2030.

But what exactly are the concepts of diversity and inclusion along with culture? Diversity encompasses the intentional and inclusive gathering of individuals from various backgrounds, encompassing differences in race, ethnicity, language, religion, gender, gender identity, disability, sexual orientation, age, educational background and this list can go on. It emphasizes the importance of bringing these diverse identities together to interact positively and contribute to a shared environment. Inclusion goes beyond merely acknowledging and respecting each person's distinct experiences and identities. It requires fair treatment and widespread recognition. It means embracing and appreciating these differences as essential elements for the progress and well-being of all.

Thus the 'World Cultural Diversity Day', com-

memorating the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, also emphasizes four key objectives. First, it advocates for policies fostering the creation, production and dissemination of diverse cultural goods and services. Secondly, it encourages initiatives facilitating a balanced exchange of cultural products while enhancing the mobility of artists and cultural professionals. Thirdly, it promotes sustainable development policies and international aid programs that embrace cultural integration. Lastly, it underscores the importance of aligning international and national legislation with human rights and fundamental freedoms, ensuring the preservation and flourishing of cultural diversity worldwide. All this is because, 'Cultural Diversity', drives development, not only economically, but also personally.

Simultaneously, 'Dialogue' also transcends geographical and cultural boundaries, catalysing cross-cultural understanding and cooperation. As Rumi, the 13th-century Persian poet, poignantly expressed, "The wound is the place where the Light enters you," a profound insight underscoring the potential for growth and enlightenment that arises

from engaging in dialogue, even amidst adversity.

In today's complex landscape, dialogue emerges as an urgent necessity, given the multitude of global challenges like climate change, economic disparity and geopolitical tensions. Martin Luther King Jr.'s timeless words, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," emphasize the interconnectedness of human experiences and the pivotal role of dialogue in addressing systemic inequalities in this landscape.

Engaging in dialogue, not only enhances self-awareness but also fosters profound connections with others. For instance, movements like 'Black Lives Matter', sparked by tragic incidents like George Floyd's and Breonna Taylor's deaths, underscore the imperative of dialogue in combating systemic racism and police brutality. Meaningful conversations among communities, law enforcement agencies and policymakers are essential for driving substantial reforms and promoting racial equity.

Throughout history, numerous instances underscore the transformative potency of dialogue in conflict resolution. One such example is the Gandhian model of 'nonviolent communi-

development, influencing emotional, social, physical and linguistic growth from birth. Customs, beliefs and practices surrounding food, art, language and religion play significant roles. Recognizing this, professionals working with children, such as social workers and child rights advocates, must grasp these influences to bring about a change. In today's world, addressing global challenges requires collaborative approaches rooted in dialogue and mutual understanding. According to the UN, "Three-quarters of the world's major conflicts have a cultural dimension. Bridging the gap between cultures is urgent and necessary for peace, stability and development."

Each of us has a role in fostering understanding to cultivate thriving communities. It's crucial to recognize how culture, in its various diversified forms, enriches discourse and contributes to sustainable development across different realms - social, environmental, economic and so on. Is it then not the time for us to at least sit across the table and start communicating? (The writer is Programme Executive, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti; views are personal)

## Outrage over superstar Mammootty's alleged Jihadi ties

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

The disclosure by Mohammed Sharshad, a Chennai-based businessman, who is also a CPI(M) activist, that Malayalam cinema's "super mega star" Mammootty has shocked the secular, liberal and democratic political leaders of Kerala. The CPI(M), CPI and Congress leaders have come out openly against the Sangh Parivar for portraying Mammootty as a Jihadi. The disclosure about Mammootty's links with Jihadi organisations was made by a Muslim youth, a local leader of the CPI(M).

The first person to attack Sangh Parivar about the report about Mammootty's Jihadi links was K T Jaleel MLA, a former CPI(M) minister and former president of the banned SIMI. Jaleel is famous for his speeches and writings that India could be liberated only through Islam. Then other ministers took up the issue and it has caused ripples in Kerala.

Mammootty, who was a below-average student during his college days is an Arabic graduate from Maharaja's College Ernakulam. While he was a student, Prof Ummer was the head of the Arabic Department and it was the latter who set the question papers and valued the answer sheets. No Arabic student has failed in BA Arabic examination in Maharajas College those days. The title super mega star reminds one of the age-old adage in the land of the blind, the one-eyed is the King. Mammootty is no match for his counterparts in Hindi movies or Hollywood.

Being a Jihadi or communalist is not a crime. The issue here is that one who questions the organized bargaining capacity of the Muslim community becomes persona non grata in Kerala. Leaders who were bold enough to point out the hidden agenda of the Muslim political and spiritual leaders ended up in dustbins. EMS Nambodirippadu tops the list of such

persons who were decimated by the Islamist leaders. Before the 1991 assembly elections, there was a suggestion from certain CPI(M) leaders like E K Nayanar and M V Raghavan (both left to meet Marx, Lenin and Stalin) that the party should ally with the Muslim League. But Nambodirippadu was quick to retort that the Muslim League should get rid of its name and flag (that resembled the Pakistani national flag) to be considered an ally. Leaders of the Muslim League became furious and they saw to it that Nambodirippadu was cut to size and the CPI(M) removed him from the coveted position of general secretary in 1992.

The next to earn the wrath of leaders of the Muslim community was A K Antony who was the chief minister during the period 2001 to 2004. The 2003 Marad beach massacre that saw the slaughtering of eight Hindu fishermen by Islamic radicals happened during Antony's tenure.

Antony was for an investigation by the CBI but made a hasty retreat as Muslim League leaders throttled the move. But he warned the League leaders openly that the organized bargaining power of communal outfits would not be entertained by his Government. This hurt the Muslim League leadership who asked the Congress High Command to remove Antony from the chief minister's post at the earliest. That's how Antony tendered his resignation post-2004 Lok Sabha polls and moved over to New Delhi.

V S Achuthanandan, a widely respected leader of the CPI(M) was sworn in as chief minister in 2006 after the assembly election. Achuthanandan was always against any kind of communalism and fanaticism. During a press meeting in the national capital in 2010, Achuthanandan said that Love Jihad was a reality. "The Muslim fundamentalists have an agenda to convert Kerala

into a Muslim majority State within the next two decades," he had said.

Though the CPI(M) lost the 2011 elections by a whisker, the party returned to power in 2016 making use of the goodwill enjoyed by Achuthanandan all over Kerala. The highway from Kasaragod to Thiruvananthapuram was dotted with larger-than-life-size posters of Achuthanandan giving an impression that he would be the automatic choice of the CPI(M) as chief minister after the election. But Pinarayi Vijayan, whose pictures or posters were conspicuously absent, was nominated as chief minister by the party's leadership and since then the former has become the uncrowned king of Kerala. Achuthanandan was sidelined not because of the influence wielded by the Muslim community in the CPI(M).

The ire of the Muslim League and community leaders also claimed the political career of G Sudhakaran,

a CPI(M) minister who was disliked by the district-level leaders of Alappuzha (all belonging to the Muslim community) from where he hails. PC George, the seven-time legislator who had defeated both the LDF and the UDF in assembly elections was made to bite the dust in his home turf of Poonjar for lambasting Love Jihad and the role of various Islamist outfits in this operation. For more than four decades, George was a secular leader acceptable to the Muslim community. But when he pointed out the plight of the victims of Love Jihad, George became an enemy of humanity and the entire Muslim community voted against him in the 2021 assembly election. This is Kerala's brand of secularism. Caveat Emptor would be the ideal word of caution for those daring to question the Islamic outfits.

(The writer is a special correspondent with the National Newspaper; views are personal)

## Rajouri Police attaches property worth 50 lakhs

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

In a significant action against the drug menace, the Jammu and Kashmir Police in Rajouri district have attached the property of a notorious drug peddler, Mohd Shakoora alias Shakoora, son of Mohd Bashir, resident of Dhani Dhar Rajouri. The attached property, a residential complex valued at approximately 50 lakhs, was seized under Sections 68(E) and 68(F) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

Mohd Shakoora is a well-known drug peddler in the area, with accusations in ten First Information Reports (FIRs) registered across various police stations in Rajouri district under the NDPS Act. He is currently under judicial custody in connection with Case FIR No. 44/2024 registered at Police Station Thanamandi under sections 8/21/22 of the NDPS Act.



It is noteworthy that Shakoora was previously detained under the Public Safety Act (PSA) in December 2022. However, after his release in September 2023, he resumed his drug trafficking activities, leading to his subsequent arrest by Rajouri Police in another drug-related case in Thanamandi.

This attachment of property serves as a

stern warning to all drug dealers that their illegal activities will not be tolerated and their assets will be seized. The action was executed by a team of police officers along with an Executive Magistrate.

The J&K Police remain committed to eradicating the drug menace from the UT of J&K and ensuring the safety and well-being of its citizens.

## DGP visits Reasi, presides over officers meeting, interacts with Jawans

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

The Director General of Police J&K Shri R.R. Swain today visited Reasi District of Jammu Zone and reviewed the security scenario of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi and Shri Shivkhori shrines in a meeting at DPL Reasi. He held an interaction with Jawans and officers, shared his vision for the force and underlined the expectation of the people from J&K Police. During the visit, he also inaugurated different facilities for officers and officials of Reasi.

Accompanied by ADGP Law & Order Shri Vijay Kumar, the DGP was received by ADGP Jammu Zone Shri Anand Jain, DIG UR Range Shri Rayees Mohammad Bhat, DC and SSP Reasi.

While addressing the officers and personnel during the interaction, the DGP highlighted the sense of pride and responsibility that comes with wearing the uniform and serving



the people. "I want to share some points which I feel like sharing repeatedly at various levels. Being men in uniform, we should have a sense of pride that the uniform gives us the authority and responsibility to serve the people. Very few people get this opportunity to serve with such authority and responsibility," the DGP stated.

He reiterated that from leaders to the last rank in the force, everyone must work with utmost responsibility to uphold the legacy of being the one of

best police force of country in fighting terrorism, narcotics, and crimes, while also providing necessary support and help to people in need.

The DGP also informed the personnel about the allocation of funds aimed at upgrading the accommodations for police personnel. He expressed his desire to form sub-committees at different levels to ensure that these funds are utilized effectively and in a time bound manner.

The DGP J&K emphasized that the J&K police force has over 1.20 lakh

organizational strength with each Inspector rank officer overseeing approximately 1000 individuals, it becomes essential for these officers to possess substantial pride in their service towards the community. This pride should stem from a deep commitment to upholding honesty and dedication while fulfilling their duties.

Chairing the officers' meeting at DPL Reasi, the DGP engaged in detailed discussions with jurisdiction officers about the countermeasures required to thwart anti-peace attempts. The meeting emphasized the importance of robust and proactive measures to ensure the safety and security of people. "Anyone found aiding those who seek to harm peace and development will be dealt with firmly under the law," the head of J&K Police underlined in the meeting.

The meeting besides the visiting officers was attended by ADGP Jammu

Shri Anand Jain, DIG Udhampur-Reasi Range, Shri Rayees Mohammad Bhat, DC Reasi Shri Vishesh Paul Mahajan, SSP Reasi Ms Mohita Sharam, CO IRP-1st Bn Ms Anita Sharma, Principal STC Talwara Shri Jameel Ahmed, Dy. CO CRPF 126 Bn Shri Omnath Chatraj, 2 I/C CRPF 6th Bn Shri Rajesh Sharma and other jurisdictional officers.

The DGP along with other senior officers paid rich tributes and laid floral wreaths at the Martyr's Memorial and also inaugurated different facilities that include SSP office Reasi, new PCR building, and Cyber Cell at DPL Reasi. He also distributed tablets among Beat officers and Close User Group (CUG) numbers among the jurisdictional officers at the District Police Lines Reasi.

He also launched a song against drug abuse by Shri Singh Gurjeet in collaboration with J&K Police Reasi titled "Nasha Kadi Ni Karna".

## National Anti Terrorism Day 2024 observed at GDC Billawar



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
KATHUA, MAY 21

Today, as on 21.05.2024 NCC wing of GDC Billawar observed Anti Terrorism Day at GDC Billawar.

On the occasion, a poster making program on the theme Anti Terrorism was organised. In this program total 15 cadets of the NCC wing of GDC Billawar

participated. All cadets prepared posters with slogans regarding the menace created by terrorism in the country. They depicted terrorists as the enemy of the nation. They displayed the patriotic spirit and condemned the acts of terrorism of any kind.

Furthermore, the posters were put on display for students and faculty of the college

who appreciated the efforts put by the NCC cadets.

Lastly, cadets also presented their speeches against terrorism and raised patriotic slogans.

The program was carried under the patronage of worthy principal Dr. Alka Sharma and Lt. Akshey Sharma ANO GDC Billawar remained present in the whole program.

## MIET, Jammu explores Academic Excellence at IIM Jammu: A Journey of Collaboration and Insight



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

On May 21, 2024, the students of Bachelor of Commerce from the Model Institute of Engineering and Technology (MIET), Jammu, embarked on a transformative journey to the new campus of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, led by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director of IIM Jammu, an Institute of National Importance located in Jagti, Jammu. The visit aimed to foster academic camaraderie and explore avenues for mutual growth, featuring a series of enriching activities and insightful sessions.

Representatives from MIET Jammu included Dr. Mamta Sharma and Dr. Vibhu Johar, both esteemed faculty from MIET Jammu. They were warmly welcomed, and the student led delegation

began their tour from the Reception Area, exploring the key landmarks of the IIM Jammu campus, such as the iconic Clock Tower, smart classrooms, and the state-of-the-art Nalanda Library and Mandapam Auditorium. These facilities exemplify IIM Jammu's commitment to creating an inspiring educational environment.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director of IIM Jammu, warmly welcomed students and faculty from MIET, Jammu, to the IIM Jammu Jagti Campus, highlighting that today's visit marks a significant step in the institute's pursuit of academic excellence and collaborative growth. He emphasized the institute's dedication to nurturing future leaders through transformative education and mutual learning, with a particular emphasis on advancing the development of the Union Territory

of Jammu and Kashmir.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics at IIM Jammu, offered a comprehensive overview of the institute's evolution from its Canal Road Campus to the thriving Jagti campus. He detailed the landscape of IIMs across the country and shared practical insights and strategies for excelling in CAT exams. During his address, he enriched the discussion with a case study of the TATA Tea Jaago Re Campaign, highlighting how it effectively combined product placement with pertinent social messages. Additionally, he emphasized the importance of gender diversity and provided an in-depth look into the admissions process, offering valuable career guidance.

Dr. Rashmi Ranjan Parida, Chairperson of Admissions at IIM Jammu, led a session on stepping

into higher education, offering valuable insights into the institute's educational philosophy. He provided detailed information on the admission process for MBA programs, including the IPM Program, with a focus on CAT entrance exams. His discourse instilled a profound sense of purpose and a commitment to ethical excellence among all participants.

Shri Arup Bhattacharya, AO-Academics at IIM Jammu, delivered an insightful presentation on higher education and outcome-based learning, focusing on the unique educational system at IIM Jammu. He delved into the institute's pedagogical framework, emphasizing its adaptability to contemporary challenges while adhering to the foundational principles of academic excellence. He highlighted innovative

approaches to curriculum design, faculty development, and student engagement that distinguish IIM Jammu in the educational landscape. Additionally, he provided career counseling and advice for future career endeavors, enriching his sessions with practical examples to guide students in their professional journeys.

As the visit drew to a close, the delegation bid a fond farewell, carrying with them cherished memories and newfound inspiration from their enriching experience at IIM Jammu. This collaborative endeavor between MIET and IIM Jammu signifies a shared vision of academic excellence and a commitment to advancing education for the benefit of the region of Jammu and Kashmir. The visit was coordinated by the PR-Corporate Communication office of IIM Jammu.

## PS Pacca Danga, Jammu solves online financial fraud case of Rs 32,900

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

The Pacca Danga Police Station has successfully resolved an online financial fraud case involving Rs 32,900. The complaint, received through the station's online portal, detailed a fraudulent transaction linked to an astrology-related website.

The complainant reported that she had searched for astrology services online and received a telephone call from a person associated

with the website. Trusting the caller, she made a payment via Google Pay for an astrology data report. Subsequently, without verifying her bank balance, she found that Rs 32,900 had been deducted from her account.

Upon receiving the complaint, Sub-Inspector Rahul Dogra of Pacca Danga Police Station initiated an immediate and thorough enquiry. Under the leadership of SHO Pacca Danga, and with close supervision from the SDPO City North and overall supervision of SP

City North Jammu, the team worked diligently to investigate the matter.

Through their swift and dedicated efforts, the police team managed to recover the full amount. Rs 32,900 was successfully reverted back to the complainant's bank account, ensuring that the victim suffered no financial loss.

This case highlights the commitment of the Jammu Police to protecting citizens from cyber fraud and ensuring justice through prompt and efficient action.

## Sham Lal warns Pakistan against exporting terrorism to Kashmir

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Sham Lal Langar, Conventor of the BJP Trade Cell in Jammu & Kashmir, has issued a strong condemnation of the brutal killing of an ex-Sarpanch in Shopian. This heinous act of violence has sent shockwaves through the community, highlighting the ongoing threat posed by terrorism in the region.

Sham Langar expressed his deepest condolences to the bereaved family and called for swift justice to be served to the perpetrators of this cowardly act. He emphasized that such acts of terror are not just attacks on individuals but

on the democratic fabric of the region.

"We stand in solidarity with the family of the ex-Sarpanch and the people of Shopian during this difficult time. This incident is a grim reminder of terrorism that seeks to destabilize our peace and harmony. The BJP is committed to ensuring that justice is delivered and that such acts of terror are met with the strongest response," he said.

In his statement, Sham Langar issued a stern warning to Pakistan, urging it to cease its support for terrorist activities aimed at destabilizing Kashmir. He accused



Pakistan of exporting terrorism and undermining the efforts for peace and development in the region. "Pakistan must immediately desist from exporting terrorism to Kashmir.

These nefarious activities will not be tolerated, and we will take all necessary measures to protect our citizens and maintain the sovereignty of our nation. The international community must also recognize and act against the continuous support Pakistan provides to terrorist outfits," he asserted.

Mr. Langar reaffirmed the BJP's commitment to fighting terrorism and ensuring the safety and security of the people of Jammu & Kashmir. He called upon all political and community leaders to unite against the scourge of terrorism and work collectively towards a peaceful and prosperous region.

## Student dies in Sopore road accident

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, MAY 21

A road accident in Sopore town of Baramulla district claimed the life of a student on Tuesday.

Official sources said that a Class 8 student who was riding on a two-wheeler met with an accident. He was rushed to hospital where doctors declared him dead.

The deceased has been identified as Azaan Fayaz Wani, a resident of Sidique Colony Sopore. Police in this regard registered a case under relevant sections of law.

## 19 arrested, 53 vehicles seized in last 3 months

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
GANDERBAL, MAY 21

In the last 3 months, police in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district along with the Geology and Mining Department have seized 40 tippers, 12 tractors, and a load carrier used for illegal extraction of minerals in the district.

At least 19 persons have been arrested in

this regard. This action from the police and Geology and Mining Department has virtually stopped the menace of illegal mining and unauthorized transportation of minerals within the limits of Ganderbal district.

Police said all the accused had been resorting to illegal mining of minerals in Nallah Sindh flowing in

the district. At least 11 FIRs stand registered against the illegal miners at different police stations including PS Ganderbal, PS Lar, PS Safapora, PS Kheerbawani, PS Kangan, and PS Gund.

Besides, the Police and the G&M Department jointly carried out raids at different locations and recovered fines from the offenders.

# Modi Govt propelled J&K on path of progress: Kavinder

J I NEWS SERVICE  
CHANDIGARH, MAY 21

Senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister, Kavinder Gupta asserted that the Union Government led by PM Narendra Modi has propelled J&K on a path of unprecedented progress as the Union Territory witnessed colossal uplift on the social and economical fronts.

The former deputy Chief Minister was speaking during the meeting organized by J&K Dogra Sabha at Mahajan Hall, Sec 37, Chandigarh. BJP Lok Sabha candidate for Chandigarh constituency, Sanjay Tandon also joined the meeting.

During the programme, the Dogra Sabha members have felicitated Kavinder Gupta for his selfless contributions to the society.

Kavinder asserted that time has come when it could be claimed that the J&K UT has embarked on a voyage to achieve pin-



nacl of progress leaving behind the dark era of gloom and distress only because of the insightfulness of PM Modi, who envisaged the path on

which the UT is traversing today. He said that new infrastructure projects, investment incentives, and socio-economic development programmes aimed at empowering local communities and boosting employment opportunities have played a crucial role in the progress which the region has achieved in the last few years after the significant move of making Article 370 null and void by the Modi Government. He also underscored the government's commitment to inclusive development, emphasizing efforts to address longstanding issues and bridge developmental gaps in the region.

Kavinder proudly declared that the incumbent BJP government is the best government since independence. He further emphasized that the BJP government's dedication to the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir speaks for itself through its tangible

results and the trust it has garnered from the masses. The former deputy Chief Minister urged the people of Dogra community residing in Chandigarh as well as the localities to support and vote BJP candidate Sanjay Tandon in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls. He asserted that the BJP will undoubtedly form the next government at the Centre by winning more than 400 plus seats with an aim to make India a more prosperous and developed nation. Seema, Anchor, compeered the programme. Among those who were present include Kuldeep Singh Retired Session Judge, Ram Murti Mahajan, President Mahajan Sabha Chandigarh, Kamal Dogra, Dr. S.K Sharma, Simi Singh, Ashok Sharma, Kasturi Lal, Subash Randhawa, Kamlesh, Rouniq Singh Jamwal, all active members of J&K Dogra Sabha Chandigarh.

# Seth compliments voters of Baramulla on high turnout

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Vishal Khatri Sabha J&K President Devender Seth today appreciated the high voter turnout in Baramulla Lok Sabha constituency and said such active participation is a great trend. In a handout issued here, Seth said that the high voter turnout in Baramulla Lok Sabha seat shows people's unwavering faith in democracy. He congratulated and thanked the people of Baramulla for joining the Maha Kumbh of our democracy in large numbers. He said, this is the highest voter turnout recorded in the constituency in the last 8 Lok Sabha elections in 35 years. The situation has improved and fear faded and that is a good omen for democracy. The people mostly did not vote in the past due to the threat to their lives but, this time, brisk voting is taking place without interference from any quarters," said Seth. Seth appreciated the hard work of all the stakeholders to ensure free, fair, accessible, inclusive & peaceful conduct of voting. He said that its



great feeling to see young voters expressing and celebrating their unshakable faith in democratic values. Hope this positive trend will continue in the next phase", he said. Besides the highest voter turnout, Seth said the constituency created another record by having a zero-violence polling day. "The people have proved that they have faith in democracy and they can achieve sustainable development only through voting in the polls," he added. Seth said there were attempts by terrorists a couple of days back to vitiate the atmosphere by carrying out attacks but those incidents did not have any impact on the voter turnout.

# Shiv Sena support base rapidly increasing in Kashmir, dozens join party



J I NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

Influenced by the policies and ideas of Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit dozens of locals took membership of the party in the valley today.

As per the instructions of party state chief Manish Sahni, A program organized in Ahmed Nagar area of Srinagar under the chairmanship of Center Kashmir Incharge Mohammad Ramzan Dar, where about two dozen local people including women joined the party. Dar said in his address that, the support base of the party is increasing rapidly in Kashmir. The resolution of the state unit to give the

first right to the sons of the soil to enter the resources, government jobs and educational institutions of Jammu and Kashmir strongly influenced the common people. Along with this, voices are being raised on public issues. On this occasion, Mohammad Ramzan Dar welcomed Fayaz Ahmed Ghani, Nazir Ahmed Mir, Irfan Ahmed Ghani, Inayat Ahmed Dar, Mohammad Latif Khan, Farooq Ahmed, Manzoor Ahmed, Habibul Shah, Abdul Rashid, Mohammad Salim, Mohammad Ashraf Dar, Sara Begum, Gulshan Begum, Afrooza Begum, Hamida Begum and other new entrants with Shiv Bandhan and Nishan.

# Dept of Lifelong Learning organizes workshop on Basic Communication Skills at Balgran

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Jammu today organised One day workshop on "Basic Communication Skills" in the premise of Balgran, Channi Rama, Jammu. The workshop was conducted as per the vision of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu Prof. Umesh Rai to bring the student out of the class and impart project based learning.

The workshop was jointly inaugurated by Prof. Jeevan Jyoti, Incharge Director, Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Jammu and Ms. Urmil Arora, Principal and Ms. Sadhna Kachroo, Vice-Principle of Bal Bharti Public School. In her inaugural speech, Prof. Jeevan Jyoti appraised the students



about the importance of Communication Skills. The main objective of the workshop was to enable the students to learn basic skills of communication so that they can communicate with precision and clarity. The main themes of the workshop were formal and informal communication Skills and conversation starters etc. The special resource person of the workshop

was Ms. Neetu Dhar, Chief Coordinator and Master Trainer JKDCUL (Jammu Kashmir Dairy Producers Processors and Marketing Cooperative Ltd), Jammu. She detailed the students about components of formal and informal communication skills. She also involved the students through various activities for enhancing their communication skills. Evaluation of the students was

also done in the end by the resource person. The workshop was coordinated by Dr. Rewa Khajuria, Counsellor, Department of Lifelong Learning. About 36 Students of Balgran very enthusiastically participated in the workshop. Among others present were Asha Sharma, warden and Goverdan Singh, teacher of the School.

# Crackdown on illegal mining, 2 vehicles seized

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

In a drive against illegal mining and to tighten noose against the violators, Jammu Police has initiated strict action against the criminals involved in illegal mining & minting money out of the public resources.

In a surprise operation which was carried out at different locations in Rural zone of District Jammu. Police Station Nagrota detained one Dumper bearing registration number JK02DC-1926 loaded with Nallah Mud and without Form-A.

Police Post Pounichak, detained one tractor trolley bearing Engine No. C10001827D loaded with boulders and without Form A.

After detaining of these vehicles District Mining Officer was informed for necessary legal actions.

While giving the details SP Rural Jammu, conveyed that Jammu Police is committed for protecting the public property and to eradicate the menace illegal mining in the area.

# FFMA pays tribute to Rajiv Gandhi on death anniversary

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Freedom Fighter Memorial Association (FFMA) remembered former Prime Minister Late Sh. Rajiv Gandhi on his death anniversary, recalling his great contributions and highlighted his selfless services and achievements in Nation building.

Paying rich tribute to former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his 33rd martyrdom day in an impressive function held today at office of FFMA, New Rehari Jammu.

Addressing the gathering Chairman of Association Rajiv Mahajan recalled the services of Rajiv Gandhi as the youngest Prime Minister who gave the vision to the youth of the Country of

the challenges of the 21st Century and brought IT and Telecom revolution, lowered the voting age to 18 years to empower the youths.

M a h a j a n said Late Gandhi was the architect of Panchayat Raj system in the country and giving constitutional status and powers through 73rd and 74th amendments thus ensuring 33 percent reservations to the women and proportional representation to the SCs and STs in all three tiers of the Panchayat Raj system. He transferred the powers to the people at the grass root level.

Speaking on the occasion President of FFMA Prof. S.S. Balwal termed



the departed leader as architect of Modern India. He said under the able leadership of Rajiv Gandhi, Nation touched the heights in respect of development, education, self-reliance and defence, taking country in the first rank of the Nations in service to the people. The departed leader was a man of patience and development who increased sustenance for science, technology and associated industries and reduced the import quota, taxes and

tariffs on technology founded industries particularly airlines, computer, telecommunication including defense ensuring that India entered into digital world and compete with other developed countries.

Others were present Ved Gandotra ( Chief Patron of Association), R.C Puri ( Retd. JKAS, Former President of Association and Chairman of Association), Prof. S.S Balwal (President of Association), Thakur Karnail Chand ( Working President of Association), Sardar. (Rimple), (General Secretary of Association), Parbhat Kapahi (Office Secretary of Association), Bhanu Partap and others.

# GDC Thannamandi holds Extension Lecture on Drug De-Addiction

J I NEWS SERVICE  
THANNAMANDI, MAY 21

The National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit of Government Degree College (GDC) Thannamandi, in collaboration with the Red Ribbon Club, organized an insightful extension lecture on drug de-addiction. Assisted by Institutional Innovation Council (IIC), the event was held under the esteemed patronage of Dr. Farooq Ahmed, Principal of the college.

Dr. Ashaq Malik, a renowned expert in the field, delivered a comprehensive lecture that covered all aspects of drug abuse. His presentation included detailed discussions on the causes and effects of drug addiction, preventive measures, available remedies, and the critical roles played by the government, parents, and society in addressing this pervasive issue. Dr. Malik also provided a thorough analysis of drug-related data, highlighting the urgent need for collective action.

Dr. Farooq Ahmed further elaborated on the neurological aspects of drug addiction, providing valuable insights into how drugs affect the brain and lead to dependency. He explained that drugs can alter the brain's chem-



istry by interfering with neurotransmitters, which are crucial for communication between neurons. This interference can lead to changes in behavior, cognition, and emotional regulation, making it difficult for individuals to control their drug use. Dr. Ahmed highlighted the importance of understanding these scientific mechanisms to develop effective intervention strategies, emphasizing that addressing addiction requires a multidisciplinary approach that includes medical, psychological, and social support.

The proceedings of the event were expertly conducted by Dr. Shiraz Ahmed, Coordinator of the Red Ribbon Club. The event concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Prof. Asif Ajaz Lone, NSS Program Officer, who expressed gratitude to the

speakers and participants for their valuable contributions and engagement. This collaborative effort by the NSS Unit and the Red Ribbon Club reflects their commitment to addressing critical social issues and fostering a healthier, drug-free community. Prominent among others present on the occasion were Dr. Abdul Haque Naimi, Dr. Nazir Ul Islam, Dr. Goher Iqbal, Dr. Junaid Ahmed, Dr. Gulshan Rashid, Sh. Rakesh Puri, Sh. Anuj Bali, Prof. Fatima Parveen, Dr. Ather Aziz Raina, Prof Rummy Dar, Prof. Rizwana, Dr. Nagina, Dr. Sarfaraz Mirza, Dr. Arshad Khan, Dr. Mohd Javaid, Dr. Nusrat Farooq and Dr. Wahid Ahmed Qazi. All non teaching staff members also witnessed the proceedings along with NSS Volunteers, members of red Ribbon Club and students.

# Havan Yagya, Puja organized at Raghunath Temple Tikri, Udhampur

J I NEWS SERVICE  
UDHAMPUR, MAY 21

On the occasion of Narasimha Bhagwan Jayanti, havan yagya and puja was organized at Raghunath temple located in Chinas, Tikri, Udhampur and on Tuesday. A large number of devotees reached the temple and paid obeisance. During this period.

On Narasimha Jayanti, Bhandaras were organized along with Havan Yagya and worship in Raghunath temples. Puja and Havan Yagya were organized by the temple social activists, after making offerings in the Havan Yagya and paying obeisance at the temple so that people in India as well as all over the world can live a happy life.

After the puja, Prasad was distributed among the temple social activists. Capt. Pavitar Singh, Capt. Balbir Singh, Capt. Arjun Singh, Capt. Tara Singh, RTD Head Master Pardeep Singh, Amit Jammal, Kulbhusan Singh Beopar Mandal President tikri, Sub. Chajju Ram, and Shakti Singh etc. They told that this time in the Havan Yagya, a prayer has been made to Lord Narasimhan Jayanti will be celebrated with pomp and show by organizing Bhandara.

# Karra honours Legacy of Former PM Rajiv Gandhi with resounding tributes

J I NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR MAY 21, 2024

Paying tributes to former Prime Minister Bharat Ratna Rajiv Gandhi today on his death anniversary, Senior Congress Leader and CWC Member Tariq Hameed Karra said, that the martyrdom of Rajiv Gandhi can never be forgotten till this world exists and we solemnly honor and remember a true patriot and vision-

ary leader. Rajiv Gandhi's unwavering commitment to our Nation and his profound contributions have left an indelible mark on our society, Karra said.

Karra said Rajiv Gandhi, as the former Prime Minister, championed technological advancements, propelling our nation into a new era of innovation and progress. His pivotal efforts to lower the voting age to 18 empow-

ered countless young voices, thereby strengthening our democracy and ensuring a brighter future for generations to come. His legacy is one of revolution and transformation, shaping our present and influencing our future.

Rajiv Gandhi's enduring legacy continues to inspire us, reminding us of the cost of freedom and the enduring strength of our democratic values.

As we reflect on his sacrifice today, we reaffirm our commitment to the principles Rajiv Gandhi tirelessly fought for, Karra added and said his bravery and dedication will continue to guide us in our quest for justice, equality and peace. His memory remains a beacon of hope and a source of strength for all who strive for a better future, Tariq Hameed Karra further said.



## Record poll per cent in Ladakh, Baramulla proved improved situation in Kashmir: Khatana

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SURANKOTE, MAY 21

Senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Gulam Ali Khatana has said that record poll per cent in Ladakh and Baramulla has clearly established that situation in Kashmir has now improved a lot and peace has prevailed in the region.

"This was only possible by the extra-ordinary leadership of PM Modi during the BJP rule over the country in the last ten years," he further said.

Addressing a public meeting in mountainous Surankote area of border district of Pooch on Tuesday Khatana said that terrorism has been decimated, stone-pelting is seen nowhere, cross-border infiltration has also been reduced to zero in J&K after the PM Modi gave a free hand to the security forces on borders and inside J&K to deal with the law and order situation.

Apart from the record high poll per cent in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections, number of tourists visiting Jammu and Kashmir has also enormously



increased especially after the abrogation of Article 370 and 35-A as this has changed the thinking of people from rest of the country about Kashmir and its people.

"The increase in number of tourists in Kashmir has also improved the economy of the region and reduced unemployment to a large extent," the BJP leader said.

He further said that more such positive developments are also in plans after PM Modi becomes the helmsman of the world's largest democracy for the third time.

Speaking on the occasion senior BJP leader and former Minister, Abdul Gani Kohli said: "BJP is all set to cross 400 plus

mark in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections to usher the nation into a new era of more developments and more progress after which our country will become the third leading economy in the world."

Former MLC and BJP Incharge Surankote, Shahnaz Ganai while addressing the gathering said in Jammu and Kashmir BJP has now become a name to trust upon for the poor Gujjars and Bakerwals and these marginalised communities have pinned their hopes on the leadership of PM Modi.

BJP District Vice President Azhar Manhas said: "People have now clearly identified the real face of Congress, National Conference (NC) and Peoples

Democratic Party (PDP) and they will not fall into the trap of sugar-coated words of these dynast parties."

He further said that there are number of schemes and programmes by the government led by PM Modi for the poor and marginalised people but for its vested interests the Congress is spreading a false propaganda against such policies.

Prominent among those present on the occasion were Aziz Mirza, Hameed Bajjard, Saleem Chowdhary, Ikhtlaq, Behan Intiaz of Mahila Morcha, Sanjay Kesar, General Secretary, Mohd Bashir Khan, Mohd Akram, Kisan President, Hafiz Abdul Qayoom, Sports person and others.

## Uplifting poor, developing far-flung areas my agenda: Azad



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

In a vibrant road show held today in Kokernag, Chairman of the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP), Ghulam Nabi Azad reaffirming his unwavering commitment to uplifting the poor and developing underprivileged areas. Azad highlighted the persistent issues plaguing the region, emphasising that many people still lack access to basic necessities such as electricity and road connectivity. Drawing from his extensive experience as Chief Minister, he assured the audience of his dedication to addressing these challenges with the same vigor and effectiveness he demonstrated in the past. "I have campaigned extensively across south Kashmir, visiting even the most remote villages," Azad remarked. "The poverty is stark, and the lack of basic necessities is alarming. Unemployment is rising, and many villages still lack proper road connectivity. In some areas, I witnessed wooden electricity poles and bridges. These conditions are unacceptable, and

we must work tirelessly to improve them." He further stressed his decision to step away from national politics to focus on the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. "I left national politics solely to uplift the poor people of this region. My mission is to ensure that every individual has access to the basic amenities they deserve and to bring sustainable development to even the most far-flung areas," he stated. Mr. Azad criticised the current government's actions, stating, "The present government snatched away our rights, our statehood. It was me who fought against that decision in parliament while other MPs of regional parties remained silent. Today, they are fooling people by promising to bring back Article 370. Those who are in the India Alliance had supported the government in revoking the article, how can you expect them to support its restoration?" Highlighting the hardships faced by the youth, Azad added, "Today, our youth have to compete with outsiders to get even small jobs, which is an injustice. The same

protective laws still exist in other states of India. If we come to power, we will reintroduce the Roshni Scheme and ensure laws that secure jobs and land for the people of Jammu and Kashmir." Azad emphasised that the people of Jammu and Kashmir desire change, and his party is committed to delivering it. He highlighted his past tenure as an example of effective governance, citing numerous developmental projects. These included the creation of new districts, the construction of roads, and the establishment of important infrastructure such as the Hajj House, Yatri Bhawan, tulip gardens, schools, universities, degree colleges, hospitals, and medical colleges. He asserted that continuing this development is his primary aim and agenda. Among others who were present on the occasion were G.M.Saroori Vice Chairman, Ch Haroon Khatana Gen Secretary, Adv Saleem Parry Candidate, Salmaan Nizami Chief Spokesperson and others.

## ABRSM hails hike in DA

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 21

The Akhil Bhartiya Rashtriya Shakshik Mahasangh (ABRSM) extends its heartfelt gratitude to the Jammu Kashmir Government for its timely approval of the enhanced Dearness Allowance (DA) for regular Union Territory government employees and pensioners. The recent decision to increase the Dearness Allowance by 4%, bringing it up to 50% from the previous 46%, is a commendable step towards alleviating the financial burden on employees and pensioners amidst the ongoing market inflation.

Speaking to the media here at the Jammu on Tuesday, National Auditor of ABRSM, Devraj Thakur, emphasized the significance of this decision in light of the economic challenges faced by the workforce and retirees. He stated that ABRSM acknowledges the government's proactive approach in addressing the needs of its workforce and retirees. This hike in DA demonstrates the government's commitment to the well-being of its employees and retirees, which is commendable.

ABRSM has been a vocal advocate for the welfare of employees and retirees, consistently raising concerns regarding the National Pension Scheme (NPS) and advocating for the restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS). The lack of guarantees for the welfare and security of employees and their dependents under NPS necessitates urgent action to safeguard their financial interests post-retirement. ABRSM reiterates its long-standing appeal for the scrapping of the NPS and restoration of the OPS, which provides more security and stability to retirees.

Thakur highlighted the positive impact of such measures on the morale of employees, emphasizing the ripple effect it would have on the overall well-being of Jammu and Kashmir. He reiterated ABRSM's continuous efforts in demanding a hike in DA, underscoring the importance of such measures in ensuring the financial security and stability of employees and retirees. ABRSM extends its gratitude to the Hon'ble Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha and concerned authorities for this considerate decision. It expresses hope that all lingering issues regarding the welfare of employees will be resolved at the earliest. The organization remains committed to advocating for the rights and welfare of employees and retirees, and will continue to work towards ensuring their financial security and well-being.

## Defeat BJP designs to manipulate poll process: Bhardwaj

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
PURMANDAL, MAY 21

Senior Congress leader and PCC general secretary Mr Mohinder Bhardwaj has asked the party workers particularly those associated with the booth level functioning and June 4 counting of votes for Lok Sabha elections, to remain vigilant and thwart any nefarious design of either the BJP or the ruling dispensation to manipulate the public mandate.

"There are reliable reports to suggest that a panicky ruling BJP starting at defeat in the Jammu Lok Sabha constituency is planning to usurp public mandate which is clearly in the favour of Congress. Stand up and unitedly fight against any effort to manipulate the electoral process. Remain vigilant till the last vote is counted," he asked the Congresspersons while addressing party leaders and workers of the area



The pathetic condition of the roads, despite tall claims of the administration and the BJP leadership on the development front, is further adding to the people's problems," he added.

The senior Congress leader said that the BJP has already lost the battle of perception by not fielding candidates from three Lok Sabha constituencies of

here today.

Mr Bhardwaj cautioned the Lt Governor's administration against allowing the BJP's nefarious designs to manipulate election outcomes to succeed. "Remain and act as an impartial umpire to uphold the sanctity of the electoral process. Take strict action under the law if anyone from the ruling party tried to indulge in malpractices," he said.

Mr Bhardwaj expressed serious concern on the failure of the administration and even the ruling BJP to address the problems being faced by the Purmandal and Kharamandana blocks due to intense heat waves. "The people are suffering due to shortage of drinking water and irregular power supply which has made life miserable for them in view of the rising temperature.

Kashmir Valley. This is a precursor to the saffron party losing both Jammu and Udhampur-Kathua seats to Congress.

Among those who spoke on the occasion were Bashir Ahmed Former Sarpanch, Brij Pal Singh, Dr Rajesh, Nawab Din, Mangal Das, Harbans Singh, Mushi Ram Former Sarpanch, Gopal Singh, Kuldeep Sharma, Abdul Satar and Mohan Singh.

## Steel Secretary launches NMDC Vendor Portal

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
HYDERABAD, MAY 21

Steel Secretary Shri Nagendra Nath Sinha launched NMDC's Vendor Invoice Management and Self Service Portal at the company's Corporate Office in Hyderabad on Monday.

Foraying ahead on its digital transformation journey, NMDC made the strategic decision to introduce and implement a seamless interface for vendors to engage with the company, streamlining the procurement life cycle while enhancing transparency and business harmony.

Shri Nagendra Nath Sinha along with the company's Senior Management - Shri Amitava Mukherjee, CMD (Additional Charge); Shri Dilip Kumar Mohanty, Director (Production); Shri



Vinay Kumar, Director (Technical); and Shri B Vishwanath, CVO were acquainted with the features of the Portal by the concerned NMDC officers and vendors.

Congratulating Team NMDC on going live with the Vendor Portal, Shri Nagendra Nath Sinha said, "NMDC is known for its sustainable business practices and initiatives like these will encourage vendor participation while promoting an ecosystem of transparency and accountability. By revolutionizing the vendor interaction route, NMDC has set higher sights for

the industry." "In our standing as a national mining company, NMDC strives to stay ahead of the curve, embracing innovation and leveraging technology to drive efficiency and transparency.

This digital platform is a testament to our resolve towards Responsible Mining!" said

Shri Amitava Mukherjee. Thriving on the momentum of 45 MT, NMDC delivered a promising start to FY25. The Steel Secretary also reviewed NMDC's performance and plans in the pipeline for this financial year.

## School of Mechanical Engineering SMVDU hosts Week Long Training on 3D Printing

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 21

A weeklong training on 3D Printing was conducted at the School of Mechanical Engineering, SMVDU. The training was conducted by Mr. Shane from Adroit Information Systems Pvt. Ltd. conducted the training session. The training included the fundamentals of 3D printing and hands-on sessions on the newly commissioned 3D printing facility at School of Mechanical Engineering. The training was attended by students, scholars, staff and faculty members of the school. Pertinently, School of Mechanical Engineering, SMVDU is offering B.Tech. Mechanical Engineering with Honors and Minor specialization in 3D Printing and M.Tech. Smart Manufacturing (Mechanical Engineering) from the academic year 2024-25. Dr. Yatheshth Anand (Head, School of Mechanical Engineering) lauded the efforts of the staff and faculty members and conveyed



thanks to the Prof. Pragati Kumar (HVC SMVDU) and SMVDU administration for the support in developing the state of the art 3D Printing facility in the school. Dr. Mir Irfan Ul

Haq (Assistant Professor, SME) coordinated the training program. The school is set to organize more such events for students and professionals of the region in near future.

## Rajesh Gupta warns LG to deal with power crisis in Jammu or give resignation

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Lambasting the administration for failing to provide even basic facility of power and drinking water supply during the ongoing scorching summer Bahun Samaj Party (BSP) J&K UT General Secretary and Media Head Rajesh Gupta warned J&K Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha to deal with the power crisis in Jammu region within 24 hours or give resignation. Gupta



further said, "If a head of the Union Territory is not able to provide basic amenities to his people then he

has no right to continue. BSP leader appealed to the administration to concentrate in providing the uninterrupted power supply in Jammu province rather than focusing only on installation of smart meters. He said that the people of Jammu are regularly paying their

monthly rent and without their fault the public should not be made to suffer any more. During this season, power cuts remain a common occurrence posing significant challenges to the residents and businesses alike. He said frequent power cuts have been main sources of irritation to the people and the accountability deficit in the departments concerned has led to chaotic situations in the city as well as rural Jammu.

## Congress Seva Dal pays tributes to former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Congress Seva Dal paid tribute to former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his 33rd martyrdom day. Describing him as a visionary and a leader of the people, Congress Seva Dal President Vijay Sharma Babbi said that he was a visionary leader who laid the foundation of modern India. The credit for taking the country to new heights in terms of communication, science technology, education, health infrastructure and defense goes to Rajiv Gandhi. He introduced the Panchayati Raj system, which proved to be a great source of employment generation

for the common people at the grassroots level. Rajiv Gandhi's contribution in the progress of the country will always be remembered. On this occasion, three leaders, Ajaz Ahmed Shah, Mohammad Amin Ganai and Shabbir Ahmed Dar, who left Congress and joined other political parties, also returned home. Vijay Sharma said that today the countrymen have come to know that Congress is the only party that can take the country on the path of development and maintain communal harmony. On this occasion, Dara Singh, Gulzar Ahmed Hamam, Faiyaz Ahmed Malik and other members of Congress Seva Dal were present.

## Rajiv Gandhi's visionary legacy continues to illuminate path of modern India: Bhanu Mahajan

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

J&K Pradesh Mahila Congress solemnly commemorated the 33rd death anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi by paying heartfelt floral tributes in a poignant ceremony held here on Tuesday.

The ceremony was presided over by Bhanu Mahajan, senior Vice President J&K Pradesh Mahila Congress with Vice President Rajni Bala, General Secretary Kamla Hans, Secretary Ritu Gupta, District President Lalita Devi and Mahila Congress members were also present.



By technology, education, and inclusivity. His groundbreaking initiatives in information technology and telecommunications have positioned India as a global leader in these sectors," she said, highlighting the Congress leader's unwavering commitment towards the youth of India. "Rajiv Gandhi gave the youth a new direction, empowering them with the tools and opportunities to shape the future of our nation. His belief in the power of young minds led to the introduction of policies that promoted education, innovation, and entrepreneurship. His legacy is reflected in the vibrant and dynamic youth of today who continue to drive India's progress." They maintained, adding that it was Rajiv

Gandhi who empowered youth by reducing the voting age limit from 21 years to 18, and made provision for the next generation to fight elections at the tender age of 21 years. She said that the vision of Rajiv Gandhi towards empowering women was also insightful as he ensured 33 percent reservation to the women in Panchayati Raj Act. During the ceremony, the air was filled with an atmosphere of solemn respect as attendees reflected on the enduring impact of his leadership and the indelible mark he left on the nation. At the culmination of the ceremony, Bhanu asserted that his ideals of progress, empowerment, and justice continue to inspire our efforts to build a better India for all.

## Jammu Police arrests bootlegger, recovers 112 bottles of illicit liquor

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

In a continued effort to combat drugs and illicit liquor, the Jammu Police have achieved another significant success. Today, a team led by the SHO of the Bus Stand Police Station, under the supervision of SP City North and SDPO City North Jammu, apprehended two notorious bootleggers.

The individuals arrested have been identified as Vikas Kumar, son of Chaman Lal from Rajouri, and Shubam Mehra, son of Sham Lal from Gorkha Nagar, Jammu. During the operation, the police recovered 112 bottles of JK Whiskey from their possession.

A case has been registered against the accused under FIR No. 25/2024, Section 48-A of the Excise Act at the Bus Stand Police Station. The investigation is now underway to



uncover further details and potential connections. This operation underscores the Jammu Police's unwavering commitment to eradicating drug and liquor-related crimes in the region, ensuring the safety and well-being of its citizens.

## Migrant KPs extend support to Zafar Iqbal Manhas in Durga Nagar, Jammu



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

In continuation to the election campaign in favour of the Apni Party candidate for Rajouri - Anantnag parliamentary seat, Zafar Iqbal Manhas sahab, the Party leaders organized a meeting at Durga Nagar in Jammu District.

The meeting was organized by the Durga Nagar Welfare Committee. This meeting was chaired by the State General Secretary, Vijay Bakaya and senior leader of the Party, M. K. Yogi. During the meeting, Vijay Bakaya

educated the migrant Kashmiri Pandit voters about the policy and agenda of the Party that would be implemented for the welfare of the migrant community for their safe and honorable return to their homeland, Kashmir. He said that the Party is fully aware and committed to implement its welfare policy in favour of the migrant Kashmiri Pandits residing in Jammu, and other places after their migration from Kashmir valley.

"We are going to extend our help to the migrant KPs in camps as well as

in non-camp areas to uplift their living standard. As far as the concerns of increasing unemployment among the migrant KPs, we will ensure that the younger generation get suitable employment in Govt as well as private sector," said Bakaya while speaking at the meeting.

Meanwhile, M. K. Yogi addressed the meeting. The migrant KPs have assured their support to the Apni Party's candidate from Rajouri - Anantnag seat, Zafar Iqbal Manhas

## Bhau commemorates Anti-terrorism Day



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Narinder Singh Bhau, in a symbolic gesture of unity and resilience, commemorated Anti-terrorism Day by visiting the border areas. He expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Central government for its unwavering commitment to halting cross-border terrorism and fortifying the Indian armed forces.

Acknowledging the pivotal role of Prime Minister Modi's administration, Singh attributed the cessation of migration in border regions to the government's robust actions. He disclosed that residents who had previously migrated were now returning to their homeland, resuming agriculture and rebuilding their lives. The resilient farmers of these areas, who bore the brunt of adversi-

ties, are now witnessing the dawn of brighter days and renewed hope.

Singh's visit not only symbolizes solidarity with the brave inhabitants of these areas but also serves as a testament to the transformative measures that have fostered peace and prosperity. The narrative of resurgence and reunited communities in the border regions echoes the promise of progress and a brighter tomorrow.

## NS Bhau joins second Sthapna Diwas of Kali Mata Temple, Pandorian

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
MISHRIWALA, MAY 21

Narinder Singh Bhau was honoured to join the community members of Mishriwala Pandorian in celebrating the auspicious occasion of the second Sthapna Diwas at the Kali Mata Temple. The event was graced by the presence of esteemed guests, including Kewal Krishan, Champa Patyal, Raghuvir Sharma, Raj Singh Manhas, Purushotam, Babu Pandorian, Jaidev



Singh Bajju, and Anshu Bhau. Expressing his gratitude and blessings received, Narinder Singh Bhau conveyed his heartfelt thanks to the people of Mishriwala Pandorian for extend-

ing the invitation to seek blessings from Kali Mata. In a promise of ongoing support, he pledged to make regular visits and assist the temple committee in its future development endeavours. His

belief in the promotion of Sanatan Dharma serves as the driving force behind his commitment to community well-being and spiritual enrichment.

As the occasion unfolded with prayers, rituals, and festivities, the spirit of unity and devotion shone brightly amongst all those present. Narinder Singh Bhau's presence and commitment to the temple's growth echo the sentiments of a harmonious community driven by faith and shared purpose.

## SMVDU hosts Alumni Interaction on Automotive Sector Trends

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 21


The SAE Collegiate Club of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), in collaboration with the office of International and Alumni Affairs department, organized an engaging online session to highlight recent trends in the automotive sector.

This event was particularly aimed at aspiring engineers preparing for the BAJA SAE 2025 competition. Mr. Abhishek, an alumnus of SMVDU's School of Mechanical Engineering (Class of 2018) and current engineer at ZF Group, shared his expertise and experiences from participating in the BAJA SAE 2018 competition. The session began with an introduction by Mr. Achint Raj, a student from the School of Electrical Engineering, setting the stage for an informative exchange. Mr. Abhishek recounted the journey of the SAE BAJA SMVDU 2018 team, offering a detailed narrative of the design and fabrication process for their All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV). He discussed the challenges faced during proj-



ect planning and competition, providing valuable insights into overcoming obstacles with innovation and perseverance. The interactive format of the session encouraged lively discussions, with students actively seeking guidance on vehicle design, manufacturing, material selection, and transmission mechanisms. Mr. Abhishek addressed these queries with precision, sharing practical knowledge from his professional and competition experiences. Commending the students for their enthusiasm and initiative, Mr. Abhishek urged them to harness their potential and strive for excellence. His words of encouragement and practical advice left a lasting impact, inspiring the participants to pursue

their goals with renewed vigor. Students of various engineering schools in general and members of SAE BAJA collegiate club attended the event. The event also featured remarks from Dr. Yugal Khajuria (Dean of Alumni and International Affairs), Dr. Yatheshth Anand (Head, SME), Dr. Ankush Raina (President of BPA, SMVDU), and Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq (Associate Dean and Faculty Coordinator, SAE Collegiate Club), who all praised the students' dedication to reviving the SAE BAJA event at SMVDU. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of SMVDU, conveyed his best wishes to the SAE BAJA 2025 team, expressing confidence in their ability to achieve great success in the upcoming competition.



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR  
JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT  
**Office of Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Jammu**  
Phone: 0191-2577745, Email: ifej.xenmidjmu@gmail.com

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**ABSTRACT OF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS**  
e-NIT No. MID/J/e-NIT/2024-25/01 Dated: 22-May-24

Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Canal Road, Jammu, on behalf of Lt. Governor of J&K UT, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from registered and reputed Firms **Repairs to 250 KVA transformer at LIS Katal Batal along with allied electromechanical works.** The bidding process shall be completed online in two covers viz. Cover 'I' -Tender fee and Earnest Money Deposit, fulfillment of prequalification criteria, technical specifications and acceptance of terms and conditions of the tender and Cover 'II' - Financial Bid in the prescribed BOQ.

S. No.	Name of Work	Qty.	Earnest Money	Cost of tender document	Period of completion	Validity of Rates	Name of Division
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Repairs to 250 KVA transformer at LIS Katal Batal along with allied electromechanical works.	Complete job as per Scope of Work	2% of the quoted value	Rs200.00	10 Days	180 Days from date of Submission of bid.	Mechanical Irrigation Division, Jammu.

- The tender documents can be viewed and downloaded from the website <http://www.jktenders.gov.in> from: **21-05-2024 (06:00PM)**
- Submission of online bids: **22-05-2024 (10:00PM) to 01-06-2024 (02:00 P.M).**
- Opening of Cover I online bids: **03-06-2024 (2:00 PM)**

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Mechanical Irrigation Division  
Jammu

**DIP/J-617/24**  
**Date: 22-5-24**

## Inter-School Zonal Level Tournament commences in Zone Ghat

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, MAY 21

The Department of Youth Services & Sports on Tuesday declared open the Inter-School Zonal Level Tournament in Kabaddi, Volleyball and Kho-Kho disciplines for U 14 and U 17 boys, here at the Government Higher Secondary School Ground in Ghat. On the first day of the event, a total of 267 students participated, with 121 players in the under-14 category and 146 in the under-17 category. The opening ceremony was graced by Dinesh Kumar, Principal of the host school as the Chief Guest, alongside Surinder Kumar Zonal Physical Education Officer of Ghat.

The tournament is supported by all Physical Education Lecturers (PEL), Physical Education Masters (PEM), Physical Education Teachers (PET), Rehbar-e-Khel (REK), and National Youth Corps (NYC) members, who have collectively contributed to the event's success.



For the safety of the participants, Diamond Youth Club Ghat is providing ambulance services and the Block Medical Officer of Ghat has arranged a medical backup team.

The event marks a significant step in promoting sports and physical education among the youth in Ghat, fostering both competitive spirit and camaraderie among students.

The event marks a significant step in promoting sports and physical education among the youth in Ghat, fostering both competitive spirit and camaraderie among students.

## Vishva Yog Sansthan, Har Ki Pauri, Bahu Fort, Jammu felicitates Adv Vikas Chopra

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Vishva Yog Sansthan, Har Ki Pauri, conducts three yoga classes under the chairmanship of Yog Guru Karan ji. General class of yoga starts at Har Ki Pauri at 6.00 AM including youths, ladies and Sr citizens. 2nd class starts at 8.00AM for Sr citizens and youths and third class of yoga for ladies starts at 6.00pm to 7.00pm. On every Tuesday Hanuman Chalisa is being read by participants and prasad of halwa and grams is distributed on every Tuesday. Vikas Copra newly



elect president of Tax Bar Association was felicitated on this occasion. While speaking on this occasion Yog Guru Karan ji chairman of Vishva Yog Sansthan appreciated the efforts of Vikas Chopra ji towards betterment of Yog Sansthan. Vikas Chopra great social activist.

It is pertinent to mention here that Vishva Yog Sansthan is conducting many activities such as plantation drive, sanitation drive, medical camps etc. Plantation drive was also conducted during previous season with 100% survival rate. Vishva Yog Sansthan has pledged

to plant more than one lakh pipal and other trees during coming rainy season. Many sanitation drives were conducted at Har Ki Pauri with foreigners with the help of Municipal corporation Jammu.

Those who felicitated Vikas Chopra included Yog Guru Karan ji chairman of Vishva Yog Sansthan, Sham Lal Basson Ex-corporator, Bansi Lal Gupta, Rajan Gupta, Rajesh Padha, Suresh Sharma, Ashok Sharma, Sham Kalsi, Sunny Sangotra, Balkar ji, Kamal Gandotra, Charanjeet Patyal, Harvinder ji and Deep ji.

## Delegation of Godrej Industries Group calls on LG

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

A delegation of Godrej Industries Group led by Sh Burjis Godrej, Executive Director, Godrej Agrovet Ltd. met Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan today.

The delegation discussed with the Lt Governor the existing invest-



ments and the further expansion of their business ventures in the UT of J&K. The representa-

tives of Godrej Industries Group also agreed to explore opportunities benefiting the overall farming ecosystem in J&K. Rakesh Swami, Group President, Corporate Affairs; Sh Ramaswamy Iyer, General Manager-PSO and Ms Mishika Nayyar, Regional Manager Corporate Affairs Lead were also present during the meeting.

## GSSC distributes Volleyball Kits to Lower Jandial Youth to promote sports, combat drug abuse

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 21

In a significant step towards encouraging youth engagement in sports and providing a healthy alternative to drug abuse, GS Sports Club organized a distribution event, providing free volleyball kits to the young residents of Lower Jandial Panchayat in Mathwar Block.

The event, aimed at fostering a spirit of sportsmanship and community well-being, saw active participation from various community leaders and members. Present at the event were President of GS Sports Club, Atul Sudan, along with prominent social activists Ankush Sharma, Naresh



Sudan, Vinod Sharma, Himanshu, Arun, Vikas, and Ashwani etc.

President Atul Sudan expressed his enthusiasm for the initiative, stating, "Our goal is to inspire the youth to engage in productive and healthy activities. By providing these volleyball kits, we

hope to not only promote physical fitness but also offer a constructive way for the youth to spend their time, keeping them away from the dangers of drug abuse."

He further highlighted the broader impact of the initiative, adding, "Sports play a crucial role in the

holistic development of young individuals. This initiative is a step towards building a stronger, healthier community where the youth are empowered to make positive choices."

The distribution of volleyball kits is part of GS Sports Club's ongoing commitment to community development and youth empowerment. The club plans to continue such initiatives, aiming to reach more areas and provide more resources to encourage sports participation among the youth.

GS Sports Club extends its gratitude to all the volunteers and community members who made this event successful and reaffirms its dedication to fostering a drug-free and active community.

## IEC GMC Jammu gives accord provisional approvals to MD/MS & DNB study Protocols

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 21

Institutional Ethics Committee GMC Jammu gives accord provisional approvals to MD/MS & DNB study Protocols: during 6th Full Board Meeting: Prof. (Dr) Sanjay Bhasin

Institutional Ethics Committee of GMC Jammu concluded its two days long full board meeting on 21st May in NMC Hall GMC Jammu under the Chairmanship of Prof. (Dr) Subash Bahrdwaj (Acting Chairman) to accord provisional approval to 214 research proposals (synopsis) submitted by MD/MS/ DNB students of 2023-2026 batch as well as non-synopsis protocols by the faculty and residents. Members Secretary IEC GMC Jammu Prof. (Dr) Sanjay Kumar Bhasin informed that the meeting started with Welcomed address by the Acting Chairman followed by report by Member Secretary in presence of Principal & Dean GMC Jammu Prof. Ashutosh Gupta.

Prof. Sanjay Bhasin (Member Secretary) while presenting IEC GMC Jammu report said that IEC is independent body which works as per CDSO-ICMR and DHR guidelines. He took approval of minutes of full board meeting from members which was held on 20th & 21st March 2024. He informed that IEC GMC Jammu is according to the Ethical approval of Research Proposals to researchers from GMC Jammu, All Peripheral GMCs, all District Hospitals, SMVD, Jammu University, and Nursing Colleges and so on. He informed that till date, 541 Synopsis stands approved by the IEC GMC Jammu, in addition; 350 Non Synopsis Research Projects in last 04 years. He said that IEC is trying it's best to streamline the IEC more & more and accord approvals to quality research and for that support of all researchers, Guides and HoDs is required in future for the same. Principal was requested to give permission to IEC to open a

separate bank account for smooth running financial issues of the IEC.

Prof. Ashutosh Gupta (Principal & Dean) in his address lauded work of IEC GMC Jammu and especially the member secretary for strictly following CDSCO and DHR norms while giving approvals to research projects. He said that every onus should be put on quality research for which frequent meeting and discussions amongst faculty, HoD and IEC Members are must. He said that main focus of any medical institution is 30% teaching, 30% research, 30% patient care and 10% other medical related work. Research should be given top priority to produce quality medical graduates & postgraduates. He assured all possible help from the institution to IEC GMC Jammu in the interest of scientific research and researchers shall be encouraged to get quality funded projects from ICMR and other scientific research bodies.

During two days long deliberations 62 pg students presented their studies (Category A) where interventions were involved. In addition 78 category B and 59 Category C studies were also tabled for approval of full board. 18 non-synopsis studies were also approved. Prof. Subash Bahrdwaj (Acting Chairman of IEC GMC Jammu) while thanking all the esteemed members of IEC said that HoDs and the Guides shall be requested to scrutinize the research proposals within the department before submitting them to the IEC so that quality of projects do not get compromised.

The members who attended two day full board meeting included Prof. Ghanshyam Dev (Advisor to IEC), Prof. Anil Gupta & Prof. Ravinder Gupta from ASCOMS, Prof. Seema Gupta, Prof. Anjali Mehta, Dr. Nancy Meengi from Central University, Advocate P.S. Parmar, Dr. Dev Raj (Statistician), Mr. Sudhir Kumar (Layman).

## People going to write history in Rajouri - Anantnag polls: Altaf Bukhari

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
POONCH, MAY 21

Apni Party President, Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari on Tuesday the people of Rajouri - Anantnag Parliamentary constituency are going to write a history with the casting of their votes in 2024 Parliamentary polls that would cement the relations between two regions of Jammu and Kashmir.

Altaf Bukhari said that the Rajouri - Anantnag parliamentary constituency has emerged as a ray of hope for the people of Jammu as well as Kashmir to bring them closer to each other and unite them.

Bukhari was addressing a largely attended public rally in Poonch in support of the Party's Parliamentary candidate, Zafar Iqbal Manhas sahab.

Amid slogans in favour of the Party, and its candidate, the enthusiastic people assembled here to listen to the Party President Altaf Bukhari.

In his address, Altaf Bukhari said that the 2024 Parliamentary elections are historic for the country, particularly for Jammu and Kashmir following the delimitation of constituencies.

He stated that with the creation of this Rajouri - Anantnag Parliamentary constituency, the people from two regions (Jammu & Kashmir) would come closer to each other.

"These are not routine elections. In these elections, the people have shown their faith in democracy that can be witnessed with the voting per-

centage of 60% in Baramulla Parliamentary seat," he said, while appreciating the people for their participation in the elections.

Expressing happiness over the increase in polling percent, he said that the polling in Baramulla rebuts claims that the people of J&K do not believe in democracy.

"We have shown that we are the torch bearer of democracy in Jammu and Kashmir by participating in these elections. In these elections, we want to restore the lost dignity and honor of the people of J&K that they deserve," he said, while seeking the attention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi towards strengthening the democratic system in J&K, and restoration of statehood.

He accused the National Conference and its national alliance partner, who have misused powers to create a hostile situation for Jammu and Kashmir in the last over seven decades.

He said that "The conspiracies of these parties divided Jammu and Kashmir into pieces. Is it not right that Poonch was divided into two parts i.e., one part of Poonch is occupied by Pakistan. Similarly, they divided Nowshera, Karnah, Teetwal etc."

To unmask the conspiracy and misdeeds of NC and its national alliance partner, he said that the strengthening of the democratic system is important in J&K.

Asserting that the country needs a strong Prime Minister, he hoped that the PM Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah would



do justice with the people of Jammu and Kashmir, who have suffered decades of instability and disturbance because of NC.

He asked for holding Assembly Elections and restoration of Statehood as the situation remains peaceful.

Expressing dismay over the neglect of the tourism sector in Pir-Panjal, he accused the NC and PDP for not developing tourism in the region even as Rajouri - Poonch has huge potential.

"These parties provided benefits to their workers, but not to the people. However, I assure the people of Poonch and Rajouri that if Zafar Iqbal Manhas gets elected to the Lok Sabha, we would try to get a sanction for the construction of two tunnels i.e., Dera Ki Gali and Peer Ki Gali on Mughal Road," he added.

In reference to the

release of the detained youth, he said that "We want to provide an opportunity to the youth detained for various reasons, including those involved in pelting stones, to live a normal mainstream life. We will fight to get them released from detention."

He said that "It's important to end the rule of FIRs, Public Safety Acts (PSA), and Verifications that was introduced in J&K by the NC and PDP to harass the youth and others."

Meanwhile, he said the PDP and NC should retire from politics because they have no more relevance in politics and let the people live in peace, and prosperity.

Besides, he assured that the Party would try to get a separate parliamentary seat for Rajouri - Poonch Districts as well as a separate parliamentary seat for

Anantnag.

He also assured that his Party would leave no stone unturned to get Hill Development Council, if the Party candidate, Zafar Iqbal Manhas gets elected to the Lok Sabha.

On the other hand, Vice President of the Party, Usman Majid asked the people to get rid of the dynastic families from Jammu and Kashmir.

"The people of Jammu and Kashmir have suffered because the National Conference and Peoples Democratic Party deceived the people of both the regions. These parties have worked for themselves by creating suspicion among the people against one another," said Usman Majid in his speech, seeking support for the Party's candidate from Rajouri - Anantnag Parliamentary seat, Zafar Iqbal Manhas sahab.

In his address, the contesting candidate of the Party, Zafar Iqbal Manhas also addressed the people and highlighted the policy of the Party that would be implemented to upgrade the living standard of the people of Rajouri and Poonch as well as develop the tourism sector on the pattern of Europe.

He assured that if he is voted to the Parliament, he would put up a fight for boosting local economy, employment, explore the possibility of border tourism, improve road network, ensure timely completion of Jammu-Poonch railway line network, improve the infrastructure in hospitals, and educational institutions.

Criticizing the regional parties for their bias

towards the people, the Provincial President of Jammu, S. Manjit Singh recalled how the National Conference, and PDP strongly opposed the granting of reservation to the Pahari speaking people.

"The movement of Pahari people became successful when they were granted reservation by the Govt of India. Hence, the propaganda that was launched by the NC and PDP against the Pahari speaking people failed. Therefore, these parties have no right to seek votes from the people whom they denied their rights for decades," said S. Manjit Singh.

In his address, District President, Poonch, Ex-MLA Shah Mohammed Tantry also spoke on the occasion, and said that the people of Poonch District have expressed their faith in the candidature of Zafar Iqbal Manhas sahab.

Prominent among those who were present on the occasion include Provincial Vice President, Jammu, Ex-MLA Faqir Nath, Additional General Secretary, Arun Kumar Chibber, Provincial Secretary of the Party, Raiz Aatish, Bashir Ahmed Khaki, District General Secretary, Poonch, Surjan Singh, Provincial Secretary / Incharge Membership Drive, Dr Rohit Gupta, Provincial President Women Wing Jammu, Pavneet Kour, Bilal Maqdoomi, Capt. Balraj Dutta, Choudhary Javed, Dr Bashir Malik, Abdul Jabbar Tantry, Amir Hashmi, Inspector (retired) Azam, and others.

## DC Srinagar visits Yatra Transit Camp Pantha Chowk, oversees preparations for annual Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2024

JINNEWSERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

In wake of the forthcoming annual Shri Amarnathji Yatra (SANJY)-2024, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat on Tuesday visited Yatra Transit Camp (YTC) at Pantha Chowk to oversee the preparations being made for the Yatries expected to participate in SANJY-2024.

SSP Traffic, Muzaffar Ahmad Shah; Additional District Development Commissioner, Zahoor Ahmad Mir; Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Syed Ahmad Kataria; Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad, besides Executive Engineers of R&B, PDD, PHE, Tehsildar Pantha Chowk, Chief Sanitation Officer and other senior officers of Police and Civil Administration accompanied the DC during the visit.

During the visit, the DC took stock of the facilities being created for the convenience of the yatries during their temporary halt at the transit camp. He stressed all concerned Departments to formulate a comprehensive plan to ensure a hassle free and smooth halt of yatries at Yatra Transit camp Pantha Chowk. On the occasion,



the DC was informed that all requisite measures are being taken to ensure that every necessary arrangement including facilities like drinking water, electricity, sanitation, parking space, bedding etc shall be made available at the Yatra Transit Camp well in advance before the commencement of the annual Shri Amarnathji Yatra (SANJY)-2024.

While taking the Department wise review of the arrangements, the DC asked the R&B authorities to complete all works at the Yatra Transit Camp premises besides repair work for the fencing around the compound.

Similarly, the authorities of Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) were

directed to ensure proper sanitation and cleanliness at the transit camp on a regular basis, besides deployment of sufficient staff at the camp for periodical cleanliness in and around the transit camp every day.

He also directed the SMC to keep an adequate number of mobile toilets at the Yatra Transit camp during the Yatra period, beside sufficient bath stations to facilitate the yatries.

The Health Department was directed to ensure proper healthcare facilities at the camp as per past practice.

The DC also asked the PDD Engineers to ensure proper power supply and back up at the camp

during the yatra period so that yatries do not face any difficulty.

During the visit, the DC also inspected halt stations/ public convenience facilities, proposed space for establishment of Langars, Water Management, space for setting up of Registration Counters, etc. for the forthcoming annual Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2024.

With regard to arrangements to be made for RFID and KYC registration, the DC asked the concerned to ensure all required measures are taken well in advance to ensure hassle-free and fast registration of the yatries during their temporary halt at Pantha Chowk Yatra Transit Camp.

## Director Ayush launches 07 Days training on Yoga Protocols at Govt Unani Hospital Shalteng Srinagar

JINNEWSERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

Director Ayush J&K, Dr Mohan Singh today launched the comprehensive training program for Pharmacists/ Multi-Tasking and other support Staff on Yoga Protocols at institutional/ community level at Govt. Unani Hospital Shalteng Srinagar.

Assistant Director Unani, Dr Sujad Hussain Shuja; Officer In-Charge Govt Unani Hospital Shalteng Srinagar, Dr Farooq Naqshbandi and Medical Officers and Paramedical staff of Govt Unani Hospital Shalteng Srinagar were present on the occasion.

Speaking at the event, Director AYUSH, J&K informed that a comprehensive training program for Ayush Pharmacists/ Multi-Tasking and other support Staff on Yoga Protocols at institutional/ community level is a necessity of the time as Yoga plays a pivotal role in prevention of different diseases.

He informed that Two Yoga Training Centres have been sanctioned by the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India one



at Govt Ayurvedic Hospital, Jammu and the other at Govt Unani Hospital, Shalteng Srinagar and both these centers have been made operational at their respective places.

Dr Mohan Singh advised all the trainees of the Department to implement Yoga in their daily life and make yoga household practice so that burden of non communicable diseases can be decreased from the society.

He further informed that the process of NABH accreditation for two tertiary care Ayush Hospitals viz Govt Ayurvedic Hospital, Jammu and Govt Unani Hospital, Shalteng Srinagar shall be initiated

shortly so that both these hospitals demonstrate commitment to quality care and patient safety.

He also advised the Unani and Homeopathic Medical officers to further promote Unani and Homeopathy into mainstream, and focus on strengths of Unani & Homeopathy for their unique treatment principles.

The Director AYUSH stressed on reducing the burden of disease and related morbidity and mortality by utilizing the potential of Ayush and exploring its potential to contribute towards National health policy & National Health programmes. He emphasized on lifestyle

management for promotion of health, and treatment of Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs) by utilizing the principles of age-old Ayush systems.

During the occasion, Dr Mohan Singh reviewed the functioning of Govt Unani Hospital, Shalteng Srinagar. He appreciated the work with regard to provision of quality patient care in the hospital. He advised that the strengths of the Unani system like specialized therapies viz Cupping, Massage etc should be promoted and for that awareness programs be organized regularly.

He further advised to start round the clock IPD services in the hospital for better monitoring and care of patients suffering from various ailments.

During his visit to the Hospital, Director AYUSH interacted with the patients and gave a patient hearing to their suggestions. He assured that each and every facility related to the treatment methodologies under Ayush systems shall be extended in both Tertiary Care Ayush Hospitals viz Govt Ayurvedic Hospital, Jammu and Govt Unani Hospital, Shalteng Srinagar.

## Lok Sabha Elections-2024

### RO Srinagar PC reviews preparedness regarding arrangements for Counting of Votes

JINNEWSERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

In order to review the preparedness regarding the arrangements for Counting of votes for Lok Sabha Elections-2024 at designated Counting Centres at SKICC-Centaur, the Returning Officer (RO) O2-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex, here.

SSP Srinagar, Aashish Mishra; SSP Traffic, Muzaffar Ahmad Shah; Assistant Returning Officers, Deputy District Election Officer Srinagar, various Nodal Officers and other concerned were present in the meeting.

At the outset, a comprehensive review of arrangements related to counting process viz. transporting and handling of EVMS, training of Counting staff, establishment of Media Centre, issuance of ID



cards, Entry passes for RO staff, ARO staff, Micro Observers, Counting Agents besides Security Plan were also meticulously deliberated in detail.

In addition, barricading and parking management, with special emphasis on security access through proper security passes were also discussed.

On the occasion, the

Returning Officer directed all concerned Officers to ensure timely completion of the arrangements for the smooth conduct of the counting process. He laid emphasis on smooth counting of votes in the constituency.

The RO also asked the Nodal Officer Media Centre to take all requisite measures for timely announcement of round

wise results on the counting day, besides for Media management at the venue.

The SSP Srinagar also made observations with regard to the security arrangements to be put in place at the venue.

Counting of votes for O2-Srinagar Parliamentary seat of Lok Sabha is scheduled on June 4, 2024 at designated counting halls at SKICC-Centaur.

## DC Samba chairs border security assessment meeting

JINNEWSERVICE  
SAMBA, MAY 21

Deputy Commissioner, Samba, Abhishek Sharma today chaired the border security meeting held here in the Conference Hall DC office to discuss the issues faced by Security forces and the general public near the International Border. At the outset, the DC appreciated the efforts put in by officers/officials from civil administration and security forces to facilitate voters during the recent Lok Sabha Elections, 2024, resulting in high turnout.

The meeting discussed the issues related to the ongoing and proposed projects of the Irrigation and Flood Control department and Rural Development department near IB.

The DC emphasized that the permissions should be timely granted



to the farmers for cultivation beyond fence, identify dairies for collection of fodder, installation of portable toilets and maintenance of the record of permissions granted to farmers & visitors, labour verification, rental verifications and also verification of vehicles frequently visiting to these areas.

Stress was laid on the promotion of Nanga Wet-

land reserves having huge potential for tourism promotion for being an abode to diverse species of birds coming from different corners of the world. He directed the Wildlife warden to install camera traps for recording animal migration.

Furthermore, he directed to spread awareness among farmers regarding reward schemes in case of

detecting the movement of any drone or locating any tunnel near border areas.

Among others, the meeting was attended by SSP Samba, Vinay Kumar, ADC Samba, Suresh Sharma, representatives from BSF including 2IC and Deputy Commandant, ACR Samba, Kusum Chib, SDM Gaghwal, SDM Vijaypur and other district officers.

## GLDM Hiranagar mulls promotion of skilling, entrepreneurship promotion among students

JINNEWSERVICE  
KATHUA, MAY 21

Girdhari Lal Dogra Memorial Government Degree College Hiranagar entered into collaboration with FICCI FLO, the women's wing of Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry for skilling and entrepreneurship promotion as regular activity in the College to undertake efforts towards women empowerment.

FICCI FLO, Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh chapter is represented by its chairperson, Ruchika Gupta and young women affinity group. The said association contributes by conducting events and activities related to the promotion of women entrepreneurs, women issues, conduct special



programmes and training workshops for women

on relevant themes and needs.

Principal of the College Dr Pragya Khanna, appreciated the efforts of FICCI FLO, and both the parties congratulated each other and promised to look forward to a constructive outcome in near future. It was an initiative for a focused attempt at delivering for student welfare in tune with NEP 2020 and an essential component of strategic planning towards improving specific skills having a positive impact on academic success.

The faculty members who graced the signing of historic move were Dr. Poonam Kamotra, Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Prof. Amit Kumar Sharma, Prof. Shapira Shameem, Prof. Surinder Kumar, Prof. Ganga Sharma, Dr. Rajni Bala and Dr. Mukesh Kumar.

## Director Family Welfare, MCH & Immunization J&K reviews Health initiatives in District Reasi

JINNEWSERVICE  
REASI, MAY 21

Director Family Welfare, MCH & Immunization J&K, Dr Tajamul Hussain Khan, visited District Reasi and reviewed the patient care scenario and health initiatives in the District.

At the outset, Deputy Chief Medical Officer Dr M Y Khan welcomed the Director and other senior officers/officials of the Directorate in presence of Dr Ravinder Singh Manhas CMO and other officers/officials of District Reasi.

A detailed PowerPoint Presentation on Work done during the year 2023-24 ending March 2024 was presented by the Dy CMO Reasi followed by an interactive session regarding Immunization



& FP activities, U-WIN, e-VIN, NCCMIS, FPLMIS, ALBR and other aspects of the ongoing schemes of the department.

The Director appreciated the whole team of District Reasi headed by CMO Reasi and directed all to keep up the good work in close coordination with each other for better outcome in future too.

Later, the DFW went around all sections of CMO/Dy. CMO Office

Reasi.

The review meeting was attended by Dr Shahid Iqbal, SEPIO, J&K, Hilal Ahmed Wani, Adm. Officer, J&K, Rakesh Sharma, SMEIO, J&K, Purshotam Kumar, SCCO J&K, Dr Isha Chalotra, SPO, UNDP, G.M Tantray, S.O DFW Office, BMOs of Reasi, Mahore and Pouni besides staff of CMO Office/Dy. CMO Office Reasi.

A detailed PowerPoint Presentation on

Work done during the year 2023-24 ending March 2024 was presented by Dr. M Y Khan, Dy. CMO Reasi along with Interactive session was also held regarding Immunization & FP activities, U-WIN, e-VIN, NCCMIS, FPLMIS, ALBR and other aspects of the ongoing schemes of the department.

Director appreciated the whole team of District Reasi headed by CMO Reasi and necessary directions were issued to all to keep up the good work in close coordination with each other for better outcome in future too. Later, the DFW took round of all sections of CMO/Dy. CMO Office Reasi.