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Deadly Accident leaves 22 Pilgrims dead, 67 Injured in Akhnoor

DM Jammu orders magisterial inquiry; Prez Murmu, VP Dhankar, PM Modi grieved over loss of lives; J&K LG announces ex-gratia of Rs 5 lakh to each NoKs of deceased, Rs 50k for injured; Politicians express grief

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

Nearly two dozen people were killed while 67 others were injured after a bus carrying pilgrims met with an accident and fell into a deep gorge at Tungi Morh Tanda area of Akhnoor in Jammu district on Thursday afternoon, officials said. An official told the news agency that a bus was on its way from Hathras in Uttar Pradesh to Shiv Khori area of Reasi

district when it met with an accident. He said that the bus fell around 200 meters into a deep gorge, following which a rescue operation was launched and injured persons were evacuated to hospital. Block Medical Officer (BMO) Akhnoor, Muhammad Saleem Khan told KNO that 22 were brought dead to hospital and around 67 were injured. "The critically injured have been referred to GMC Jammu for special-

ized treatment," he said. The deceased have been identified as Dharampati (42), wife of Radhay Sham of Aligarh, UP, Anamika, daughter of Lakshman Parshad of Naya Aligarh UP, Naina, daughter of Lakshman Parshad of Naya Aligarh UP, Rudra, son of Lakshman Parshad of Naya Aligarh UP, Ranbir Singh of Hathras, UP, Lakshman Parshad of Naya Aligarh, UP, Vicky R/O Aligarh UP, Seema, wife of Samarjit of Naya Aligarh, UP,



Randua of Hathras, UP, Sonu, daughter of Subash of Naya Aligarh, Samarjit of Naya Aligarh, UP, Prachi, daughter of Jitan of Hathras, UP, Tanuj, son of Sanjay of Naya Aligarh, UP, Suresh, wife of Yogveer Singh of Naya Aligarh UP, Sanjay, son of Sunder Singh of Naya Aligarh, UP, Renu, wife of Yogveer Singh of Hathras, UP, a child from Dhanipur. Two persons however were unidentified when the reports last came in and two also were minors.

The injured persons, who are admitted at Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu, have been identified as Krishna (13), son of Jai Veer of Aligarh, UP, Jai Veer (50), son of Gure Singh of Aligarh, UP, Amravati (45), of Aligarh, UP, Satyaveer Singh (45), son of Jhangi Singh of UP, Goutam Singh (55), son of Sundar Singh of UP, Sunita (35), wife of Bobby of UP, Radha (60), wife of Sardar of UP, Anju (18), daughter of Saspal of

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Congress 'Strangled' constitution during emergency: PM Modi

AGENCIES
PUNJAB, MAY 30

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday attacked the Congress for "ranting" about the Constitution when it was the one that "strangled" it during the Emergency and not care about it when Sikhs were killed in the 1984 riots.

"Sikhs were killed after putting burning tyres around them. At that time, they did not care about the Constitution," Modi said in his last poll rally in the seven-phase election. At the rally in favour of his party's Hoshiarpur candidate Anita Som Parkash and Anandpur Sahib nominee Subhash Sharma here, the prime minister also touched upon the issues of reservation, corruption and the Ram Temple.

Hitting back at the Congress for its charge that the BJP would scrap the Constitution if voted to power, Modi said, "Nowadays people of the country are hearing rants from INDI alliance about the Constitution. These are the same people who strangled



constitution during Emergency". He also charged that the intentions of the Congress and INDIA alliance over the issue of reservation are "dangerous". "In the last 10 years, I have always protected reservation for SC/ST/OBCs," he said. "Congress and INDI alliance are enraged over my efforts. Their intentions on reservation are dangerous. Their complete track record has been to snatch reservation of SC, ST and OBC," he said, adding he has always protected the reservation for SC/ST and OBCs.

Accusing the opposition of insulting the spirit of the Constitution and sentiments of B R Ambedkar, he said they want reservation on the basis of religion in government jobs, in sports, in government tenders and admission in universities. The prime minister charged that the opposition want to give reservation rights to Muslims after snatching it from Dalits and downtrodden. "It is a very big conspiracy to divide the country on the basis of religion," he alleged as he slammed the INDIA alliance.

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Streamline riding surface, ensure two way traffic on Jammu-Srinagar NH by June 10: CS to NHAI



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 30

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today set deadline of June 10 for streamlining of riding surface and ensuring two way traffic movement on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway in view of upcoming Shri Amarnathji pilgrimage and fruit season in the Union Territory. The Chief Secretary was addressing a meeting held with all the concerned to take stock of road condition and the current traffic scenario on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway.

Principal Secretary, Agri-

culture Production Department, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir/Jammu, IG, Traffic, Secretary Transport, Secretary PWD, RO, NHAI besides Deputy Commissioners of Ramban, Udhampur, Kathua and Samba attended the meeting while outstation officers participated virtually. The Chief Secretary took cognizance of the time being taken, at present, by both the Light Motor Vehicles (LMVs) and Heavy Motor Vehicles (HMVs) to reach from one capital city to another. He enquired about the condition of the road and the bottlenecks impeding smooth

movement of traffic. Dulloo took detailed appraisal of nearly two dozen spots on this road where commuters are facing inconvenience in their journey. He impressed upon the NHAI, Regional Officer, Jammu, to take all possible measures to improve the riding surface of the road and ensure simultaneous two way traffic on it by 10th of June this year. He asked for taking swift steps like enhancing width of the carriage way besides black topping all the stretches where traffic snarls are occurring due to rough

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Train engine derails at Jammu railway station, none hurt

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

The engine of the Sampark Kranti Express derailed at Jammu railway station on Thursday, however, no one was injured in the incident, officials said.

An official told news agency that as the train arrived at the railway station from New Delhi, one wheel of the engine went off track, however, no one was injured in the incident.

He said that after a two-hour delay, the engine was brought back on track and the train continued its journey.

Railway authorities are investigating the cause of the derailment, the official said.

Mines explode after forest fire along LoC in Poonch, blaze engulfs forests of Samba, Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

Several mines exploded due to a forest fire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district on Thursday and blaze also erupted in the forest areas of Samba and Jammu districts, causing significant damage, officials said. In Samba, the fire started in the Purmandal area and soon spread to nearby villages threatening several residential houses, they said.

The villagers alerted the administration, prompting them to send fire tenders to the area and the blaze was doused after effort of several hours, the officials said.

The locals alleged that some miscreants are triggering fire due to some vested interests and destroying forest land. They urged the administration to take stern action against those involved in the forest fire.

According to the officials, several mines exploded due to forest fire along the Line of Control (LoC) in the forward area of Mankote in Mendhar sub-sector in Poonch district. The blaze started from across the LoC and

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After controversies galore, campaign drums fall silent for India's LS polls

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, MAY 30

The din and bustle of colourful but often controversial campaigning spanning a gamut of issues from Mangalsutra to Mahatma Gandhi to Muslim appeasement and communal polarisation ended for India's staggered Lok Sabha elec-

tion on Thursday, ahead of the seventh and final phase of voting on June 1.

Fifty-seven constituencies from seven states and one Union Territory would go to the hustings in this round, sealing the electoral luck of 908 candidates including Prime Minister Narendra Modi (Varanasi), Kangana Ranaut

(Mandi), Anurag Thakur (Hamirpur), actor Ravi Kishan (Gorakhpur) and Abhishek Banerjee (Diamond Harbour). The Saturday polls will end the staggered multiphase elections for the 543-seat lower house of Parliament, which started on April 19.

As in earlier phases, PM Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah

led the campaigning for the Centre's ruling NDA spearhead BJP, alongside the party's National President J P Nadda and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

The chief canvassers for the opposition Congress, which leads the INDIA bloc, were its former and current presidents Rahul

Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge, besides party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra.

Among other leaders of the INDI alliance, Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee, Samajwadi Party Chief Akhilesh Yadav and Aam Aadmi Party National Convener Arvind

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CS reviews progress on implementation of new Criminal Laws in Jammu & Kashmir

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 30

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a high level meeting of senior functionaries in Home, Police and Law Departments to assess preparations being made for implementation of three new criminal laws in J&K recently passed by the Parliament.

Principal Secretary, Home, Director General Prisons,



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ED attaches properties worth Rs 1.56 crore under PMLA in Srinagar

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 30

The Enforcement Directorate has attached seven properties worth Rs 1.56 crore under Prevention of Money Laundering Act in Srinagar.

In a post on X (formerly Twitter), ED, Srinagar has provisionally attached seven immovable properties worth Rs. 1.56 Crore approx. of Imran Baba and Mrs. Sageena Yaseen, Partners of

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Police attach GPS tracking device to two terror associates in Anantnag

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 30

Police attached a Global Positioning System (GPS) device to two terror associates in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district on Thursday.

Police said in compliance with an order received from the Court, Anantnag Police on Thursday affixed GPS tracking devices on under-trial terror associates who were enlarged on bail in the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) UA(P) Act case.

The accused were arrested in 2018 under section 38, 39 UA(P) Act of Police Station Dooru and have been



enlarged on bail by the Court.

"The GPS ankle will be used to monitor the movement of the said terror associates and ensure that they don't violate the bail conditions", police said.

Lok Sabha Elections-2024: All arrangements set for Counting in Srinagar Lok Sabha Seat at SKICC-Centaur

JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 30

Ahead of Counting for Lok Sabha Elections-2024, the Returning Officer 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting of Assistant Returning Officers (AROs) and Nodal Officers at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex, here to review the preparedness regarding the arrangements put in place for Counting of Votes at designated Counting Centres at SKICC-Centaur.

Senior Superintendent of Police Srinagar, Aashish Mishra was present on the occasion.

At the outset, the Returning Officer (RO) took a comprehensive review of arrangements at designated Counting Halls in SKICC-Centaur for smooth and hassle free counting process viz.



Entry of RO staff, ARO staff, Micro Observers, Counting Agents and Media persons, besides transporting and handling of EVMs, establishment of Media Centre, Control Room, Media Gallery, installation of Public Address System, issuance of ID cards.

Similarly, the Security Plan and parking of vehicles in and around the SKICC-Centaur 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 error free and seamless arrangements for the smooth counting process 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 RO informed that 12 Counting Halls have been established at SKICC and 6

Counting Halls at Centaur Complex with 8 Counting Tables in each Hall. The Counting of votes will begin at 8 am with postal ballots, followed by the counting of votes in EVMs starting at 8.30 am as per the guidelines of Election Commission of India.

The SSP Srinagar also spoke on the occasion and made observations with regard to the security arrangements put in place at the venue for un-hindering counting process for Srinagar Lok Sabha Seat.

Pertinent to mention that Counting of votes for 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Seat of Lok Sabha is scheduled on (Monday) June 4, 2024 at designated Counting Halls at HBL SKICC-Centaur

Assistant Returning Officers, various Nodal Officers, Deputy District Election Officer Srinagar and other concerned were present in the meeting.

Heatwave and thunderstorm/lightning in Ramban Labour Department, Child Helpline aware construction workers about Do's and Don'ts

JINNEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, MAY 30

On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, a team of Labour Department, led by Assistant Labour Commissioner Ramban Amit Kumar and Project Coordinator Child Helpline Ramban Mudasar, conducted visits to under construction Digidol Tunnel to provide training and awareness to Labourers/ construction workers about the ongoing Heat wave Mitigation and Dissemination of Advisory on Thunderstorm and Lightning.

More than 50 Workers were educated about the Dos and Don'ts listed in the Public Health Advisory issued by National Programme on Climate change and Human

Health and Advisory regarding heat wave, Thunderstorm and lightning.

The Assistant Labour Commissioner briefed the workers about the necessary precautions to be taken during the working hours during the day time especially between 12 pm to 3 pm. Meanwhile the Employers were directed to put in place necessary arrangements like drinking water, shaded areas, temporary shelters, rest breaks, first aid materials, etc at the worksites and impart training and awareness to all the workers about the heat wave mitigation and its precautions.

Regarding the thunderstorm and Lightning, the ALC advised the workers to stay indoors, take shelter inside safe building, home, offices, shopping

centres and avoid shelter under trees, electric poles, metal structures or Constructions with metal sheets, to get off from hill tops, stay away from ponds, river side, utility lines, telephone, metal fences, motor bikes, machines, etc. Never use mobile phones, umbrella with iron rods during thunderstorms.

Project Coordinator Child Helpline sensitized workers about Symptoms of Heat Stress and its preventive measures. Moreover, workers were also told about the working of Child Helpline in District and 27x7 Child Helpline No 1098 and urged them to call anytime whenever the help is needed.

Later, information pamphlets of advisories were distributed to employers and pasted at various worksites.

District administration Samba organises awareness camp on hazards of drug abuse

JINNEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, MAY 30

On the directions of Deputy Commissioner, Abhishek Sharma, the Motor Vehicles Department Samba organised a one day awareness camp on the challenges and hazards of drug abuse.

The awareness event was held under the National Coordination for Organized Response on Drug Abuse (NCORD) initiative, here at the Inspection and Certification Centre Vijaypur, witnessing participation of around 40 commercial drivers and conductors.

The camp aimed to educate attendees about the dangers of drug abuse and promote a safer and healthier work environment for commercial vehicle operators.

DDC Kupwara reviews progress of road projects under NABARD



JINNEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, MAY 30

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan today convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the progress of ongoing road projects under NABARD.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC said that the development of road connectivity remains among the top priorities of the Government and the District Administration is committed towards improving the road network in the district.

She stressed upon the officers of R&B department to work with added

zeal and dedication and ensure completion of all ongoing road projects within the stipulated time frame. On the occasion, it was informed that 76 projects under NABARD were approved at an estimated cost of Rs.27442.91 lakh, out of which 19 projects have been completed and work is in progress on 42 projects.

The DDC took a comprehensive review of all these projects and got feedback about progress of each project. She set timelines for all the ongoing projects and stressed upon the concerned officers to ensure completion of these projects accordingly.

Department of Agriculture celebrates First International Day of Potato

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

The Department of Agriculture Production and Farmer Welfare, Jammu celebrated the first-ever International Day of Potato, recognizing the importance of this versatile crop consumed by over one billion people globally. In December 2023, the UN General Assembly proclaimed May 30 as the International Day of Potato, acknowledging its status as a vital food source. Potatoes are eaten by more than one billion people around the world.

The UN had declared "In 2024, we mark the first International Day of Potato by focusing on the contribution of the potato to the lives of producers and consumers with the timely theme: 'Harvesting diversity, feeding hope.'"

Director Agriculture Jammu, S. A.S Reen, in his address, underscored the pivotal role of potatoes in the region's agricultural landscape, praising the efforts of farmers in cultivating this vital crop. He emphasized the significance of harnessing agricultural diversity to address global food security challenges. Highlighting the significance

of potato cultivation in the region, the Director delineated the distinctive sowing seasons. In the hilly terrains of Jammu, potato planting spans from April to May covering approximately 900 hectares. Conversely, in the plain areas, the sowing window extends from September to October, encompassing around 2000 hectares of land.

The Director elaborated on the prevalent varieties cultivated, including Kufri Jyoti, Kufri Himalini, Kufri Surya, Kufri Badshah, and the newly introduced variety, Lady Rosetta. He emphasized the adoption of modern mechanized techniques for both cultivation and harvesting processes, highlighting the potential for enhanced production.

He further highlighted the array of projects initiated by the Department of Agriculture Jammu to bolster agricultural practices and augment the welfare of local farmers.

Small-scale and family farming production of the potato, particularly by rural farmers, including women farmers, supports efforts to reduce hunger, malnutrition, and poverty, and achieve food security.

GDC Vijaypur releases its maiden College Newsletter "DEVIKA"

JINNEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, MAY 30

Government Degree College Vijaypur today unveiled the first ever College Newsletter, "DEVIKA".

The release event was graced by Dr. Geetanjali Rana, Principal Government Degree, Ramgarh and Dr. Twinkle Suri, Principal Shri Pandit Prem Nath Dogra Government Degree College, Samba.

Dr. Vandana Gupta, Principal of the host College expressed immense joy and appreciated sincere efforts of the Newsletter Committee to achieve this milestone.

In her welcome address, Prof. Ritu Bhagat briefed about the newsletter to everyone present there. The News Letter highlighted the consistent progress and notable achievements of Government Degree College Vijaypur in various



academic, non-academic, curricular, extra-curricular, sports and capacity-building areas for both staff and students.

The newsletter, titled "DEVIKA," provides a vibrant and diverse overview of the campus happenings from April 2022 to March 2024. It showcases the student's involvement in curricular and co-curricular activities, illuminating the college's success and pride.

Despite facing limitations, the students showcased their growth and left an indelible mark on the college's record. The compilation of this issue of the

newsletter was made possible through the dedicated efforts of Prof. Ritu Bhagat, Convener IQAC and Chief Editor of the Newsletter along with Advisory Committee comprising of Prof. Anita Jamwal, Prof. Mamta Gupta and Dr. Anoop Kumar Bhagat.

The active contributions and cooperation of the Editorial Board namely Prof. Poonam Kundan, Dr. Manoj Heer, Dr. Naseem Chowdhary, Prof. Meetu Sharma, Dr. Gunjeet Mahiwal, Prof. Mazid Malik, Dr. Priyanka Ganjoo and Dr. Attied Khawar Balwan were instrumental in its success.

Secretary Health reviews implementation of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission in J&K



JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 30

Secretary, Health & Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, today reviewed implementation of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) in Jammu and Kashmir during a meeting held here at Civil Secretariat.

The Secretary emphasized creation of a Project Management Unit under ABDM in the UT. He directed all officers and officials to work hard in order to guarantee that ABDM is fully implemented across the J&K. He directed the authorities to expedite the process of establishment of Project Management Unit under ABDM on schedule in order to avoid any delay in implementation of ABDM ecosystem in public and private health facilities throughout the UT.

Highlighting the importance of digital interven-

tions in healthcare delivery, Dr. Abid Rasheed stressed on utilization of technology to expedite and enhance the quality of healthcare services for patients in need. He directed the officers to identify the stakeholders and challenges that impede effective adoption of digital health ecosystem. He also asked for outlining a roadmap to achieve this vision for all the stakeholders in the ABDM ecosystem.

The Secretary emphasized the necessity for all officers to work in coordination to improve the process of digitalization in the healthcare system besides elevating the quality of facilities being given to patients in hospitals through this technological revolution in medicare across the UT.

Mission Director, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, J&K, Nazim Zai Khan delivered a detailed presentation highlighting

various aspects of the Mission, encompassing status of ABDM in the UT, manpower in Project Management Unit under ABDM, upcoming infrastructure, targets achieved and operational status of HMIS (J&K e-Sahaj) in Public Health Facilities across J&K.

Mission Director also highlighted the achievements of ABDM in terms of Health Professional Registry of Doctors and Nurses, Health Facility Registry, Digital Health Incentive Scheme, Scan & Share (QR code-based OPD registration Service), overview on Microsite project under ABDM in J&K, ongoing Capacity Building trainings and IEC in all districts of the UT.

Among others the meeting was attended by various senior officers including the Additional Mission Director, ABDM, FA/CAO, ABDM, Consultants ABDM and other officers of ABDM, J&K.

Modalities discussed for effective implementation of Aspirational Block Development Program



JINNEWS SERVICE
REASI, MAY 30

To accelerate the development of the district, District Development Commissioner Reasi Vishesh Mahajan convened a meeting to discuss the implementation of Aspirational Block Development Programme. The initiative aims to fast-track development in the most backward blocks of the district through a focused approach.

During the meeting, the DDC highlighted the primary objectives of the ABDP, which include improving infrastructure, health, education and overall living standards in the identified blocks. The

programme focuses on key performance indicators across various sectors to ensure measurable and impactful progress.

During the deliberations, the DDC underscored the importance of formulating a comprehensive action plan that encapsulates both short-term interventions and long-term visions.

Emphasizing the significance of collective endeavors from all stakeholders, the DDC called for concerted efforts to realize the envisioned outcomes of the ABDP. Additionally, he advocated for periodic review meetings to gauge progress and effectuate necessary adjustments to the

action plan, ensuring its responsiveness to evolving needs.

Seeking cooperation among the stakeholder departments, the DC urged the adoption of best practices to translate intentions into palpable results on the ground. Furthermore, he directed departments to strive for the 100% saturation of individual beneficiary schemes, emphasizing the meticulous compilation of data to facilitate informed decision-making and efficient resource allocation.

ADDC Sukhdev Singh Samyal, PO Poshan Mohd. Anwar Bandy, Joint Director Planning, ACD, CMO and other concerned officers were present.

DDC Baramulla reviews progress under ACP 2023-24



JINNEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, MAY 30

To review the progress of banks in Baramulla district under the Annual Credit Plan (ACP) for the fiscal year 2023-24, the District Development Commissioner (DDC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa Thursday chaired a District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting, here.

The Lead Bank office Baramulla conducted the District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting for the quarter ended March 2024.

During the meeting, progress made under the District Credit Plan 2023-24 was thoroughly assessed. It was given out that the district has

achieved a commendable performance, with Rs 4246.86 crores disbursed against a target of Rs 4376.85 crores, benefiting 141,367 beneficiaries.

The Credit-Deposit (CD) ratio for the district stood at an impressive 103.86%, reflecting the robust financial activities within the region. The DDC emphasized the importance of continuous efforts to meet and exceed targets, ensuring that the financial needs of the community are effectively addressed.

Meeting was attended by Lead District Manager Baramulla, Mush-taq Ahmad Mrazi; DDM NABARD, Mohammad Zubair Wasi; Cluster J&K Bank, Bank Representatives, besides officers from line Departments.

DDC Reasi reviews facilities, security scenario at Shri Shiv Khori Shrine

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, MAY 30

District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, who is also the Vice Chairman of the Shri Shiv Khori Shrine Board (SSKSB), convened a comprehensive meeting to review the facilities and security enroute the shrine. The meeting also assessed the facilities for pilgrims especially in view of increased rush.

The DDC emphasized the importance of registering every pilgrim with their Aadhaar card at all registration counters. He announced the opening of two additional registration counters, one at the Bus Stand and another at the TRC building.

Executive Officer SSKSB, Pardeep Kumar was instructed to submit a proposal for the installation of exhaust fans within the shrine and beautification of the track. He asked to explore the possibility



of installing fans from the checkpoint to the shrine and the identification of land for a pony stand. He also called for regular cleanliness of the track, drains and toilets, besides replacement and repair of defective CCTV cameras to enhance security.

The Executive Engineer PHE was asked to ensure uninterrupted water supply along the track and

near the shrine. The concerned executive agency was directed to expedite the completion of the Yatri Niwas and bathing Ghat. Additionally, BMO Pouni was tasked with providing adequate health facilities near the shrine and establishing a community health center at the taxi stand.

The PDD was asked to prepare estimates for

installation of a solar power system to facilitate uninterrupted electricity supply to the shrine and along the track. To regulate the movement on the track, the DDC directed to allow only registered horse owners to operate and cancel licenses of violators.

During the visit to the shrine, he also reviewed the security requirements

with the Shrine Board, Police and CRPF officers. After thorough discussion, the meeting decided to introduce technological interventions like facial recognition cameras and use of RIFD for the yatriss and stakeholders.

Later, the DDC conducted a comprehensive inspection of the under construction Government Degree College campus building at Pouni. He asked the College management to shift the classes to the new premises from July onwards.

During the inspection, the DDC directed the executive agency to expedite the completion of all pending works, including water supply, electricity and other essential amenities.

Assistant Commandant CRPF Sanjay Kr. Singh, Tehsildar Pouni Sahil Randhawa, Principal GDC Pouni, XEN PHE and PDD, BMO, SHO Ransoo, BDO and other concerned officers were present.

World No-Tobacco Day

HKM College Bandipora organises Painting Competition

JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, MAY 30

In observance of the World No-Tobacco Day, the NSS Unit and Red Ribbon Club of HKM, College Bandipora today organized a Painting Competition aimed at raising awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption.

The theme for the painting competition was 'Dangers of Using Tobacco'.

Students from various disciplines participated with great enthusiasm, showcasing their creativity and concern through symbolic combinations of colours and images. Their artworks poignantly depicted the perils associated with tobacco use, highlighting its impact on health and well-being.

NSS Program Officers and Red Ribbon Club



officers encouraged the students and appreciated their efforts. The competition was judged by panel of faculty members including Dr. M Sheikh ul Ashraf from the Department of Botany, Prof. Mohammad Salim Bhat from the Department of Environmental Science, and Dr. Irshad Ahmad Bhat from the Department of Physics. The panel evaluated the artworks based on creativity, relevance to

the theme, and the message conveyed.

On the occasion, Tufail Rehman bagged first position while as Iqra Aijaz bagged second position and Mehreen Fida bagged 3rd position.

The painting competition not only provided a platform for students to express their views on a critical issue but also fostered a sense of responsibility towards public health.

Kishtwar Admin hosts Yoga Mahotsava as a prelude to International Yoga Day 2024

JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, MAY 30

Department of AYUSH, in collaboration with District Administration Kishtwar on Thursday organised its first mega event Yoga Mahotsava, as a prelude to International Yoga Day-2024. The event, themed "Yoga for Women Empowerment," was held here at Government Girls Higher Secondary School.

The yoga camp was conducted under the guidance of the Director of Ayush J&K, Dr. Mohan Singh, and under the overall supervision of the Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav.

A team of Ayush Medical Officers/Officials, including Dr. Atul Kumar, Dr. Monika Sharma, Dr. Sheetal Devi and Raj Kumar, aided by the school management, organized the event.

The event commenced



with a lecture on the importance of yoga for women's empowerment and well-being by Dr. Monika Sharma, while the yoga instructors demonstrated yoga asanas and pranayamas related to the health and hygiene of women.

Deputy CEO, Masood Ahmad Qazi and School Principal, Krishna Lal

were also present at the event. In his address, the Principal shared his views on women empowerment and appreciated the efforts of the Ayush team.

The program was specially organized for all female teachers and girl students. About 100 participants attended the event, which was a great success.

DC Bandipora reviews functioning of Revenue Department

JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, MAY 30

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel Ul Rehman on Thursday chaired a meeting of revenue officers at Mini Secretariat, here to review the status of various revenue matters.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Umar Shafi Pandit; ACR Bandipora, Shabir Ahmad Wani; Sub Divisional Magistrates in virtual mode, Tehsildars and Naib Tehsildars and other concerned officials.

The DC took a comprehensive review of digitization of Jamabandis, encroachment, PSGA Services, e-Office in revenue offices, pending Mutations, allotment of land to landless and other related issues.

He directed all Tehsildars to ensure the functioning of e-Office in all concerned offices and organise awareness programs/camps in all Tehsils of district Bandipora and further asked them to



monitor these camps.

On the occasion, the DC emphasized that revenue officers/officials are stewards of Government Land, and it is imperative to handle it with heightened responsibility.

During the review of encroachment status, the DC directed the concerned revenue officers to take decisive action against any instances of Government Land encroachment, ensuring that no such encroachments occur.

Shakeel ul Rehman emphasized revenue officials the importance of adhering to the timeline for online services as outlined in the Public Service Guarantee Act. He emphasized the necessity of avoiding offline service provision for services available on the online portal. Additionally, he cautioned that stringent action would be taken against officers and officials who fail to comply with PSGA timelines.

ADDC Ramban inspects conservation work at Historic Site of Ghora Gali

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, MAY 30

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Ramban, Roshan Lal today visited the Ghora Gali Archeological/Historic site and inspected the ongoing conservation work there.

The Ghora Gali is one of the ancient historical sites of Ramban situated in village Gool in Gool-Sangaldan road, 2 km ahead of Gool market and 50 km away from district headquarter Ramban. The art on stones at Ghora Gali reveals Devta culture which is commonly found in rural areas of Ramban. The Kul Devtas of some of the Hindu families show similar revelations worshipped since the existence of human life.

It was informed that the work on construction of Boundary Wall of Ghora Gali with an estimated cost of Rs 70 lakh is going on to conserve the Historic Site and to promote tourism activities. Efforts made by the District Administration led by Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary highlight the significance of the Ghora Gali site, and the administrative efforts towards its conservation and local development, ensuring that both heri-



tage and progress are prioritized. During the visit, the ADCDC also met with officials of the Rural Development Department (RDD) and other departments at BDO Office Gool and received an appraisal on the status of ongoing development works under different schemes.

Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Shrinath Suman, District Statistical and Evaluation Officer (DSEO) Ganesh Kumar, District Information Officer Ashraf Wani and other concerned officials accompanied the ADCDC.

The team inspected the under execution development works in Gool, ensuring that the progress aligns with the planned initiatives and addressing any issues that arise.

The ADCDC also interacted with the locals, listened to their grievances, and passed necessary directions to concerned officers to address the same.

The visit of the ADCDC was focused on the basic development of the area and preserving the rich cultural heritage of the region while also focusing on the development and welfare of its people.

Departmental Convergence for Child Development, Women's Health discussed at Doda

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, MAY 30

A meeting to discuss steps for the convergence of the three departments—Poshan, Education and Health to achieve holistic development of children as well as the health and well-being of pregnant women, lactating mothers, and adolescent girls was held here today.

District Programme Officer Poshan Projects Doda, S. Paramjeet Singh convened the crucial meeting in his office chamber, which was attended by senior functionaries of the three stakeholder departments.

District Immunization Officer Dr. Varsha expressed a keen interest in working closely with the Poshan Department to achieve 100% immunization and to identify malnourished children, pregnant women, nursing mothers, and adolescent girls.

The Chief Education



Officer (CEO) recommended the convergence of Anganwadi Centers (AWCs) with schools within a distance of 200 meters, provided there is an extra room available in the school to run the AWC.

Upon the request of DPO, the Chief Education Officer agreed to provide a list of children registered in both government and private institutions (schools) who are also beneficiaries of AWCs in the district. This will be based on Aadhaar registra-

tion to avoid double registration of children in both AWCs and schools. Other issues related to departmental convergence were also discussed during the meeting.

The meeting concluded with a shared hope to strengthen the Poshan (ICDS) sector through collaborative efforts. The representatives reiterated their commitment to working together for the betterment of child development and the health of women in the district.

DC Bandipora chairs meeting of DLC on Change of Land Use; approves 04 cases

JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, MAY 30

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel Ul Rehman Thursday convened a meeting of the District Level Committee (DLC) regarding Change of Land Use (CLU) cases in the district.

During the meeting, an in-depth discussion was held about the comments submitted by different departments concerning the issuance of NOCs for pending CLU cases in the district.

A total of 06 cases were put up for discussion. Following a comprehensive

review of the policy's different aspects, the committee approved 04 cases and rejected 02 cases.

The DC directed the concerned departments to provide quality comments or definitive NOCs within the specified time-frame, in accordance with the provisions of the PSGA Act.

The meeting was attended by ACR Bandipora, Chief Agriculture Officer, Bandipora, ExEn R&B Bandipora, ExEn PHE Bandipora, ExEn IFC Sumbal, Tehsildar Bandipora, and concerned officers from related departments.

CEO reviews functioning of schools in Chenani Zone

JI NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, MAY 30

To review academic schemes and progress of civil works, the Chief Education Officer Udhampur, Geetu Bangotra accompanied by Assistant Director (E&S) Darshan Sharma, conducted an extensive academic tour of Chenani sub-division.

The team reviewed the activities of PM SHRI School, Government High School Chenani under different components, while directing the management to keep the school campus clean and green by conducting plantation drives and utilization of the grants released under the

PM SHRI scheme for the welfare of the students.

Later, the CEO visited the Government Higher Secondary School and Zonal Education Office Chenani and reviewed their functioning. Cluster Head Chenani was directed to utilise the available resources in the optimal way to achieve excellence in Academics and co-curricular activities.

The CEO also conducted a surprise inspection at Higher Secondary School Bupp to assess the functioning of the cluster systems under NEP 2020 and also resolved the various issues of the complex on the spot.

Teachers' Training Workshop held at GHSS Bhagwah

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, MAY 30

A Teachers Training Workshop was organized by the Zonal Education Officer (ZEO) Bhagwah in collaboration with the Vishwagram Educational Trust Team at Government Higher Secondary School Bhagwah. The event saw participation from over 30 teachers from various educational institutions, including primary, middle, secondary, and higher secondary schools within Zone Bhagwah.

The training was conducted by Dankesh Oza, former Joint Secretary of Gujarat and Bharti Oza, former Deputy Director of the Department of Indus-

tries, Gujarat. The workshop was held in the presence of Davinder Singh, Principal/ZEO of GHSS Bhagwah.

Manohar Lal, Zonal Cultural Incharge of Zone Bhagwah, coordinated the programme. During the session, Dankesh Oza shared valuable insights and elaborated on the holistic approach to education inspired by Gandhian principles, which can enhance the teaching and learning process in classrooms.

The entire programme was organized under the supervision of District Development Commissioner, Harvinder Singh and guided by Chief Education Officer, P.L. Thapa.

Brigadier, DC hold interactive meet with NCC Students at GDC Doda

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, MAY 30

The 2nd J&K (I) COY NCC Baderwah Brigadier PS Cheema and Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh, Colonel NCC J&K M.K Sharma, Principal Government Degree College Doda, Dr. Attar Singh Kotwal and others hosted an interactive Meet with NCC Students at Govt Degree College (GDC) Doda yesterday.

The event aimed to provide an opportunity to the NCC students to engage with the dignitaries and gain valuable insights.

The interactive meet commenced with a warm welcome extended to Brigadier, PS Cheema and Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh.

The event witnessed a lively interaction between the students and the dignitaries, where they discussed various aspects of NCC training and its role



in shaping the youth.

PS Cheema shared his experiences and motivated the students to actively participate in NCC activities. He emphasized the importance of discipline, leadership, and teamwork that NCC instils in its cadets.

The Deputy Commissioner also encouraged the students to make the most of their NCC training and utilize it as a platform

for personal growth and development.

The interactive meet provided a platform for the students to ask questions and seek guidance from the esteemed guests. The students eagerly participated in the discussion, showcasing their enthusiasm and eagerness to excel in their NCC journey, along with DC Doda for an Interactive Meet with NCC Students at GDC Doda.

Workshop on NCSS incentives for investors held at Doda



JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, MAY 30

The District Industries Centre (DIC) Doda, under the guidance of the Director of Industries and Commerce Jammu, on Thursday organized a workshop and interactive session for potential investors in District Doda.

The event focused on the incentives available under the New Central Sector Scheme (NCSS) for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, 2021, and the J&K Industrial Policy 2021-30. The session was conducted under the supervision of

the General Manager of DIC, S Parmjeet Singh.

The primary aim of the program was to educate participants about the registration process and timelines associated with the NCSS scheme. Officers from DIC Doda highlighted the key features and benefits of the scheme, targeting prospective beneficiaries to ensure they were well-informed about the opportunities available to them. A detailed discussion was held with the investors, addressing the challenges they face in establishing industrial units in District Doda, particularly on private

land. The General Manager of DIC Doda assured investors of full support in obtaining necessary clearances from other departments and banks to facilitate the establishment of their units. Participants expressed gratitude to the government, district administration, and DIC Doda for organizing the awareness program. They appreciated the initiative, which was the first of its kind in the district, aimed at encouraging potential investors to enroll under the NCSS scheme and boosting their confidence to set up more industrial units in District Doda.

ADC Handwara visits Jamia Jadeed, addresses grievances of people

JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, MAY 30

The Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Handwara, Aziz Ahmad Rather today visited Jamia Jadeed locality of Handwara where people raised their grievances and demanded shifting of transformer from the close vicinity of Jamia Jadeed Masjid.

On the occasion, the ADC interacted with the people and Auqaf Committee members and heard their grievances patiently. He directed Executive Engineer PDD Handwara to shift the transformer from the Masjid to some other suitable place.

ADC instructed Executive Officer Municipal Committee Handwara to repair the wash rooms near Handwara Bus Stand and Govt Boys Higher Secondary school Handwara. Later, the ADC inspected the construction of the ongoing Irrigation Khul at Tumina. He impressed upon the Ex. Engineer Irrigation to ensure completion of the irrigation khul within the stipulated time frame.

In order to ensure punctuality and quality



education in Government schools, the ADC paid surprise visits to different schools of Handwara subdivision and inspected their functioning.

During the visit, the ADC inspected Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) and Government Secondary School Hafarada and interacted with the staff members of these schools. He enquired them

about the performance and progress of the academic and co-curricular activities.

On the occasion, ADC impressed upon the teachers and staff of these schools to work with added zeal and enthusiasm to make a good atmosphere for quality education and best performance. He also interacted with the students.

Elaborate arrangements put in place for counting of votes for Udhampur PC

JI NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, MAY 30

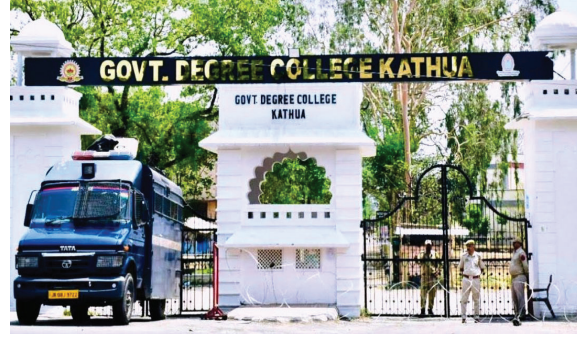
The election authorities have put in place adequate arrangements for counting of votes for the 4-Udhampur Parliamentary Constituency. There are 12 candidates in fray for the Udhampur Parliamentary Constituency.

The counting will be held at Government Degree College Kathua, secured with multi-tier security and round-the-clock CCTV surveillance to ensure a free and fair election process.

Votes from all 18 assembly segments, including Kathua, Udhampur, Doda, Ramban, and Kishtwar, will be counted in dedicated halls assigned to each Assembly Constituency. Additionally, three halls have been designated for the counting of Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System (ETPBS) votes.

A total of 225 tables have been set up for the counting process, with three personnel assigned to each table. For ETPBS votes, 60 tables have been designated, also with three persons per table.

Nearly 10,000 staff members will be involved in the counting process, including the transfer of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) from the Strong Room to the count-



ing halls. Each table will be supervised by a counting agent, a micro observer, and a supervisor, along with each Assistant Returning Officer (ARO).

CCTV surveillance of the EVM Strong Rooms has been shared with political party representatives since the safe deposit of EVMs after polling.

A Counting Control Room has been equipped with the necessary logistics to compile and update hourly trends throughout the day. The entire process will be executed and monitored under the supervision of Dr. Rakesh Minhas, Returning Officer for the 4-Udhampur Parliamentary Constituency, who is also the District Election Officer and Deputy Commissioner of Kathua.

A fully functional and well-equipped Election Media Centre has been established to facilitate media personnel. The centre features LED screens with DTH connections for continuous news

access and WiFi to ensure internet connectivity. Provisions for displaying hourly trends have been made to keep everyone updated with the latest results. Media personnel will have controlled access to the counting process as per the Election Commission of India (ECI) guidelines.

Meanwhile, the training of all stakeholders to be involved in Counting in votes has been successfully completed on Thursday.

Returning Officer Dr Rakesh Minhas said that adequate logistics and security arrangements have been made to undertake the Counting of Votes for Parliamentary Constituency. "Besides catering to the necessary human resource and other logistics Food, water, and refreshments will be provided to all individuals involved in the counting process on June 4, ensuring their well-being throughout the day" he added.

Pharma Company among 7 erring FBOs fined Rs 45500 by ADM Ramban

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, MAY 30

Additional District Magistrate (ADM) Ramban, Varunjeet Singh Charak, in capacity of Adjudicating Officer, has imposed a substantial penalty of Rs. 45500 on seven Food Business Operators (FBOs) including a Pharma company operating in the district.

The action forms part of a robust drive launched to enforce compliance with the Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006 (FSS Act-2006).

Out of eight cases reviewed, seven were resolved with penalties

levied against the traders, including a pharmaceutical company Nunkind HealthCare PVT Ltd, for the sale of misbranded and substandard medicines and food items. The violations were found in direct contravention of the FSS Act-2006. One case was deferred for the next hearing due to the respondent's absence.

The enforcement action targeted multiple manufacturers, wholesale dealers, and retailers found to be violating the provisions of the FSS Act-2006. The Adjudicating Officer underscored the critical importance of adhering to the legal standards gov-

erning the food and pharmaceutical industries.

The ADM issued strict warning to the offenders, directing them to comply strictly with the Food Safety and Standards Act and its associated regulations. He cautioned that any future violations would result in even more severe penalties.

The ADM also instructed the Enforcement Agency to take decisive actions against the violators, reinforcing the administration's commitment to upholding public health and safety standards as per the directives of the FSS Act-2006.

Commissioner SMC holds review meeting on SWM in Srinagar City

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 30

Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Dr. Owais Ahmed Thursday chaired a comprehensive review meeting to evaluate the current solid waste management practices in Srinagar City.

The meeting focused on assessing the efficiency of waste collection, transportation, processing and disposal systems within the city.

A key area of discussion was the scientific disposal of waste. The Commissioner reviewed ongoing projects such as the construction of a sanitary landfill cell, proper management and disposal of construction and demolition waste, and other related activities.

Furthermore, upcoming plans were reviewed, including the preparation of necessary Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the CIITIS 2.0 program.

Dr Owais emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness in the city and reviewed the



Swachhata parameters. Strict directives were issued to the concerned officials to complete the assigned tasks before the set deadlines.

The review meeting aimed to streamline and improve the solid waste

management system in Srinagar, ensuring efficient collection, transportation, processing, and scientific disposal of waste, contributing to a cleaner and more sustainable environment for the city's residents.

Medical team visits village Thanalla to address Skin Disease among children



JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, MAY 30

A team of medical officers today visited Village Thanalla to check the status of children suffering from a skin disease. The team included Dr. Sangita Kotwal, Consultant Pediatrician, and Dr. Priya Manhas, Medical Officer (MS ENT) under the overall supervision of the Block Medical Officer Baderwah.

The consultation was provided on the directions of Deputy Commissioner, Harvinder Singh and Chief Medical Officer.

During the visit, free medicines were given to the affected children. Additionally, the parents received an orientation on

how to take care of their children and were advised to remain in contact with hospital authorities.

The Block Medical Officer Baderwah requested the parents to visit SDH Baderwah for further assistance, ensuring they could be referred to GMC Doda for a dermatologist consultation free of cost.

In addition to the targeted efforts for the children, the general public also benefited from free medicines and a medical check-up. The initiative aimed to provide comprehensive healthcare support to the community and address the immediate health concerns of the children and their families.

Inter-School Zonal Level Sports Competitions thrive across Ganderbal



JI NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, MAY 30

The District Youth Services and Sports Office (DYSSO) Ganderbal, as part of its calendar of activities, successfully organized inter-school zonal level sports competitions in various zones across the district today. The events included Kabaddi, Handball, and Volleyball, showcasing the athletic talent of young students.

In Zone Ganderbal, a thrilling Kabaddi competition for boys under 17 was held at Sultania English Medium Public School, Salora.

The event saw the participation of 150 students from across the zone. In a captivating match, BHSS Ganderbal emerged victorious over BHSS Shalabugh.

The winning and

runner-up teams were presented with trophies during the closing ceremony.

Meanwhile, in Zone Tullamulla, an inter-school Handball competition for boys under 17 took place at the scenic Tehsilbagh Ground in Khrahihama. The event featured 74 enthusiastic participants, each showcasing their skills.

The final match between BHSS Lar and BHSS Safapora was intense, with BHSS Lar ultimately claiming the trophy, earning recognition.

Additionally, Zone Hariganiwan hosted an inter-school Volleyball competition for boys under 14 at the BHSS Hariganiwan ground. The first day of the competition saw 70 young athletes competing with great zeal.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system

Sr. Divisional Material Manager, NRI, 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:-

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity	Due Date
01	94245577	LIGHT WEIGHT PORTABLE LED BASED TOWER LIGHT (TELESCOPIC) with Genset and Battery bank. Technical Specification as per Annexure attached	15+10= 25 NOS	24.06.2024

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 form certifying Agencies authorized under IT Act 2000 by Govt. of India. Manual offers against e-tenders will not be accepted.

No. 08/2024-25 Date: 27.05.2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

EDITORIAL

Soaring mercury: A wake-up call for all

Various parts of the country are sweltering under an unprecedented heat wave, with temperatures soaring to historic highs and leaving millions in distress. On Wednesday, the national capital, Delhi, recorded its highest May temperature in 79 years at 46.8 degrees Celsius, while an astonishing and contentious 52.9 degrees was reported in Mungeshpur. This blistering heat wave has engulfed large parts of northern and central India, including Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh, with cities like Rohtak and Prayagraj breaking all-time records. The extremity of these temperatures underscores the severity of climate change and its immediate impacts on human lives, health, and infrastructure. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has expressed concern and skepticism about the Mungeshpur reading, prompting an investigation into potential sensor errors. However, regardless of any potential anomalies, the broader pattern is unequivocal: the heat wave is both intense and widespread. In Bihar, the state government has had to take drastic measures to protect its citizens. Schools, coaching institutes, and anganwadi centers have been closed until June 8 due to reports of students fainting from the extreme heat. Such incidents highlight the vulnerability of children and the urgent need for preventive measures. The advisory from the Bihar Disaster Management Department urging people to avoid heat exposure and stay hydrated is crucial but reveals only part of the systemic issues that need addressing. This heat wave is not an isolated event but part of a worrying trend of increasing temperatures and more frequent extreme weather events. The IMD's forecast of continued heat wave conditions in Bihar and a slight respite for northern India due to incoming western disturbances, rainfall, and thunderstorms, offers temporary relief. However, these short-term mitigations do not address the long-term challenges posed by climate change. The records shattered in places like Prayagraj and Rohtak signal that India's current infrastructure and emergency preparedness plans are insufficient. In Una, Himachal Pradesh, and Karwar, Karnataka, records were also broken, indicating that this crisis spans diverse climatic zones, from the northern plains to the southern coast. The country must urgently escalate its climate resilience strategies. This involves both mitigation – reducing greenhouse gas emissions – and adaptation – improving our capacity to deal with the impacts already being felt. Urban planning must integrate heat-resistant infrastructure, green spaces, and better water management systems. Public awareness campaigns on heat safety, hydration, and the risks of heat-related illnesses are essential, particularly for vulnerable populations. Furthermore, the country needs to invest in accurate and widespread weather monitoring systems to ensure timely and reliable data. The controversy over the Mungeshpur temperature highlights the necessity for robust and cross-verified meteorological data to inform public safety measures and policy decisions. The sweltering heat wave gripping northern and central India is a stark reminder of the urgent and escalating threat posed by climate change. It demands immediate and comprehensive action from both the government and the public to mitigate its effects and adapt to its realities. The rising temperatures are not just numbers; they represent a call to action to protect lives, secure futures, and foster a sustainable environment. It is time for India to act decisively, for the heat wave of today could well become the norm of tomorrow.

The dawn of AI: Balancing innovation and prudence

MJ WARSJ

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the ex-novo computer technology that essentially deals with developing machines capable of imitating human behaviour. The Encyclopedia Britannica defines AI as the “ability of a computer or robot to perform tasks commonly associated with intelligent beings such as perception, critical thinking and decision-making”. As far as the human mind is concerned, first, it processes the information, analyses the processed information from various angles and finally arrives at a logical conclusion. On the contrary, AI is a software programme that solely relies on pre-fed computer data to answer a query. In the entire process, the computer system behaves like a human mind. AI is the order of the day and admittedly, holds the potential to bring about revolutionary changes in communications, defence, healthcare and agricul-

ture. In fact, till recently, the task that was considered impossible even for a machine to perform now AI has turned into a reality. AI has considerably brought computers very close to imitating the human mind, thus, diminishing the gap between man and machine.

Today AI has found its application in a variety of fields such as education, finance, defence, agriculture and healthcare. Leading medical research institutions use AI for experiment, diagnosis, treatment and monitoring of deadly diseases. AI facilitates high-quality tissue sample analysis that paves the way for precise prognosis. In this day and age pharmaceutical companies are using AI for drug discovery and chemical analysis. With the help of AI doctors and healthcare professionals can precisely diagnose serious medical conditions such as cancer and stroke. In the education sector too, AI plays an important role. AI has proved to be an extremely handy tool

to develop study material, student evaluation, grading and monitoring. Thus, teachers save their precious time which they can utilise in productive academic pursuits as well as engage in meaningful discussions with students. AI-powered virtual educator robots substantially improve teaching and learning outcomes.

Now let us see some of the imminent dangers of AI. The picture is not as rosy as it appears for the AI. Widespread indignant use of AI in almost every sphere of human activity is bound to raise some serious concerns concerning privacy, data security and transparency. Psychological well-being and social issues warrant our immediate attention. Companies are gradually replacing humans with AI-powered robots to perform specific tasks at the workplace. This causes anxiety among employees and adversely affects their mental and emotional well-being. The technical dexterity of computers

also is a major challenge for humans in the workplace. Of late AI-driven Deepfake videos and online Bots have spread at an alarming pace. Deepfake videos and online Bots are capable of orchestrating a fabricated consensus and manipulating public opinion. Fake news spreads like wildfire disturbing peace and leading to social unrest. Another disadvantage of AI is that it makes it extremely tough to distinguish between the original and the fake. AI-induced human rights violations should be stopped at the earliest. AI-powered changing technology landscape has jeopardised data security, privacy, dignity, employment, equality, political rights and secrecy. Experts and sociologists have expressed reservations regarding the detrimental impacts of over-reliance on AI and human robots in important sectors like healthcare, law, marketing, accounting, education, management, technology and workplaces. AI's technological dili-

gence, incredible analysis power and the ability to perform repetitive tasks may lead to huge layoffs. Consequently, this gives rise to a disproportionately high unemployment rate. Employees and the labourers may be subjected to discrimination and disparities and their professional and social security may be at stake. To check the AI misuse a well-defined and comprehensive technological-labour policy is the need of the hour. Some of the measures that help workers survive in the AI-driven landscape are regular up-gradation of employee skills through appropriate training, honing up of technical skills and developing Soft skills.

Lo and behold! Let's not lose sight of the fact that AI is completely devoid of human temperament, comprehension and creativity. The human mind is blessed with infinite creative power and Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS). These supreme attributes

propel human beings to an elevated plane and place them on a higher pedestal than machines. On the contrary, AI is data-driven and follows a defined trajectory, thus, fails to capture human emotions, perception and the ability to perform tasks by adapting to a given environment. Since AI is in its nascent stage, therefore, it is too soon to assume that AI can take over humans shortly as humans continue to be the fons et origo of originality and innovation.

Another threat that scares us is that if ever in the future technologically advanced machines take Man as their enemy then the entire human race may face existential crises. Pre-empting these dangers the US and the European countries have taken a locus standi to oppose AI and have taken stringent legal measures to curb AI's capricious use.

(The writer is a professor; views are personal)

The US can't be both protectionist and world leader

ANDREAS KLUTH

President Joe Biden likes to call the United States “the indispensable nation.” By that he means that America is the only power simultaneously mighty and benevolent enough to preserve whatever is left of a liberal order – one in which rules and multilateral institutions govern, among other things, a system of relatively free international finance and trade.

But what if the US itself, even under Biden, turns against the system it's supposed to guard, becoming an agent of economic nationalism, international fragmentation and hostile bloc-building?

Doubts to that effect have popped up throughout the Pax Americana, the long period of US leadership that followed World War II. What most frightened America's friends abroad, though, was Donald Trump in the White House. His “America First” worldview was a throwback to a much earlier US stance of isolationism and nationalism.

The infamous symbol of that older tradition was the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930. Named after its sponsors, it hiked duties on America's trading partners, thus making US consumers and importers poorer and

foreign exporters angrier. Their governments “retaliated” (a stupid term, since they only impoverished their own importers out of spite) with tariffs against the US. And so it went, in round after round of “beggar-thy-neighbor” protectionism that made the Great Depression worse and nations more aggressive. Within a decade, the world was at war. The US Senate today calls Smoot-Hawley “among the most catastrophic acts in congressional history.”

With that disaster in mind, US leaders after the war went the other way. With its economic, military and soft power unrivaled, Washington built political institutions such as the United Nations as well as economic organs such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which in 1995 became the World Trade Organization. Their job was to set rules for finance and trade, at least for the free (as opposed to communist) world and parts of the non-aligned (or “Third World”).

With the US guarding the system, trade and capital flows increased and then soared after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. This heyday of globalization lifted millions if not

billions of people worldwide out of poverty. But there were also costs: some workers in some countries, including the US, lost their livelihoods whenever the economics of comparative advantage made production elsewhere in the world more efficient, or when some countries – notably China, even though it joined the WTO in 2001 – didn't play by the rules.

These frustrations caused a protectionist backlash in the US. Some pols and pundits were livid at China in particular and wanted to hit back at its foul play while bypassing the WTO, which in theory has mechanisms to settle such disputes. Others, notably Trump, were irate at almost all of America's trading partners, especially if the US ran current-account deficits with them, as in the case of Germany.

Once in the Oval Office, Trump went full Smoot-Hawley. He imposed tariffs on steel and aluminum from lots of countries, on Chinese goods from clothes and shoes to furniture and electronics, and even on stuff made in Europe and other countries that consider themselves friends.

The bigger surprise is what Biden did when he took over. Instead of reverting to a liberal trade policy in keeping with his

internationalist reputation, he kept the Trump tariffs. He even added some: This month, the US slapped a new round of restrictions on Chinese electric vehicles, solar panels and more. On trade, Trump and Biden now vie for the presidency in nuanced shades of the same protectionist hue: Trump promises to erect huge trade barriers around much of the economy, Biden merely to wall off specific sectors – the administration calls that approach “small yard and high fence.”

Counting only tariffs, quotas and other trade barriers in fact understates the nationalist turn in US economic policy. Biden is especially proud of his industrial policy, embedded into legislative packages with misleading titles such as the CHIPS and Science Act or the Inflation Reduction Act and consisting of huge subsidies to American companies. As with tariffs, European and Asian countries are retaliating with their own industrial policies. “We've got a subsidies war, which is worse than a trade war, because subsidies are harder to roll back,” says Adam Posen, president of the Peterson Institute for International Economics.

Biden has also continued in the same vein as Trump

in another disturbing way. He's been dishing the WTO by blocking nominees to its appellate courts and thus sabotaging the entire multilateral trade regime. Instead, Biden is betting on bilateral and regional trade deals, hoping to hug democracies and snub autocracies. As Mathew Burrows and Robert Manning at the Stimson Center show, global trade and finance are fragmenting into rival and increasingly hostile blocs, one centered on China and extending into the “Global South,” another around the US and other Western countries. This trend, they think, will “increase the likelihood of conflict” and is reminiscent of the 1930s.

The Biden administration's defense, and indeed the entire “new Washington consensus,” counters that in this new quasi-Cold War with China, as in the original Cold War with the Soviet Union, security trumps markets. That's true, up to a point. It would be naive and dangerous if the US and its allies, in the name of free trade, made themselves dependent on, say, Chinese lithium or dysprosium or semiconductors.

But is steel really one of these sensitive “dual-use” technologies? Are solar panels, ship-to-shore

cranes, face masks or many of the other items on Biden's latest tariff list? By all means, the US and its allies should, in the argot of the new Washington consensus, “de-risk” their relationship with China. But the suspicion remains that the US, across both sides of the aisle and both presidential campaigns, has turned protectionist.

If so, this shift has frightening implications for the world economy and world peace. Hegemonic Stability Theory, which posits that the world needs a custodian power to maintain order and prosperity, assumes that the global leader is not only mighty enough but also willing to deploy its might to preserve a liberal system. “It's about benevolent or malevolent hegemony,” Posen of the Peterson Institute told me. “Not: Is the US capable? But: What does it intend to do?”

History teaches, Hegel said, “that peoples and governments never have learned anything from history.” If the US, under Biden or any president, wants to remain the indispensable nation, it better bone up on Smoot-Hawley's ugly history, prove Hegel wrong and once again act like a benevolent leader.

Bloomberg Opinion

Micromanagement and undermanagement

SAKSHI SETHI

In the realm of leadership and management, micromanagement and undermanagement represent two extreme ends of a spectrum posing significant challenges to organisational success. While micromanagement leads to decreased autonomy, innovation and job satisfaction, under management results in a lack of direction, motivation and accountability. By understanding the impacts of these management styles and implementing strategies that balance oversight with empowerment, organisations can foster a productive, innovative and satisfying work environment. Micromanagement involves excessive control and oversight while under management is characterised by a lack of adequate supervision and support.

In the spectrum of management styles, micro-

management and under management represent two extremes, each with distinct characteristics and consequences for the workplace. In an organisation, if one is micromanaging the team and not giving its employees the freedom to work, will eventually drive away great talent while settling for mediocrity resulting in fostering anxiety and ultimately leading to negative impacts on overall organisational productivity and job satisfaction. Along with this, decreased employee morale, reduced creativity and innovation, lower productivity, increased stress and burnout, high turnover, poor performance and accountability are some of the impacts of both micromanagement and undermanagement that can be detrimental even though they manifest differently. Various research studies have shown that micromanage-



ment stifles creativity and innovation.

It is negatively correlated with job satisfaction and positively correlated with stress and burnout. Employees under micromanagement reported lower engagement and higher intentions to leave their jobs. While on the other hand, the effects of under management found that employees lacking adequate supervision and feedback exhibited lower job satisfaction and perfor-

empowerment; setting clear goals and expectations; and promoting a results-oriented culture can help the organisation create a positive and productive workplace where both managers and employees thrive. There is no denying the fact that balancing micromanagement and undermanagement is crucial for creating a productive, positive and effective workplace. By finding the middle ground, managers can provide the necessary support and oversight while empowering employees to take initiative and innovate.

Remember, be it micromanagement or undermanagement, both can have far-reaching negative effects on both the employees as well as the organisation. By understanding the causes and impacts and then implementing strategies to promote trust, autonomy and effective communication,

organisations can create a more positive and productive work environment. Moving away from micromanagement not only enhances employee satisfaction and performance but also contributes to the long-term success and health of the organisation. Micromanagement and undermanagement, as opposite ends of the management spectrum, both present significant challenges to organisational effectiveness and employee well-being. While micromanagement stifles autonomy and innovation through excessive control, under management leaves employees directionless and unsupported. Both styles can lead to significant issues within an organisation, highlighting the need for a balanced approach to effective leadership.

(The writer is an educator; views are personal)

Solar power scheme of PM Modi can bring revolution: Khatana

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

In these scorching hot days of summers where power shutdown has become a routine in Jammu, the senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Gulam Ali Khatana has said that revolutionary scheme launched by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi regarding solar energy can be a game changer in this regard.

"Solar power can be used for residential power consumption, commercial purpose in industries and other business organisations and also in agriculture," he said adding: "Solar pumps can be of immense use in irrigating agriculture fields and the officers concerned should aware the public on all such schemes and subsidies linked with these."

He said that solar power only needs the rays of sun



to lit our homes and to cool our rooms apart from performing other household tasks at home.

In a handout, the BJP leader further said that similarly power generated from wind energy has improved the power scenario in Ladakh.

"The officers of concerned departments should open their offices at district level to aware the public regarding solar energy scheme of the government and to redress problems and issues in this regard at local level itself," Khatana maintained.

He said that solar power can run motors to irrigate our agriculture fields apart from performing well in industries and there is no smoke or pollution due to this alternate source of energy. "The officers concerned in J&K should display pro-activeness and ensure that the facility of solar power reaches to every household as early as possible so that load on hydel power and other conventional sources of energy can be reduced," the BJP leader maintained.

Captain Anshuman Singh, KC, (P) Memorial Medical Camp organized at LoC in Balnoi

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

Balnoi Battalion of the Indian Army in collaboration with People's Hut Foundation, Diva International Foundation conducted a Free Medical Camp at Balnoi Base, Sub Division Mendhar, Tehsil - Mankote, District Poonch. The main aim of conducting this medical camp was to provide essential free health care services to the villagers in the Area of responsibility of Balnoi Battalion. The People's Hut Foundation headed by Dr. Rohit Koul is a national level registered NGO registered with Govt of India & Niti Aayog brought together a team of dedicated health care professionals who volunteered to offer medical consultations, check-ups and treatment. The camp was organised under the overall supervision of Dr.



Amardeep Singh, Chairman Diva Group and Director Diva International Foundation. The medical camp themed "Mobile Health Clinic Program" saw an overwhelming participation where 407 patients availed the Free services from villages of Mankote Block. In addition to medical consultation in Gynecology, Orthopedics, Dentistry, ENT, Pathology, General medicine the camp also provided free Allopathic Medicines, Ayush medicines, basic health screening and awareness about Nutri-

tion. Hygiene and preventive care. Medical Camp catered to all the villages of Mendhar including villages of Balnoi, Dabraj, Sagra, Ghani, Mankote and others which are located close to the Line of Control and therefore lacks basic medical facilities. Specialist Doctors were provided by the Directorate of Health Services, J&K UT and Ayush Medicines were provided by the Directorate of Ayush J&K U.T through Director Ayush J&K Dr. Mohan Singh. Medical camp was successfully carried out under the guidance of the

Commanding Officer of the Balnoi Battalion Col. Ashwani Kumar Pandita. The village elders and Ex-Servicemen of the area of responsibility conveyed their heartfelt gratitude to the Indian Army, People's Hut Foundation and Diva International Foundation for organising the medical camp. The volunteers of People's Hut Foundation, Diva International Foundation, Medical staff and other doctors were felicitated by Commanding Officer of the Balnoi Battalion Col. Ashwani Kumar Pandita.

Altaf Bukhari grieves over death of 21 pilgrims in Akhnoor road mishap

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

Apni Party President, Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari has expressed shock over the tragic road mishap in which 21 pilgrims died, and several others injured at Akhnoor in District Jammu.

As per a press release, Altaf Bukhari expressed deep concern over the tragic road mishap that has consumed the lives of 21 pilgrims and injured several others, when a bus carrying them, skidded off the road and plunged into a gorge at Chungi Morh area in Akhnoor in District Jammu, this afternoon.

The bus was on its way to Shiv Khori area of District Reasi when the road accident happened.

J&K Police pays rich tributes, remembers martyr SI Diljit Singh, at RS Pura, Jammu



JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 30.5.24

Today on 30-05-2024, rich tributes were paid to martyr Sub inspector Diljit Singh, who attained martyrdom at Mendher Poonch. In this regard a function was organised at Daljit Chowk R.S.Pura and the huge gathering including family members along with police remembered SI Daljit Singh, who gave the supreme sacrifice of his life in the line of duty on this day during the year 1997 with the remarks that we must never forget the Police personnel who have sacrificed their lives for the nation.

Jammu & Kashmir Police is committed to always remember sacri-

lices of their martyrs and do everything to keep their families in comfort and likewise, every year, observed his martyr day, today i.e on 30-05-2024 at R.S.Pura, Daljeet Singh Chowk. On this occasion, Police Officers as well as huge gathering of respectable citizens paid rich tribute to the Martyr SI Daljit Singh. The family members of the martyr SI Daljit Singh were also present on the occasion.

The function was attended by SP Headquarters Jammu, SDPO RS Pura, Dy.SP DAR Jammu and SHO P/S R.S.Pura were also present on the occasion along with the family members of the martyr and other large number of respectable citizens of the society.

BJP partially fractured in last six phases of LS polls: Rajesh Gupta

JAMMU, MAY 30

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) Jammu and Kashmir UT general secretary and media head Rajesh Gupta on Thursday while interacting with a local channel claimed that in the last six phases of the ongoing Lok Sabha polls, the BJP has been "partially fractured" politically, which will be "complete" after the last round of polling on June 1.

The BSP J&K Union Territory general secretary also asserted that people of the country have already given their mandate against the saf-ron party and its "exit is definite" after the election results are out.



be complete after the last and seventh phase of the Lok Sabha polls". Gupta said, "The life of the present BJP government at the Centre is only 10 days".

Rajesh Gupta maintained BJP's 'communal campaign' was also one of the several causes behind their declining popularity. "By and large, people do not like these things. They see it as an attempt to divide the nation on communal lines which will weaken the country. Therefore, I feel that the BJP is not going to make a comeback.

Police Hospital Jammu organises "Awareness Session cum Screening Camp on Hypertension (High Blood Pressure)" in collaboration with the Department of General Medicine, AIIMS Vijaypur

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

In furtherance to its aim and objective to aspire for the overall good health of the police personnel and their families, Dr. Meenakshi Kotwal Medical Superintendent Police Hospital Jammu along with the team of Doctors of Police Hospital Jammu was pleased to organize an "Awareness Session cum Screening Camp on Hypertension (High Blood Pressure)" today in the conference Hall of DPL Jammu in collaboration with the department of General Medicine, AIIMS Vijaypur.

The programme started with the welcome address by Dr. Sanjay Sharma during which he expressed gratitude toward the team of doctors and other para-

medics of AIIMS Vijaypur to be part of this initiative to enlighten the police personnel and their families regarding the silent killer "hypertension". The Doctors of the Department of General Medicine, AIIMS Vijaypur, were honoured by way of presenting flower pots to them by Dr. Meenakshi Kotwal, Medical Supdt. Police Hospital, Jammu.

Thereafter, Dr. Taraneet Kour, Asstt. Professor, Deptt. of Medicine, AIIMS Vijaypur and other two doctors namely Dr. Kiran and Dr. Ritu addressed the police personnel present during the camp and gave them a detailed briefing about hypertension, its causes, symptoms and treatment. The participants were briefed to remain careful



and watchful about the disease of hypertension (both symptomatic and asymptomatic) by way of undergoing regular health check-ups, especially after the age of 40 years, even if a person feels fit and healthy. It was stressed upon the participants that early detection of hypertension not only helps in following the changed lifestyle timely but also pre-

vented them from the serious damage caused to the other vital organs of the body if such disease gets unnoticed.

In order to have better understanding of the disease of hypertension, a skit was also performed by the paramedical staff of AIIMS Vijaypur before the participating police personnel present during the camp. Through this

skit, the message was conveyed that repeated negligence of patients towards such disease sometimes lands them into serious problems/complications which can prove deadly/fatal. As such it was reiterated that the prescribed treatment of the doctor and proper diet plan needs to be strictly followed to avoid the serious fallout of the disease. Dr. Meenakshi Kotwal, MS Police Hospital Jammu during her address stressed upon the participants to strictly act upon the advice given by the visiting doctors and also carry the message forward and share the same with their family members and co-workers. At the same time, they were advised to undergo regular health check-up at Police Hospital Jammu which is provid-

ing the services round the clock to rule out any health issues.

Thereafter all the participants (police personnel who had come from different units of JKAP/IRP Bns. of District Jammu) got medically checked/ screened by the visiting doctors of AIIMS Vijaypur in a very disciplined manner. During such screening out of the total number of 99 police personnel 56 were found hypertensive and were advised with proper treatment and regular follow up. Towards the end of the camp the Doctors and paramedical staff of AIIMS Vijaypur were served with lunch followed by distribution of certificate of participation among them by the Medical Superintendent Police Hospital Jammu.

Bhalla, Sharma visit hospital, meet injured

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla along with Senior Vice President & Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma visited hospital today on hearing about the bus tragedy and enquired about the condition of injured in the accident admitted in GMC hospital.

They enquired from the doctors about the treatment and offered to render all possible help to the hospital authorities and requested for specialized treatment to the seriously injured by airlifting to outside hospitals, as required.

The authorities sought help of the society for arranging blood for which the leaders also issued an appeal to the people.



They expressed sympathies with the injured and assured all help to the pilgrims. Some of the passengers told them that the bus was heavily overloaded which is one of the cause of accident.

Later talking to reporters, Shri Bhalla expressed deep shock over the huge loss of precious lives and demanded a time bound exemplary punishment to

the culprits including the contractor and owner of the bus including suspension of permit after preliminary enquiry.

The party demanded adequate compensation of twenty lac to the families of the deceased and ten lac to seriously injured. They also appealed for blood donation by the youth to save precious lives.

Rohit Shastri expresses shock over death of passengers in Bus accident at Kalidhar

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

On Thursday, a major road accident occurred at Tungi Mor near Akhnoor on the Jammu-Poonch National Highway (44A), resulting in the reported deaths of 21 people so far. Approximately 40 passengers are said to be injured, with 20 referred to GMC Jammu. Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of Shri Kailakh

Jyotish avim Vedic sansthan Trust, issued a press release expressing his condolences, stating, "The news of the death of numerous people in the road accident is very sad. I pray to Shri Bawa Kailakh Dev Ji to grant eternal peace to the departed souls and to provide the strength to their families, followers, and admirers to endure this moment of grief. I also wish for the speedy recovery of the injured." Trust

members, including Professor J.P. Sharma, Advocate Pawan Khajuria, Prabodh Sharma, Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Professor Sharad Chandra Sharma, Deepak Gupta, R.K. Chhibber, Ajay Sharma, Nigam Gupta, Sunil Sharma, Uttam Chand Sharma, Naresh Raina, Jagdev Singh Chib, Ankush Sharma, Rakesh Gandotra, Pandit Dev Dutt Shastri, Vijay Seth, and others, have also expressed their condolences.

Jammu Police, successfully traces 3 missing persons, reunites them with legal heirs

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

The Jammu Police have achieved a commendable feat by successfully tracing and reuniting three missing persons with their families. This remarkable success showcases the diligence and commitment of our law enforcement officers in ensuring the safety and well-being of the community.

On 21st May 2024, one lady (name withheld)/R/o Jammu was reported miss-

ing at PP Gadigarh. The persistent efforts of PP Gadigarh, she was located and reunited with her legal heirs on 22nd May 2024.

In another case, Vishal Kalra, son of Rajinder Kumar from Narwal Bala, Jammu, who was reported missing on 6th March 2024, was successfully traced and handed over to his family by PP Narwal.

In a swift action one more lady who was report missing was found and reunited with her legal heirs within 24 hours by

Police Station Satwari.

SP South Jammu expressed gratitude for the relentless efforts of the police teams involved and reiterated the commitment of the Jammu Police to the safety and security of the community. He encouraged the public to report any information about missing persons to the police immediately.

Jammu Police remains steadfast in its mission to protect and serve, ensuring the well-being of every citizen.

Azad expresses grief over Akhnoor accident

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

Chairman of the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP), Ghulam Nabi Azad, expressed deep sorrow over the tragic bus accident in Akhnoor, Jammu. The unfortunate incident claimed 21 lives and left 69 individuals injured. In his statement, Mr. Azad said, "I am deeply saddened by the tragic bus accident in Akhnoor, Jammu, that claimed 21 lives and injured 69. My heartfelt condolences go out to the families of the victims. I urge the government to provide immediate compensation to



the affected families and ensure the best possible treatment for the injured." Azad highlighted the growing issue of road accidents in the Jammu region, stating, "Road accidents are on the rise in the Jammu region. There is a lack of accountability and strict enforcement against rash driving and overloading. The government must take strong measures to control these accidents."

He further emphasised the urgent need to address these issues to prevent such tragedies. "Overloading and rash driving on highways must be curbed to prevent such tragic incidents," Azad added. Azad called for stringent measures to improve road safety and prevent future accidents, ensuring the safety and well-being of all passengers.

Colonel Adhiraj Singh, Commanding Officer of Intelligence Unit, White Knight Corps motivates NCC Cadets at NCC Training Academy, Nagrota

JINNEWS SERVICE
NAGROTA, MAY 30

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) Training Academy at Nagrota had the privilege of hosting Colonel Adhiraj Singh, Commanding Officer of the Intelligence Unit of White Knight Corps, for an enlightening lecture. The event saw the active participation of 500 cadets from the 5 J&K Battalion NCC of the Indian Army Group, currently undergoing their Annual Training Camp under Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh Directorate. Colonel Adhiraj Singh delivered a captivating session titled "INDIAN ARMY: A WAY OF LIFE," engaging the NCC cadets in an interactive dialogue. The lecture primarily focused on illuminating the career prospects within the Army and elucidating the myriad benefits associated with such a career path.



In his address, Colonel Adhiraj emphasized that serving in the Indian Army transcends the mere profession of arms; it embodies a way of life deeply rooted in patriotism, honor, and humanity. He reiterated the timeless ethos encapsulated in the Chetwode saying, the bedrock principle of the Indian Military Academy, that the honor of the nation always takes precedence, without exception. Furthermore, Colonel Adhiraj shed light on the substantial investments made by the government

towards the development and advancement of Army Officers and Jawans. He underscored the abundant opportunities that a career in the Army offers, promising a life brimming with patriotism, adventure, and the fulfillment of leading an honorable existence. He said that the moment one steps into the Army, the person has a job satisfaction, is financially stable, gets 80 to 90 days of leave in a year, live in clean cantonments, opportunity to excel in

fields of adventure, sports, games, serving in United Nations Missions in foreign countries, admission of his or her siblings on highly reputed Army Public Schools, Sainik Schools, RIMC and various intuitions to pursue Engineering, MBBS, Dental, MBA, Law and various courses. He inspired the NCC cadets that they have opted for NCC while being in School or College and they will outshine the majority of children in their professional life, when it comes in their life.

The session proved to be an invaluable opportunity for the NCC cadets to gain insights into the multifaceted dimensions of a career in the Army. Colonel Adhiraj Singh's impassioned discourse not only inspired the cadets but also instilled in them a profound sense of duty towards our nation.

Vice Chancellor CUJ, releases First Issue of Devika Magazine

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

On the occasion of its 11th Board of Studies Meeting, the Department of Educational Studies, Central University of Jammu (CUJ), Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain released the first issue of a bi-annual Magazine - 'Devika (The flow of Knowledge)'.

On this occasion, the Head, Department of Educational Studies, Prof. Asit Mantry, Prof. Rajeev Rattan Sharma, University of Jammu, Prof. Laxmidhar Behera, RIE Bhubaneswar, Prof. GK Rout, IGNTU, Amarkantak, Prof. Suram Singh, Prof. J. N. Baliya, Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Dr. Uday Pratap Singh, Dr. Kiran, Dr. Aman, Dr. Ravi Vanguri, Dr. Yad Ram, Dr. Mohan and Dr. Jai Bhawani Singh from CUJ were prominently present.

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain, said that the initiative of releasing Devika Magazine is a proud moment for the Department as well as the University. It should be accom-



plished in future with the great enthusiasm and interest in the department. He further emphasized such platforms where the students can get the opportunities to showcase their talents in various forms. Prof. Asit Mantry, Head Department of Educa-

tional Studies, stated that the Devika is a platform that reflects the academic strength and creative spirit of the students, scholars, and faculty. It serves as a medium for sharing innovative ideas, critical analyses, and educational insights that contribute

to the broader discourse in the field of education. It will not only foster the intellectual capabilities of our students, scholars, and faculty but also will reinforce our commitment to academic excellence and research.

The faculty editors - Dr. Kiran, Dr. Aman and Dr. Ravi Vanguri said that the issue of Devika is a testament to the collaborative efforts of scholars, students, faculty, and the editorial team. The magazine displays a diverse range of creativity in the shape of different poems, articles, short stories, essays, paintings, etc. written by scholars and students of the department. In the end, Prof. Mantry congratulated and thanked the patronage of the magazine, the advisory board, the editorial board, and the editorial team. He invited more and more original articles, short stories, essays, paintings, dialogues, poems, etc. of creative works of students, scholars, and faculty members for the next issue of the magazine.

Dr Pawan Kotwal Reviews Annual Action Plan for Watershed Development Component-PMKSY 2.0

JINNEWS SERVICE
LEH, MAY 30

The Advisor to the Union Territory of Ladakh and Chairman of the Union Territory Level Sanctioning Committee (UTLSC), Dr Pawan Kotwal, chaired a significant meeting to review and approve the Annual Action Plan for the Watershed Development Component-Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana 2.0 (WDC-PMKSY 2.0) for the fiscal year 2024-25 at Civil Secretariat, Leh.



of the Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department, Ladakh, Syed Sajjad Qadri.

The presentation highlighted the key activities and phases of the WDC-PMKSY 2.0 projects, emphasizing the procurement process for the release of installments for the current year. Detailed expenditure reports were provided, showcasing the utilization of funds and progress in various projects, including the Micro Watershed Projects in Kargil and Leh under WDC 1.0.

The roles and responsibilities of the Watershed Development Team (WDT) were outlined, and a comprehensive proposal for fund allocation for activities under WDC-PMKSY 2.0 for the financial year 2024-25 was presented.

The Advisor Dr Pawan Kotwal highlighted the

importance of transparency and adherence to guidelines in all schemes. He directed officials to prioritize the construction of check dams over water reservoirs which must be sourced by harvesting water and he emphasized the promotion of both traditional and modern systems of water conservation and preservation of the existing water bodies. Dr Pawan Kotwal urged the District Magistrates of Leh and Kargil to take proactive measures in implementing these directives to enhance the efficacy of water conservation efforts and ensure the sustainable management of water resources across Ladakh.

The Administrative Secretary Amit Sharma gave assurance to the Advisor Dr Pawan Kotwal on the efficiency of water conservation, preservation, and sustainable management of water resources and WDC-PMKSY 2.0.

The meeting was attended by the Commissioner/Secretary of the Forest Ecology & Environment Department, Ladakh; the Commissioner/Sec-

retary of the Planning Department & Monitoring Department and the Agriculture/Animal Husbandry & Fisheries Department, Ladakh; the Administrative Secretary of the Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department, Ladakh; District Magistrate/CEO, LAHDC, Leh; Director, DIHAR, Leh; Director, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Ladakh; Director, Animal Husbandry, Ladakh; Director, Horticulture, Ladakh; Chief Agriculture Officer, Leh; Superintendent Engineer of PHE/I&FC, Leh; Under Secretary of the Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department, Ladakh; representative of SKUAST, Leh; and Nodal Officer of Watershed Management Project, Leh, while District Magistrate/CEO, LAHDC, Kargil; Assistant Commissioner Development, Kargil; Director, DIHAR, Leh; Director, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Ladakh; Chief Agriculture Officer, Kargil; Senior Scientist of SKUAST Kargil, and concerned officers joined the meeting virtually.

Opposition must get ready for 'shock' on June 4 as BJP's victory becomes inevitable: Kavinder



Expresses shock over loss of lives in Kalidhar Bus accident

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

Senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister, Kavinder Gupta on Thursday asserted that all the opposition parties should get ready for a big shock on June 4 as the Saffron Party's resounding victory has become inevitable with people transforming their support into votes for the party.

The BJP stalwart leader was addressing a public meeting at Qadian Assembly Constituency in district Gurdaspur and later held door to door campaigning for party candidate Dinesh Singh Babbu contesting election from Gurdaspur Lok Sabha seat.

Kavinder declared that the opposition, especially the India Bloc, will receive a decisive reply on June 4,

the day of counting, as a thumping majority for the BJP has become foreseeable after considering the overwhelming response of the electorate starting from Kashmir to Kanyakumari.

"Modi government has implemented numerous development initiatives that have brought unprecedented progress and stability across the country. From infrastructure projects to social welfare schemes, the impact of BJP government's policies is visible in every corner of the country", he said, adding that people are prudent and therefore supporting BJP in all parts of the country to ensure that the development and stability continue to add door to door campaigning for party candidate Dinesh Singh Babbu contesting election from Gurdaspur Lok Sabha seat.

Later, the senior BJP functionary from J&K interacted with traders and representatives of

various market associations seeking support for the party to pace-up progress of the country by propelling things in a positive direction. He said that Gurdaspur is BJP's bastion and therefore the people here should ensure that security deposits of the opposition candidates must be forfeited.

Meanwhile, Kavinder Gupta expressed profound grief and shock over the tragic bus accident near Kalidhar area of Akhnoor that claimed the lives of 21 people and left more than 50 others injured. He conveyed his deepest condolences to the bereaved families, expressing the profound sorrow that has gripped the community in the wake of this devastating loss. He offered his heartfelt prayers for the eternal peace of the departed souls and extended his sympathy to those who have been left behind to grapple with this immense tragedy.

BFCC Club Fosters Leadership and Cycling Culture in Kathua Schools

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

In line with its ongoing drive to engage school children in District Kathua, the Bicycle For Change Club (BFCC) has successfully launched a series of initiatives aimed at promoting oratory skills and leadership among students. The club members have visited several schools, including DAV School, Learning Temple School, Kids Heaven School, and others, engaging students through discussions on pertinent topics.

The students participated in discussions on themes such as "Kathua - 'is', 'was', and 'will be'" and "The Importance of Cycling." Based on their views and oratory skills, students were designated as President, Vice President, General Secretary, and Media Spokesperson of their respective school's Bicycle Club. This structure not only



promotes leadership but also encourages active participation in cycling-related activities.

Commander Amit Khajuria, a leading figure in BFCC, along with Sunil Sharma, President of BFCC, and Sh Deep Kumar, Secretary, spearheaded these visits. Their collective efforts highlight BFCC's dedication to fostering a healthy, drug-free lifestyle among the youth.

The response from the schools has been overwhelmingly supportive, with administrators eager to collaborate with BFCC in engaging the children. Each school's Bicycle

Club now serves as a platform for students to develop leadership skills, promote cycling, and contribute positively to their community.

BFCC's initiative is a significant step towards building a healthier and more active generation, steering children away from the dangers of drug abuse and towards a brighter future.

General secretary BFCC Deep sharma appreciated the support of Satpaul mansotra General secretary JK private school association for this social and noble cause.

Rattan Lal expresses grief over loss of lives in tragic bus accident near Kalidhar

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of J&K National Conference Jammu, has expressed profound sorrow and grief over the tragic bus accident near Kalidhar in Akhnoor that resulted in the loss of 21 lives and left 52 others injured.

The unfortunate incident occurred when a bus carrying pilgrims to Shiv Khori plunged into a deep gorge in Kalidhar area Jammu Poonch National Highway on Thursday.

"My heartfelt prayers

go out to the families who lost their loved ones. May the Almighty give them the strength to bear this irreparable loss. I am also praying for the speedy recovery of those injured in this tragic accident," Gupta said in a statement issued here today.

The senior NC leader raised serious concerns over the deplorable condition of roads in the hilly areas of the Jammu region, emphasizing the slow pace of work on the four-laning of the Jammu-Poonch National Highway. He highlighted that the roads in the Chenab Valley and the Poonch-Rajouri districts are

also in a pitiable state, necessitating urgent attention of authorities sitting at the helm of affairs.

"I urge the government to complete the ongoing road-works on a fast-track basis. The safety and well-being of our citizens must be the top priority, and improving road infrastructure is crucial to prevent such tragic incidents in the future," he stated.

The Provincial President called upon the government to provide all possible assistance to the bereaved families and ensure that the injured receive necessary medical facilities promptly.

Bali Bhagat expresses deep condolences on tragic bus accident near Kalidhar

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

Bali Bhagat, senior BJP leader and former Minister, has expressed his heartfelt condolences on the tragic bus accident near Kalidhar in Akhnoor that resulted in the loss of numerous lives and left many injured. The unfortunate incident occurred on Thursday when a bus carrying pilgrims to Shiv Khori plunged into a deep gorge on the city outskirts.

In a statement issued here today, the senior BJP leader said "I am deeply saddened by the tragic bus accident near Kalidhar in Akhnoor. My thoughts and prayers are with the families who have lost their loved ones in this heart-wrenching incident. I pray to God to give strength to the bereaved families to bear this irreparable loss."

He also extended his prayers for the speedy recovery of those injured in the accident. "I pray for the quick recovery of all those injured and hope they receive the best possible medical care and support," he added.

Bali Bhagat urged the authorities to take immediate steps to ensure the safety of passengers on such routes and called for a thorough investigation into the incident to prevent future occurrences. "We must prioritize the safety and well-being of our citizens and take all necessary measures to prevent such tragedies. My deepest sympathies are with the affected families during this difficult time," he concluded.

Grievance redressal meet at Gundna, Doda

JINNEWS SERVICE
DODA, MAY 30

Indian Army organised a Grievance Redressal Meet at Gundna on 29 May 2024 to interact with the Ex-servicemen, and Veer Naris residing in Gundna, district Doda to resolve their pension anomalies and grievances. Six Ex-servicemen and one Veer Nari attended the event. The event was aimed at providing a platform for veterans to share their experiences and to connect with each other and to show appreciation for the contribution and sacrifices made by them. The Indian army's dedication to the welfare of Ex-servicemen is a testament to its commitment to serving and protecting the nation. The army is proud of its veterans and is committed to providing them with the support they need to lead fulfilling lives after their service to the nation. The gathering was also briefed about the various welfare and financial schemes launched by Indian Armed Forces/Central Government/J&K Government in recent times and welfare schemes by Zila Sainik Board and ECHS department. In addition, they were also educated about functioning of ESM Help Line, ECHS and Pensioner benefits including to the post retirement schemes. This kind of meet stand as a testimonial to the veterans and Veer Naris that the organization cares for them and always stands for them.

Bhaderwah Campus hosts Students of JU's Buddhist Studies Department



J I NEWS SERVICE
BHADERWAH, MAY 30

Bhaderwah Campus University of Jammu today warmly welcomed students from the Buddhist Studies Department, University of Jammu as part of their week-long educational tour. The visiting students, accompanied by their faculty, engaged in a fruitful interaction with the faculty and students of Bhaderwah Campus and visited all the wings of the Campus. Dr. Kuljit Singh, Academic Coordinator of Bhaderwah Campus, greeted the visiting students and faculty from the Buddhist Studies Department. In his welcome address, Dr. Singh emphasized the significance of such

interactions, highlighting their mutual benefits for both students and faculty members. "These visits are invaluable for exchanging views and enhancing educational experiences. Bhaderwah Campus is committed to facilitating similar visits in the future to promote academic and cultural exchanges," he stated.

"Bhaderwah Campus looks forward to continuing to host such educational visits, fostering an environment of learning and collaboration," Academic Coordinator added Dr. Vivek Sharma, Academic Coordinator Kathua Campus who is accompanying the students to Bhaderwah, expressed his gratitude to the Rector

of Bhaderwah Campus, as well as the teaching and non-teaching staff, for organizing the interaction. "The students from the Buddhist Studies Department are fortunate to have this opportunity to visit Bhaderwah Campus. Such interactions enable them to exchange ideas and gain new perspectives by engaging with our faculty and students," Dr. Sharma remarked. The visiting delegation from the Buddhist Studies Department of the University of Jammu included Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Dr. Rohit Sharma, and Dr. Akta. Their presence facilitated a robust exchange of knowledge and ideas, enriching the academic experience for all participants.

Rekha lauds journalists for their contribution as fourth pillar of democracy

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

In the realm of democracy, the media stands as the fourth pillar, with journalism serving as the conduit through which we are kept up to date on the state's as well as national and global current affairs. This was stated by BJP District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan while honoring the journalists namely Anubhav Suri, Kamal Kundal, Naveen Koul, Ropesh Raj and Amit Kumar. On the occasion of Hindi Patrakarita Divas (Journalism Day) today, May 30, Rekha Mahajan was accompanied by District Vice President Narinder Gupta Koki, District Secretary Rohini Chandan, Mandal President Bharat Bhushan, Treasurer Rajesh Gupta and Publicity Secretary Pardeep Sharma were present on the occasion.

During the Samman Samaroh on Patrakarita Divas, Rekha Mahajan said journalists tirelessly ensure prompt delivery of news right to our doorsteps on all media platforms. The BJP leader emphasized that Hindi Journalism Day is observed annually on May 30 in India. She added that this day honors the launch of the first Hindi newspaper, 'Udant Martand', which debuted on May 30, 1826. Rekha Mahajan said Hindi journalism has existed in the country for about 198



years. On May 30, 2024, Hindi Journalism Day will be observed to honor the contribution of Hindi journalism and the journalists who toil day and night to provide correct information to the citizens of the country.

Rekha Mahajan said this newspaper was instrumental in raising awareness about the country's freedom struggle. At that time, Hindi was the primary medium of communication in India, and 'Udant Martand' played a crucial role in disseminating information across the nation. The ability for citizens to comprehend current events in their own tongue has been made possible by vernacular journalism, which makes sure that information reaches every home in the nation. Hindi Journalism Day commemorates the birth of Hindi journalism, which has made it possible for Indians all around the country to obtain trustworthy information in their native tongue. Rekha added.

asserted that media plays a critical role in highlighting government policies to the people and in changing their lives, and she remembered its contributions in popularizing initiatives of the Modi-led government like the 'Swachh Bharat Mission' and 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' schemes and other multiple schemes that were beyond the political domain. Rekha Mahajan said that Hindi Journalism Day is a significant milestone in the history of Indian journalism. It is an opportunity to recognize the contributions of journalists who work tirelessly to provide news and stories to the masses in Hindi, thereby promoting democratic values and strengthening the fabric of Indian society. Every year, Hindi Journalism Day is celebrated to commemorate the beginning of Hindi journalism, which has resulted in people throughout the country having access to reliable information in their mother tongue.

M.K Ajatshatru mourns demise of pilgrims in tragic bus accident in Kalidhar, Akhnoor

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

M.K Ajatshatru Singh, senior BJP leader and former minister, has expressed his deep condolences over the tragic bus accident near Kalidhar in Akhnoor, which claimed the lives of 21 pilgrims and left 52 others injured. The pilgrims were on their way to the Shiv Khori Shrine

in district Reasi when the accident occurred.

In a heartfelt statement issued here today, M.K Ajatshatru Singh conveyed his sorrow and sympathy to the bereaved families. "I am deeply saddened by the tragic loss of lives in this accident. My heartfelt condolences go out to the families who lost their loved ones. May the departed souls rest in peace, and

may the Almighty give strength to the bereaved families to endure this immense loss," he said.

M.K Ajatshatru Singh also extended his prayers for the speedy recovery of those injured in the accident. "I hope and pray for the quick recovery of all the injured. They must receive the best medical care available to aid in their recovery," he emphasized.

Ban on raw materials required for construction projects should be lifted; Says J&K Contractors Coordination Committee

J I NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 30

Jammu and Kashmir Contractors Coordination Committee Chairman Ghulam Jeelani Purza said that the government's ban on raw materials required for construction has created a crisis situation for Development work in Kashmir province.

During an emergency press conference, the chairman of the Jammu and Kashmir Contractors Coordination Committee said that the raw materials obtained from Wuyan Pampore for the construction of bridges and road macadamization etc. Due to the ban by Geology and Mining Department, no such construction material is available from there.



As a result, work on many construction projects has been completely stopped while work on many projects is going on at a slow pace.

There are sources and units of raw materials in Wuyan Pampore which used to supply raw materials for construction of Wet Mix Macadam (WMM), Water Bound Macadam (WBM) and Stone Aggregate etc. Materials are not available, which has not only affected the ongoing construction work under many schemes, projects

but also adversely affects the livelihood of contractors and workers.

He further said that most of the contractors have also taken loans from various banks and other financial institutions. Appels LG Manoj Sinha, Chief Secretary to intervene in this matter so that the ban on raw materials imposed by the Geology Department and other concerned departments is lifted and the stalled construction project can be resumed to provide relief to the common people and contractors.

Vikar Rasool expresses deep shock over death of 21 passengers in a road accident, near Kalidhar Temple

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

President JKPC Shri Vikar Rasool Wani has expressed deep shock over the death of 21 passengers in a road accident, near Kalidhar Temple on Jammu Poonch highway, today.

PCC Chief and Several Senior Congress leaders have expressed deep shock over the loss of precious lives of 21 pilgrims of Hathras, U.P. in the bus accident and serious injuries to several others. They urged upon the Govt. to provide immediate special medical help to the surviving passengers and also financial help in favour of next kin's of deceased to



cern as frequent accidents occur on this highway. Further the party also demands strongest action on the concerned firm engaged for the widening of the Jammu-Poonch highway. Signatories to the statement included Vice President PCC Shri Vinod Sharma, General Secretaries Shri Narinder Gupta (Org), Narinder Sharma, Secretaries Sahil Sharma, Vijay Kumar Shastri, Chairman Congress Seva Dal Vijay Sharma, Pradesh Youth Congress Incharge HQ Ricky Dalotra, Chairman RTI Cell Adv Bhavishya Sudan, Vice Chairman Minority Cell Nassar Masih, Varinder Singh Manhas, Camres David (Babloo) and others.

the tune of ten lakh each and Rs. five lakh to the injured. They conveyed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and prayed for early recovery of the injured.

Congress party strongly condemned NHAI authorities for slow pace of work on Jammu-Poonch highway which is matter of serious con-

Langer expresses shock over loss of lives in Kalidhar bus accident

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 31

Sham Lal Langer, Convener of the BJP Trade Cell in J&K, has expressed profound grief and sorrow over the tragic bus accident near Kalidhar in Akhnoor. The devastating incident, which occurred when a passenger bus skidded off the road and plunged into a deep gorge, resulted in the deaths of 21 people and left 52 others injured.

In his statement issued today, the senior BJP leader expressed deep shock over the accident and underscored the need for specialized medical treatment to be provided to the injured individuals. He conveyed his heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families who lost their loved ones in this tragic mishap. He emphasized the importance of offering adequate compensation to all the victims of the accident, acknowledging the severe emotional and financial impact on the affected families.

Furthermore, Sham Lal Langer called for a coordinated effort between the Transport Department and Traffic Police to investigate the root causes of such accidents. He stressed the urgency of identifying the underlying issues that lead to these tragic incidents to prevent their recurrence in the future. He believed that a thorough investigation is crucial for understanding and addressing the factors contributing to road accidents in hilly terrains. Additionally, Sham Langer highlighted the

importance of raising public awareness about road safety, particularly among the youth. He urged the general public to adhere to traffic rules and regulations, emphasizing that increased awareness and careful driving practices are essential to preventing such tragedies.

Vikramaditya Singh expresses deep grief over tragic bus accident near Kalidhar

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

Former MLC, Sh. Vikramaditya Singh today expressed profound grief over the tragic bus accident near Kalidhar in Akhnoor, which resulted in the loss of 21 lives and left 52 others injured.



In a statement issued here today, the former MLC conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and prayed for the eternal peace of the departed souls.

"My thoughts and prayers are with the families who have lost their loved ones in this tragic accident. May the departed souls rest in peace, and may the Almighty give strength to the bereaved families to bear this irreparable loss," he said.

Sh. Vikramaditya Singh also urged the government to provide the best medical care to the injured and offer adequate compensation to the families of the

victims. "It is crucial that the injured receive the highest standard of medical treatment and that the families of the victims are adequately compensated for their loss," he added.

Sh. Vikramaditya Singh emphasized the need for stricter enforcement of traffic regulations to prevent such tragic incidents in the future. "We must ensure that only roadworthy vehicles and qualified drivers operate commercial vehicles. Strict enforcement of traffic regulations is essential to safeguard the lives of our citizens," he stated.

Bharti Airtel appoints Sharat Sinha as CEO of Airtel Business

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 30

Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), India's leading telecommunications services provider has appointed Sharat Sinha as the CEO of Airtel Business effective 3rd June 2024. In this role, Sharat will report to Gopal Vittal and will be a part of the Airtel Management Board.



Sharat joins Airtel Business from Checkpoint Software Technologies Limited, where he served as President of Asia Pacific. A seasoned technology professional, Sharat has also worked with Palo Alto Networks, Cisco, and VM Ware in various leadership roles. His early experiences in Ericsson and VSNL have also given him a sound telecom background.

Announcing the appointment, Gopal Vittal, CEO and MD - Bharti Airtel said, "I am confident that Sharat's broad global experience in product management and business leadership across

many of the world's leading technology companies will provide tremendous fire power to Airtel's ambitions in rapidly growing our portfolio across connectivity and adjacent spaces".

On his appointment to Airtel Business, Sharat Sinha said "Airtel Business is a leader in the B2B space offering marquee solutions to enterprises and I am delighted to join this passionate team as they continue to steer towards enhancing their leadership with future-ready technology innovations and solutions that deliver greater value to customers".

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT
PHE MECHANICAL DIVISION SOUTH JAMMU
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT PHEJ/MS/12 of 2024-25 Dated 28-05-2024

Executive Engineer PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu, on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from registered/ reputed firms.

Name of the Work	Name of the Division	Cost of Tender Document/Tender Fee(In Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Validity of Rates
1	2	3	4	5
Replacement of components to LT Control panel of 65 HP Submersible motor at Tubewell Rani Talab Digiana under Non Plan	PHE Mech. Division South Jammu	Rs. 200.00 (Non-Refundable) In the shape of e-challan/single window challan of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division South Jammu/tender fee receipt through online payment through the JMC link http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html	@ 2% of estimated cost/ tender value. In the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu	Bid shall be valid for 180 days

- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from **29-05-2024 (12:00 PM)** and uploaded from **30-05-2024 (10:00 AM)** to **06-06-2024 (1:00 PM)**. The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- Bids must be accompanied by EMD and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 3 & 4 of the table.
- The bid shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 180 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the tenderer shall be debarred from participating in tendering process for a period of 1 year.
- The Technical Bids of the tender document received shall be opened online in the office of **Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu on 07-06-2024 at 3:00 P.M** or any other day convenient to the Ex. Engineer in the Office chambers of Executive Engineer, PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu.
- The Financial Bids of the tender document of the qualified bidders shall also be opened online in the office of the **Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu** during office hours and shall be communicated separately.
- Cost of bidding document in shape of e-challan/single window challan of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division South Jammu/tender fee receipt through online payment through the JMC link <http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html>
- The original instruments in respect of cost of document, EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR and other relevant document of L1 bidder will be required to be submitted to the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division South Jammu within 05 days after opening of financial bids on line. No separate intimation about opening of financial bids will be sent by this office / by the tender opening authority. In case the original documents are not submitted by the L1 bidder within 05 days after opening of financial bid, the tender will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the division for a period of one year.
- Other details can be seen inside the detailed tender document.

No: PHEJ/MS/782-86
Dated:- 28-05-2024

A.E.E.
Sub Div-I
Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Department
PHE Mech. Division South
Jammu

DIP/J-856/24
Date: 30-5-24.

Essay Competition conducted by Indian Army in C/Jat village Nowshera



JI NEWS SERVICE
NOWSHERA, MAY 30

The Indian Army organized an Essay Competition under aegis of Tithal Bde at Govt School Pukharni, Nowshera, for the students of Class 1 to Class 10. This event was a significant initiative to engage young minds in constructive activities and enhance their writing skills. It provided a platform for students to express their ideas and thoughts on various topics, fostering creativity and critical thinking. The objectives of the Competition was

to Promote and encourage Creative Thinking. In the essay competition a total of 53 students actively participated of Primary wing, middle wing and High school. School teachers, village Sarpanch and Numberdar also appreciated the efforts of Indian Army for grooming the local youth. The highlight of the event was the prize distribution ceremony, where the best essays were awarded. These prizes included stationary items, books and educational materials, which served as tokens of appreciation and encour-

agement for the students' hard work and creativity. The essay competition conducted by the Indian Army in C/Jat Village, Nowshera, was a resounding success. It provided a meaningful opportunity for young students to engage in intellectual pursuits, improve their writing skills, and express their ideas on various important issues. Such initiatives play a crucial role in the educational and personal development of children, preparing them to be thoughtful and responsible citizens of the future.

Azam Khan sentenced to 10 years imprisonment in Dungarpur case

AGENCIES
RAMPUR (UP), MAY 30

Senior Samajwadi Party (SP) leader and former Minister Azam Khan was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment along with a penalty of Rs 14 lakh by a special court here on Thursday for vandalising houses in the Dungarpur area, prosecution sources said here.

Prosecution sources said that the second accused, Barkat Ali, who was the contractor, has been sentenced to 7 years imprisonment and a fine of Rs 6 lakh.

The MP MLA Court of the



Khan, was convicted in the Dungarpur case by the court of Special Court (Session Trial) Judge Dr. Vijay Kumar.

The prosecution sources said that the special court sentenced Azam to 10 years imprisonment and a fine of 14 lakh rupees. Also, the second accused, Barkat Ali Thekedar, has been sentenced to 7 years imprisonment and a fine of 6 lakh rupees.

district convicted former cabinet minister Azam Khan last Wednesday and reserved its verdict. The former minister, Azam

It may be noted that Azam Khan, who is currently lodged in Sitapur jail, appeared through a video conference from the jail itself.

Agnikul launches World's First Rocket with fully 3D Printed Engine from Sriharikota

AGENCIES
SRIHARIKOTA (ANDHRA PRADESH), MAY 30

IIT Madras-incubated start-up Agnikul Cosmos launched the world's first rocket with a single piece three-dimensional (3D) printed engine at its private launch pad in Sriharikota at 7.15 am on Thursday.

This remarkable feat has been achieved entirely through indigenous design and development.

The launch was witnessed by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman Dr Somanath, Dr. Pawan Goenka, Chairman of IN-SPACE, Rajevee Jyoti, Director (Technical), IN-SPACE, and A Raj Rajan, Director SHAR.

'Agnibaana - SORTeD' Sub-Orbital Technology Demonstrator also has the unique distinction of having been launched from India's first private launch pad called 'Dhanush' established by Agnikul. It is also India's first semi-cryogenic engine-powered rocket launch.

The key purpose of this mission, which is also Agnikul's first flight, is to serve as a test flight, to demonstrate the in-house

and home grown technologies, gather crucial flight data and ensure optimal functioning of systems for Agnikul's orbital launch vehicle, the 'Agnibaana'.

Agnikul's core team members Prof. Satyanarayanan R Chakravarthy, Founding Advisor, Agnikul Cosmos and Faculty, Department of Aerospace Engineering, IIT Madras, Srinath Ravichandran, Co-Founder and CEO, Agnikul Cosmos, Moin SPM, Co-Founder and COO, Agnikul Cosmos, Saraniya Periaswamy, Vehicle Director, Agnibaana SORTeD, and Umamaheswari. K, Project Director, Mission-01 and Agnibaana SORTeD were also present on the occasion.

Congratulating Agnikul on the launch, Dr. Somanath said, "The Department of Space and ISRO congratulates Agnikul Cosmos on the successful launch of 'Agnibaana - SORTeD'. The success involving many firsts including 3D printed semi-cryogenic engine, flight control systems etc. demonstrate the prowess of indigenous design and innovation.

It motivates ISRO to support the Space startups and Non-governmental

entities for innovation and Atmanirbhara to create a vibrant space ecosystem in the country." Lauding the efforts of the Agnibaana Launch, Dr. Pawan Goenka said, "The successful launch of the Agnibaana SORTeD is not just a milestone for Agnikul Cosmos but marks a significant moment for private players who are contributing to growing India's space sector.

Today it is the power of young innovators and entrepreneurs who are leading from the front, innovating with cutting-edge technology such as the world's first 3D printed semi-cryogenic engine, that is driving the transformation of India's space sector. At IN-SPACE, we

Note that objective view is emerging in Pakistan: India on Sharif saying they violated Lahore Declaration

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, MAY 30

India on Thursday said it has noted that "an objective view based on reality is emerging in Pakistan", in response to former Pakistan PM Nawaz Sharif admitting that Islamabad had violated the 1999 Lahore Declaration signed between him and former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, as a few months later then Pakistani Gen Pervez Musharraf launched the Kargil war.

MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, answering a question on Sharif's statement made on Tuesday, said: "You are aware of our position on this issue. I need not reiterate that. We note that an objective view is emerging



in Pakistan as well, on this particular matter."

Speaking in Hindi, he said: "We are seeing that in Pakistan a perspective based on reality is emerging".

Former Pakistan PM Nawaz Sharif on Tuesday (May 28) said that Islamabad had "violated" an "agreement" signed between him and former PM Vajpayee in 1999, in a reference to the Lahore

Declaration and Pervez Musharraf's Kargil misadventure.

"On May 28, 1998, Pakistan carried out five nuclear tests. After that Vajpayee Saheb came here and made an agreement with us. But we violated that agreement...it was our fault," Sharif told a general council meeting of the PML-N at which he was elected president of the ruling party.

Army's JCO Amir Bhat to represent India in Paris Paralympic games this year

AGENCIES
SRINAGAR, MAY 30

A 29-year-old Amir Ahmad Bhat from Kashmir, who is serving as a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) in Indian Army has been selected to represent India in the Paralympic games to be held in Paris in August this year.

Amir is the first Para Shooter in the country who has qualified for the Olympics in less than two years and will represent India in P3-25m Pistol mixed at the 2024 Paralympic games to be held at Paris, France from August 28 to September 2024.

Hailing from village Damhall in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, the JCO did his schooling at his native village from the Government Higher Secondary School Damhall where he completed his Matriculation and then moved to Government Higher Secondary School Dialgam to pursue his 10+2 standard.

Despite having so many engagements with his army unit and sports activity, Amir is also pursuing his graduation through the Indira Gandhi National



Open University (IGNOU) also.

He played a number of national and International events and has ten national and international awards in his kitty including a gold medal in Lima Peru besides a bronze medal won in the World Sports Shooting Para Sport (WSPS) world cup held in Changwon South Korea in March 2023.

Bhat also won a Silver medal in the WSPS World Cup held in Osijek Croatia in July 2023. Besides he represented Jammu and Kashmir in the Ist Khelo India Para Games in which he scored 540 points in 50mtr free pistol and secured the first position.

Amir joined the Indian Army's regimental, Jammu

and Kashmir Light Infantry (JKLI) as a soldier in the year 2012 after completing his 12th standard.

"In the Army, I developed a keen interest in shooting sports alongside my assigned duties as a soldier and was always displaying my innate talent in this unique game", Amir told UNI.

He said whenever he was getting a chance to play it, he used to outperform. "To the best of my luck, I got a chance to play in the trails for shooting sports in March 2021 conducted by the Indian Army in the Marksmanship Unit of Mhow Indore".

Despite performing brilliantly in the trials and being hailed by the management, due to some rea-

Sharif and Vajpayee signed the Declaration on February 21, 1999, after Vajpayee's historic bus ride to Lahore. But oblivious to them, Pakistani soldiers were in the process of occupying unmanned high-altitude Indian positions in Kargil, Ladakh, which led to the Kargil conflict between the two nations from May to July 1999.

In the Lahore Declaration, India and Pakistan pledged to a peaceful resolution of bilateral disputes, including Kashmir, and fostering friendly commercial and cultural relationships. Both sides also agreed to engage in bilateral consultations regarding their nuclear doctrines, to avoid any nuclear conflict, whether intended or not.

sons Amir was directed to switch to pistol shooting by his unit heads instead of rifle shooting, posing a tough challenge for him.

"I was somehow new in this field of shooting. But given my talent, diligence and passion, I managed to perform it in a more impressive way as well", Amir said and added "I was selected to undergo five months training for pistol shooting".

He said after completing the training he was selected as a shooting player in the Indian Army's marksmanship unit in Mhow Indore.

"I made the debut to play for national games in my shooting career in the month of March 2022 and fortunately won a silver medal in the very first national game", he said.

Amir has earned many rewards in his career during a short span of two years during which he represented India at both national as well as international level with utmost prestige and honour and became the first Para Shooter from Jammu and Kashmir as well as from the entire country who has qualified for the Olympics.

Potable water use banned at construction sites & car washing centres: Atishi

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, MAY 30

Delhi government on Thursday imposed a ban on usage of potable water at construction sites, car washing and repairing centres stating that these establishments will be sealed if found violating the ban.

Addressing the media, Delhi cabinet minister Atishi said, "We are forming 200 enforcement teams of Delhi Jal Board which will check that no borewell is damaged or clogged.

The use of potable water is banned on construction sites and if any construction site is found doing so, that site will be sealed by MCD.

"Delhi government is taking one more emergency measure to prevent water shortage in the national capital. There are many car repair and car washing centres that are using potable water... Delhi Jal Board's drinking water. We are banning the use of drinking water by the Delhi Jal Board from being used in car washing and repair centres," Atishi said.

"From tomorrow, teams of DPCC will conduct inspections of car washing and repairing centres," she added.

She further appealed people to not to misuse water emphasising, "Delhi is facing an emergency situation because of heatwave and water not being released from Haryana."

Three die, thousands rescued as flood wreaks havoc in Manipur

AGENCIES
IMPHAL, MAY 30

Three persons including a woman have died and thousands were evacuated to safe places since Cyclone Remal hit Manipur Monday.

All the major rivers including Nambul, Imphal, Iri, Kongba, and Nambol were flowing above flood levels. Breaches at various parts of the river banks have led to inundation of the Kangla fort, hospitals, the iconic women's markets, and most roads were not safe for travel.

Army, Assam Rifles, Manipur Police, and officials worked hard to rescue people stranded in their homes. Local organizations have managed to rescue thousands of people using machinery, makeshift boats while Assam Rifles personnel have also rescued more than 1000 people and distributed essential commodities. Thousands of people were living in various relief centres opened by local organizations. Officials said so far three persons including a woman have died in separate incidents and power supplies were cut off in most parts of the state as transformers, power stations were flooded.

Manipur government has also opened helplines and the most affected areas were the low-lying valley districts of Imphal East, Imphal West, Thoubal, Bishenpur, and Kakching districts. Heavy rainfall has also affected the hill districts and landslides were reported in the Ukhrul, Tamenglong, Kangpokpi, Senapati districts.



challenges used to look difficult, I used to remind myself of believing in myself. This, along with the support of the team is what took me through building this complex vehicle."

Umamaheswari said, "The entire process has been thrilling and invigorating. This was however possible only because of the support and effort of the entire team. Launching a rocket is no small feat, and sometimes the test results don't meet our expectations, which can be frustrating. But believing in yourself and the team throughout is key."

The flagship launch vehicle, 'Agnibaana', is designed to be compatible with the mobile launchpad called 'Dhanush', allowing for launch flexibility regardless of location. Agnibaana can be configured to accommodate payloads ranging from 30 kg to 300 kg, ensuring versatility across a wide range of mission requirements.

Agnikul is looking at flying an orbital mission towards the end of the financial year of 2025 and is working with customers on flights starting regularly from CY 2025.

Sharing their experience on the launch, Saraniya said, "Every time

are committed to support these young pioneers as they help to propel India to a leadership position in the global space arena."

The vision of Agnikul is to bring space within everyone's reach, aiming to enable launches from Anywhere, Anytime, Affordably. Agnikul is committed to developing launch vehicles that are both affordable and customizable according to customer needs.

Highlighting the significance of this historic milestone, Prof. V. Kamakoti, Director, IIT Madras, said, "Sky is no more the limit for our startups. Very innovative, first time in the world, deep core technology demonstrated today by

Agnikul - a great inspiration for all young students to boldly take the entrepreneurship route and become employers."

Speaking about the next steps, Prof. Satyanarayanan R Chakravarthy, Founding Advisor, Agnikul Cosmos and also the Head of National Centre for Combustion Research and Development (NCCRD), IIT Madras, said, "We are proud to present India's first Semi-cryo rocket engine, which is also the world's most integrated single shot 3D printed piece. It signals the ability to rapidly assemble rockets that is unparalleled."

The Agnikul team consists of over 200 engineers and is associated with NCCRD at IIT Madras.

Secretary reviews implementation of RDD schemes in Rajouri

JINNEWSERVICE
 RAJOURI, MAY 30

Secretary, Rural Development Department (RDD) and Panchayati Raj, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, today convened a review meeting regarding implementation of RDD schemes in Rajouri district.

The meeting had a detailed evaluation of progress achieved under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana Gramin (PMAY-G) and AWAS plus, Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin (SBM-G) and Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) among other initiatives.

Regarding implementation of MGNREGA, it was informed that out of the target of 2,758,044 person-days for the period ending March 2025, 95,993 person-days have been generated as of now.

The Secretary emphasized the need to accelerate the progress to meet the annual targets. While taking note of the delayed payments under MGNREGA, he asked the BDOs to ensure timely payment of wages under MGNREGA.

Regarding PMAY-G and AWAS Plus, the meeting was informed that out of the total target of con-



structing 62,314 houses, 41,372 houses have been completed, so far.

The Secretary also reviewed the status of construction of panchayat ghars. It was informed that out of 38 panchayat ghars, the work on 12 panchayat ghars has been completed. He emphasized upon the officers to expedite the remaining construction works for speedy completion.

Concerning the IWMP, it was revealed that out of 228 projects, the work on 201 projects has been completed. He also asked to submit the supplementary DPRs under IWMP in convergence with MGNREGA.

The review of SBM-G activities included discussion on solid waste management, door-to-door waste collection in Panchayats, community soakage pits, community compost pits, individual soakage pits and grey-water management.

The Secretary emphasized the significance of rural sanitation and asked the concerned officers to make added efforts to sustain the ODF Plus status.

Regarding the NRLM, the meeting was informed that there are 6,415 Self Help Groups (SHGs) in the district.

The Secretary exhorted upon the officers to prepare GPPD plans by involving all line departments. He stressed on exploring convergence of all central schemes to create quality assets and increase livelihood of rural assess.

The Secretary also reviewed the construction of food grain stores, with the information that 10 food stores are to be constructed in the district. He also discussed construction of Anganwadi Centres under convergence with MGNREGA and asked the ACD to submit the list of Anganwadi Centres that can be constructed through this convergence.

Regarding onsite inspection of works, the Secretary emphasized the importance of maximum onsite work inspection to ensure effective implementation of rural development schemes.

The Secretary also stressed the importance of conducting social audits timely to ensure transparency and accountability in implementation of rural development schemes.

Dr. Shahid Iqbal underscored the need for concerted efforts and synergy among stakeholders, advocating for collaborative strategies to maximize the impact and efficiency of rural development programs. He directed the officers to align their endeavors towards the common goal of uplifting the rural communities.

The Secretary was accompanied by the Director RDD Jammu, Mumtaz Ali and Technical Officer PMAY-G, Mohammad Riaz.

The meeting was attended by DDC Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat, ADDC, Raj Kumar Thapa, GM DIC, Fareed Kohli, CPO, Maqsood Ahmed, ACD, Vijay Kumar, DSEO, Sandeep Sharma, DPO, Mohd Nawaz Choudhary, Executive Engineers REW and Jal Shakti Nowshera and other concerned officers.

DC Bandipora chairs NCORD/ COTPA meeting, directs 100% installation of CCTVs & CBS

JINNEWSERVICE
 BANDIPORA, MAY 30

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman on Thursday chaired a meeting of District Level Committee under NCORD (Narco Coordination) and Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) at Mini Secretariat, here.

The meeting covered a range of progressive initiatives regarding drug de-addiction and rehabilitation efforts implemented within the district.

The DC conducted a comprehensive review of activities organised by different departments including Drugs Controller, Health Department, Social Welfare, Education, District Drug De-addiction Centre and Addiction Treatment Facility.

He also assessed the actions taken to combat illicit crop cultivation and its eradication within the district.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC emphasized



the significance of a comprehensive approach involving prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and community assistance.

He highlighted the importance of implementing effective strategies to prevent substance abuse, offer treatment to those requiring assistance, and support their path to recovery and rehabilitation.

Shakeel ul Rehman also emphasized the importance of outreach programs to encourage individuals to seek assistance when necessary. Additionally, he highlighted the priority of addressing vulnerable sections and specific age groups in drug de-addiction efforts.

He also asked the concerned departments, including Health, DDAC, ARTO, Excise, Police,

Social Welfare office, CEO Office, to work collectively and in coordination with district administration.

The DC also urged Padma Shri awardee Faisal Ali Dar to work in coordination with concerned departments and involve Youth Icons, sports icons in awareness programs to encourage youth participation.

During the meeting, the DC asked concerned officers to initiate strict action under rules against retail outlet owners for non-installation of CCTVs and stressed the drug control department to ensure 100 percent installation of CCTVs and computerized billing by all medical shops and Jan Ashudi Kendras.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Umar Shafi Pandit; SP Mohammad Shafaat, DIO Dr. Naseer Ahmad, ARTO, CAO, Tehsildars, MS District Hospital, Padma Shree Faisal Ali Dar, Representatives of Drug De Addiction Center, and other concerned.

Div Com Kashmir visits Gulmarg; prioritizes Tourism Sector Regulation & Professionalism

JINNEWSERVICE
 BARAMULLA, MAY 30

In a significant move aimed at boosting tourism and addressing local concerns, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri Thursday undertook a visit to Gulmarg and conducted a series of meetings with various stakeholders including hoteliers, ponywalas, Tourist guides and All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) drivers.

The meeting, held at the prestigious Golf Club Gulmarg, focused on enhancing the tourism experience in Gulmarg, addressing the challenges faced by local businesses, and exploring new opportunities for sustainable development in the region.

Bidhuri emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts between the administration and local stakeholders to ensure a



thriving tourism sector that benefits the local economy.

Chief Executive Officer, Gulmarg Development Authority, Waseem Raja provided a detailed briefing during the visit. He outlined the initiatives to promote eco-friendly tourism and improve the overall tourist experience, including safety protocols, upgraded facilities and promotional strategies to attract more visitors.

Hoteliers raised issues related to infrastructure maintenance, safety measures and promotional

activities to attract more tourists. Ponywalas and ATV members discussed the need for better facilities and regulatory measures to ensure the safety and satisfaction of visitors.

During the meeting, the Div Com directed the CEO Gulmarg Development Authority to allocate specific routes for ponywalas and ATV drivers to operate on, aiming to enhance regulation and management of their activities.

This directive ensures a structured approach to their movements, contributing to improved organi-

zation and oversight.

Additionally, Div Com emphasized the provision of uniforms and identity cards for registered ponywalas, ATV drivers, and tourist guides, promoting professionalism and accountability within the industry while also facilitating easier identification for tourists. By implementing these measures, the authorities can better monitor and enforce compliance with regulations, thereby promoting safety and integrity within the tourism sector.

Bidhuri assured all stakeholders of the administration's commitment to addressing their concerns and working towards the overall development of Gulmarg as a premier tourist destination. He also highlighted the government's ongoing initiatives aimed at improving infrastructure and promoting eco-friendly tourism practices.

DC Bandipora chairs DLIC meeting under HADP

JINNEWSERVICE
 BANDIPORA, MAY 30

The District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) for the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) meeting was today held at Mini Secretariat Bandipora.

The committee under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel Ul Rehman approved 668 cases of agriculture and allied sectors.

The committee approved 499 cases of agriculture, 85 of Horticulture, 65 cases of Animal Husbandry, 03 cases of Fisheries, and



16 cases of Sheep Husbandry Department.

On the occasion,

the DC emphasized employment generation efforts and asked the

concerned departments to provide comprehensive assistance to unemployed youth in the district.

He also stressed the importance of meeting the targets within the designated timeframe to the concerned departments.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Mohammad Maqbool; Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Gh. Ahmad Lone; Chief Agriculture Officer, Javid Ahmad Samoon; Chief Horticulture Officer, Farooq Ahmad and other concerned.

DoWP, WD Kashmir rebuts news item 'Residents protest Wildlife Department's halt on critical road project in Budgam'

JINNEWSERVICE
 SRINAGAR, MAY 30

The Department of Wildlife Protection (DoPW), Wetlands Division (WD), Kashmir today rebutted the news item published in local English daily on 30 May, 2024, headlined 'Residents protest Wildlife Department's halt on critical road project in Budgam'.

In an official statement issued here, the Department of Wildlife Protection, Wetlands Division Kashmir authorities have clarified that the article has been published by misrepresenting the actual fact.

While the fact is that the User Agency i.e Executive Engineer PW (R&B) Budgam had started the construction of a Road along the Bund in the vicinity of the Hokersar Wetland Conservation Reserve. The field staff of the Department of Wildlife Protection anticipated that Road may pass through the Hokersar Wetland Conservation Reserve and subsequently asked the

User Agency to suspend the work till the alignment of the Road is checked with respect to the boundary of the Wetland Conservation Reserve, the statement read.

The Range Officer concerned brought the matter into the notice of Wildlife Warden Wetlands Division, who in turn immediately issued the directions for the joint survey of the proposed Road.

The official communication further mentioned that in the joint survey GPS track of proposed Road was recorded and converted into KML file, which in turn was superimposed on KML file of perimeter/demarcation line of Hokersar Wetland Conservation Reserve. Proposed alignment of the road was found to intersect with the Demarcation line of Wetland, mainly at the starting and terminal part of the Road. The stretch of the proposed Road that was found to pass through the Wetland Conservation Reserve approximately

measures nearly 1.5 KM in length

Wildlife Warden, Wetlands Division conducted a field visit jointly with the Assistant Executive Engineer and other staff of the PW (R&B) Department for ground truthing of the Maps generated after the first joint survey. The intersection of the Road with Wetland Demarcation line was ascertained and various alternative options were explored

It is worth mentioning here that the demarcation of the Hokersar Wetland Conservation Reserve was jointly conducted during 2018-19 by the Revenue Authorities, District Administration, Photo Interpretation (PI) Division, Forest Department in coordination with Wildlife Protection Department and subsequently a demarcation Map was generated which, was duly signed by all the concerned Officers/officials who were the part of the demarcation process.

On 25 May, 2024 inspec-

tion of the said Road was

conducted by the Regional Wildlife Warden, Headquarters, J&K on the request of the Wildlife Warden, Wetlands Division with intent to have his expert advice for the disposal of the matter. Earlier observations made by undersigned were found to stand, wherein, first and the terminal parts of the Road were found intersecting the Wetland boundaries. Vide this office letter No: WLW(WL)/Estt/2024-25/302-05 Dated: 28-05-2024 User Agency/ Executive Engineer, PW (R&B) Division Budgam was advised to consider the realignment of the Road at the places where intersection was evident. He was further advised that proposal of the Road can be uploaded on the PARIVESH Portal for the due clearances required in the matter.

PARIVESH Portal is a single window system, for grant of Forest and Wildlife clearances in case a non forestry work is to be executed inside a Forest or Wildlife

Protected area.

The allegations leveled by the local inhabitants are concocted and baseless as it has been made clear by this Division time and again that proprietary rights (if any) of the fringe communities shall be protected, however, land use shall be regulated and governed strictly as per the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 and in accordance with the Orders / directions issued by National Green Tribunal (NGT) in the matters of Wetland Conservation. As a matter of record, it is worthwhile to mention here, that as per the directions of NGT land use of Wetlands shall not be subjected to any change.

Construction of the Road through the Hokersar Wetland Conservation Reserve is a clear violation of directions of NGT, User Agency Executive Engineer, PW(R&B) Division Budgam was advised that in case the Road shall pass through the Protected Area, due clearance from the competent authority is required.

JINNEWSERVICE
 SRINAGAR, MAY 30

Secretary, Health & Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, today reviewed implementation of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) in Jammu and Kashmir during a meeting held here at Civil Secretariat.

The Secretary emphasized creation of a Project Management Unit under ABDM in the UT. He directed all officers and officials to work hard

in order to guarantee that ABDM is fully implemented across the J&K. He directed the authorities to expedite the process of establishment of Project Management Unit under ABDM on schedule in order to avoid any delay in implementation of ABDM ecosystem in public and private health facilities throughout the UT.

Highlighting the importance of digital

interventions in health-care delivery, Dr. Abid Rasheed stressed on utilization of technology to expedite and enhance the quality of healthcare services for patients in need.

He directed the officers to identify the stakeholders and challenges that impede effective adoption of digital health ecosystem. He also asked for outlining a roadmap to achieve this vision for all the stakeholders in the ABDM ecosystem.

The Secretary emphasized the necessity for all officers to work in coordination to improve the process of digitalization in the healthcare system besides elevating the quality of facilities being given to patients in hospitals through this technological revolution in medicare across the UT.

Mission Director, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, J&K, Nazim Zai Khan delivered a detailed presentation highlighting

various aspects of the Mission, encompassing status of ABDM in the UT, manpower in Project Management Unit under ABDM, upcoming infrastructure, targets achieved and operational status of HMIS (JK e-Sahaj) in Public Health Facilities across J&K.

Mission Director also highlighted the achievements of ABDM in terms of Health Professional Registry of Doctors and Nurses, Health Facility Registry, Digital Health Incentive Scheme, Scan & Share (QR code-based OPD registration Service), overview of Microsite project under ABDM in J&K, ongoing Capacity Building trainings and IEC in all districts of the UT.

Among others the meeting was attended by various senior officers including the Additional Mission Director, ABDM, FA/CAO, ABDM, Consultants ABDM and other officers of ABDM, J&K.