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DENGUE WARNING SIGNS

Many people with dengue can be cared for at home with adequate rest and hydration. But, if you experience any warning signs, go immediately to the nearest medical center.

Watch out for dengue warning signs!

A drop in body temperature accompanied by any of the following symptoms:

- Severe and continuous headache
- Joint and muscle pain
- Present vomiting
- A rise in body temperature
- Disorientation
- Bleeding from gums or nose, blood in stool
- Redness on the skin

If you have any of these symptoms, go to the nearest medical center IMMEDIATELY

JINDRAH IMAGES

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PM Modi led Govt crushing drug cartels: Amit Shah

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 10 (KNO)

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said that the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is mowing down drug cartels with full might. In a post on X Shah, according to the news agency wrote: "In our vision to build a drug-free Bharat, our agencies launched massive operations strangling drug cartels and seized 30.4 kg of methamphetamine

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AAP workers stage protests in Srinagar, Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 10 (KNO)

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) workers on Thursday staged protests in Srinagar and Jammu against the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) leaders for what they called "intimidating" the lone party legislator—Mehraj Malik. Several AAP workers were detained by

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UAPA Case: Searches conducted in houses of jailed Teh members

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 10 (KNO)

In its relentless efforts to dismantle the remnants of secessionist and terrorist ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir, Srinagar Police on Thursday said to have conducted searches as part of the ongoing investigations into cases registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). A police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency

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No one will be allowed to spread terror in J&K: HM Amit Shah

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 10 (KNO)

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has said that no one will be allowed to conspire to spread terror in Jammu and Kashmir.

In a conversation with a national news channel, Shah, according to the news agency, said, "We will not let anyone conspire to spread terror in J&K. If anyone tries such things, they will be punished."

The Union Home Minister maintained that national security is a top



priority for the Centre and its stand on security and separatism is firm. "We will not compromise, nor will we allow anyone else to do it," he added.

Referring to his recent visit to Jammu and Kash-

mir, Shah said, "Meeting with Chief Minister Omar Abdullah was cordial and focused on development and governance. We have always supported regional governments equally, without any bias."

He reiterated that the Centre is committed to working with J&K's elected leadership.

Asked whether a recent terror incident in Kathua was caused by Pakistan-backed infiltration, Shah said, "Infiltration is, of course, backed by Pakistan and not someone else like Russia. And this has been happening for years. But our soldiers and the government are both alert. We will punish them if they try."

Pertinently, the Union Home Minister

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NC leaders trying to revive separatist narrative in J&K: LoP Sharma

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10 (KNO)

Alleging that National Conference leaders are trying to revive "separatist narrative" in Jammu and Kashmir, Leader of Opposition in J&K Assembly and senior BJP leader, Sunil Sharma on Thursday said that NC's vision advocates for a divisive atmosphere in the Union Territory.

Addressing a news conference here, LoP Sharma, according to the news agency said, "NC leaders seem nostalgic for the past, trying to revive separatist narratives.



NC's vision advocates for a divisive atmosphere with slogans like 'Naara-e-Takbeer, Allahu Akbar', reminiscent of the 1989 exodus of Kashmiri Pandits. It feels strange when National Conference MLAs support separatists like Masarat Alam."

"National Conference

openly demands in the Legislative Assembly to hold talks with Pakistan, slogans of 'Takbeer Allahu Akbar' were raised. This is not a Jama Masjid where you can raise slogans like 'Takbeer Allahu Akbar' or 'Risalat.' This is the Vidhan Sabha. Here, people's issues are discussed. Here, solutions to people's problems are found. Here, the hopes of the people, based on promises, are fulfilled."

He said, "Jammu and Kashmir is experiencing peace and progress, free from the Hurriyat

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Lt Governor addresses special event celebrating Mahavir Jayanti at Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10 (KNO)

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Thursday addressed a special event organized by S.S Jain Sabha to celebrate Mahavir Jayanti, at Jammu.

The Lieutenant Governor extended his felicitations and best wishes to all on the auspicious occasion of Mahavir Jayanti.

"Lord Mahavir's teachings are not limited to one sect but transcend all boundaries. His blessings and vision uplifted humanity and guided the



world to ensure that non-violence and compassion builds the strong founda-

tion of our society. The concept of selfless service of Lord Mahavir is

linked with the principles of non-violence and

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ACB arrests Girdawar, Lumberdar with Rs 20,000 bribe red-handed in Sgr

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 10 (KNO)

Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Thursday said to have trapped and arrested Girdawar of Chatabal and Lumberdar from Halqa Habakadal, Srinagar red-handed while demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 20,000.

As per a statement issued to the news agency, a spokesman said that ACB received a written complaint alleging therein that Ayaz Ahmad Hurra, Girdawar, Chatabal, Srinagar, who is holding additional charge of Patwari Halqa Habakadal

and Halqa Shivpora is demanding Rs 50,000 as bribe in lieu of issuance of revenue extracts required for sale deed of an old house located at Mandir Bagh, Srinagar.

"As per the complaint, the complainant was forced to pay Rs 30,000 a few days ago and remaining Rs 20,000 was asked to be paid today in order to receive the requisite documents. The bribe demand was communicated through Lumberdar (tout) Rafiq Ahmad who was acting in connivance with the Girdawar," the statement reads.

Unwilling to pay the

bribe, the complainant approached ACB Srinagar and submitted a written complaint, requesting legal action against the accused public servants. Upon receipt of the complaint, a pre-trap verification was conducted, which established the demand of bribe, accordingly a case under FIR number 06/2025 under section 7 PC Act 1988 and 61(2) BNS was registered at Police Station ACB Srinagar and investigation was taken up, the ACB spokesman said.

During the course of investigation, a trap

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NIA arrests Mumbai terror attacks accused, Rana after extradition from US



JI NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI/SRINAGAR, APR 10 (KNO)

The National Investigation Agency on Thursday said it has "successfully secured the extradition"

of Tahawwur Hussain Rana, a key accused in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, and has arrested him.

In a statement to the news agency NIA

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8 members of separatist groups arrested from Bandipora: Police

JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, APR 10 (KNO)

Police in Bandipora on Thursday said to have arrested eight members of various proscribed organisations in connection with an investigation of cases registered against these banned separatist outfits.

"The crackdown, part of a concerted effort to curb terrorist

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Peace prerequisite for development, says DIG North Kashmir

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 10 (KNO)

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police, North Kashmir Range, Maqsood-ul-Zaman on Thursday said that without peace, no meaningful development can take place.

DIG Zaman, as reported by the news agency was speaking at a public gathering at Dak Bungalow Sopore. He said, "Sopore is not what it used to be. It has achieved peace, and with that, the path to progress is wide open."

"Peace is a prerequisite



of development. Until there is peace, development remains elusive," DIG Zaman said, citing the transformation of Sopore — once a militancy-hit region — as a powerful example.

The senior police officer nostalgically referred to Sopore as

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Drug peddlers attack police in Samba; four cops injured

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10 (KNO)

A Station House Officer (SHO) and his three subordinates were injured in a violent attack by drug peddlers in the Bari Brahmana area of Samba district late Wednesday evening, officials said.

Police said that SHO Bari Brahmana police station, Inspector Pushpinder Singh and his team of officers had received input on the presence of drug peddlers in the Balol Khad area of Bari Brahmana.

During their visit to the area, they were attacked by the drug peddlers, which led to injury to Singh and Sub-Inspector (SI) Abrar Ul Haq Mirza, a police official said, adding that a Head Constable and a Selection Grade Constable also received injuries during the incident.

The injured were rushed to the Government Medical College, Jammu, soon after the incident, from where SHO Singh and SI Mirza were airlifted to Amandeep Hospital, Amritsar, for

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J&K LG dismisses two employees for anti-national activities

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10 (KNO)

Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday dismissed two employees, belonging one each to Police Department (Assistant Wireless Operator) and Public Works (R&B) Department (Senior Assistant) in terms of Article 311 of the Constitution of India for their deep involvement in anti-national activities.

The activities of these below mentioned employees had come

to the adverse notice of law enforcement and intelligence agencies, as they found them thickly involved in activities prejudicial to the interests of the State evidencing their involvement in terror related activities.

Basharat Ahmad Mir, Assistant Wireless Operator in Jammu and Kashmir Police Department S/o Ghulam Mohammad Mir R/o Upper Brein District Srinagar, was under intelligence radar on the basis of highly

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UAV crashes into IAF tower in Jammu, Air Force personnel critically injured

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10 (KNO)

An Indian Air Force (IAF) personnel was critically injured after a UAV crashed inside the technical area of Jammu Airport on Thursday.

According to officials, the UAV believed to belong to the Indian Army collided with an Air Force tower located within the airport's high-security zone.

"An incident was reported this afternoon at around 2.45 pm when a

UAV was about to land at Jammu Air Force Station. The tower guard, identified as Naik Surender, was injured in the crash," an official said.

He said the UAV was on an operational mission for reconnaissance of the area for an ongoing anti-terror operation. "A probe has been launched to determine the exact cause of the incident, with officials looking into the possibility of a technical malfunction or human error," the official said, adding that further details are awaited.

Agriculture, allied sectors power over 78% of J&K's GDP: Government

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 10 (KNO)

The Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday said that agriculture and allied sectors account for more than 78 percent of the Union Territory's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), providing livelihood to over 13 lakh families.

According to the news agency, the statement was made in response to a question raised in the Legislative Assembly by MLA Ali Sagar, who sought

information regarding the potential of the agriculture and horticulture sectors in Jammu and Kashmir.

In its reply, the government affirmed that agriculture and horticulture continue to be the backbone of the Union Territory's economy. To unlock the full potential of these sectors, it said, multiple centrally sponsored schemes are currently being implemented across the region. These include Rashtriya

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Indo-Pak Army officers hold flag meeting in Poonch

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10 (KNO)

Officers of India and Pakistan armies held a flag meeting along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch sector on Thursday.

Officials told the news agency the meeting was held at the Chakan-Da-Bagh cross-point, led by brigadier-level officers from both sides. "They discussed border management," officials added.

Notably, this was the second such meeting between the two sides this month. "The flag meetings are routine LoC and border

management process in accordance with DGMO's understanding between both sides," a defence spokesperson said.

He said Thursday's meeting was conducted to discuss routine issues along the LoC.

Meanwhile, official sources, according to KNO, said that Indian Army officials also raised the issue of infiltration attempts, ceasefire violations, and IED blasts with their counterparts and lodged a protest with them.

It may be recalled that on April 2, a brigade

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Arrangements for annual Urs of Sakhi Zain-ud-Din Wali (RA) Aishmuqam reviewed at Anantnag

J1 NEWS SERVICE
ANANTNAG, APRIL 10

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Syed Fakhruddin Hamid in a review meeting held today took stock of the arrangements for the upcoming Annual Urs Sharief Sakhi Zain-ud-Din Wali (RA) in Aishmuqam Anantnag.

DC emphasized the need for meticulous planning to ensure the smooth conduct of the religious observance, which attracts a large number of devotees from across the region.

The Annual Urs Sharief, particularly the Shab-e-Doum (Chiragaam) event holds deep spiritual significance for the local community.

DC passed specific instructions to the con-



cerned District and Sectoral Officers, directing ARTO to formulate a detailed plan for traffic management. Health Department was instructed to set up medical camps near the Ziarat Sharief, with a team of doctors, nurses, and ambulances on standby to handle any emergencies.

The Municipal Committee was tasked with maintaining cleanliness around the shrine and ensuring necessary amenities such

as water supply and sanitation facilities to ensure the comfort of the devotees. Assistant Director FCS&CA was directed to ensure that extra food grains are available in the village to meet the demand during the event.

In addition, DC held consultations with religious leaders and representatives from the shrine management committee to ensure the smooth conduct of the religious ceremonies and observances

during the Urs.

He urged the local community to cooperate with the authorities and follow all guidelines and protocols to ensure a peaceful and successful event.

DC reassured the public that all necessary steps were being taken to ensure their convenience during the annual celebrations.

The meeting concluded with directions to officials and other stakeholders to ensure that Urs Sharief celebrations are a success.

The meeting was attended by the SDM Pahalgam, ARTO Anantnag, Tehsildar, EO

Municipal Corporation, Assistant Director FCS&CA, senior officials from various departments, including Health Services, PDD, PHE, Fire & Emergency Services.

Artificial Lake, Forest Guest House inaugurated at Jai Valley amid completion of Electrification project

J1 NEWS SERVICE
BHADERWAH, APRIL 10

In a significant step towards the development of eco-tourism infrastructure, District Doda's famous tourism destination Jai Valley added new dimensions to its charm with a newly built Artificial Lake, a Forest Guest House and completion of electrification project. The amenities were inaugurated by District Development Council Chairman Dhananter Singh Kotwal in the presence of Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh, the other day.

The electrification project executed by electric Division Doda marks a major milestone in improving basic amenities in this picturesque tourist destination of the Chenab Valley.

The construction of



the artificial Lake project is expected to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the valley and boost the local economy through increased footfall of nature lovers and adventure seekers. The artificial lake is part of the district administration's broader efforts

to transform Jai Valley into a premier eco-tourism hotspot in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

Adding to the green initiatives, DDC Chairman Dhananter Singh Kotwal and District Development Commissioner Harvinder Singh also planted laven-

der saplings at the newly developed lavender nursery in the serene Valley. The nursery will not only promote aromatic plant cultivation but also generate livelihood opportunities for the local population. Lavender farming has been identified as a key component of the Aroma Mission, and the initiative aims to make Doda a leading hub for lavender-based agro-economy.

The event was also attended by DDC Vice Chairperson Sangeeta Rani, Additional Deputy Commissioner Bhabderwah Sunil Bhutyal and other officials and stakeholders. The collective efforts of the administration and public representatives reflect a strong commitment to sustainable development, tourism promotion, and environmental conservation in the region.

DC Ganderbal inspects key development projects

J1 NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, APRIL 10

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore today conducted an extensive tour of the district to inspect the progress of various developmental projects under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) as well as works of Rural Development Department (RDD).

During the day-long visit, DC reviewed ongoing works at several sites including the Model Floriculture Farm at Nuner, Kisan Khidmat Ghar (KKG) at Wayil, Soil Testing Laboratory at Manigam, under-construction Children Park Haripora and Library at Manigam and Chinar Bagh Dub.

At the Model Floriculture Farm Nuner, DC assessed operations involving lavender and rose cultivation, distillation plant, seedling production of aromatic



plants like rosemary, and the packaging unit.

He directed the management to explore the extension of the farm and enhance the marketing strategies for the organic products being manufactured. While inspecting the Kisan Khidmat Ghar at Wayil, DC evaluated the services being offered to farmers and emphasized doorstep delivery of agricultural support facilities. At the Soil Testing Laboratory in Manigam, he underscored the importance of modern testing techniques, and urged farmers to make full use of the facility for

improving crop yield and soil health.

Earlier, the DC inspected the under-construction Children's Park and Library at Manigam, being developed under the Aspirational Block Development Programme. He directed the concerned officers to expedite the work for early completion.

During his visit to Chinar Bagh Dub, DC instructed the Block Development Officer to prepare a comprehensive development plan for the park to enhance recreational spaces in the area. Later, DC inaugurated a Village level Soil Testing

Laboratory at Zazna, established under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) by the Farmer Producer Organization (FPO). The lab is expected to significantly contribute to scientific farming practices by offering localized soil health analysis to farmers.

During his visit, the DC also reviewed the functioning of the Farm Machinery Bank at Zazna Wakura. He emphasized the importance of transparency in service delivery and instructed officials to display the rate lists for farm machinery and services prominently.

While interacting with the farmers and beneficiaries, DC reiterated the transformative objectives of HADP, aimed at revolutionizing the agricultural sector in Jammu & Kashmir and creating new avenues of growth and prosperity for the farming community.

Social Welfare Department organises Divyang Registration Camp at Reasi town

J1 NEWS SERVICE
REASI, APRIL 10

Social Welfare Department, in collaboration with ALIMCO, a central agency, organized an assessment camp for Divyangs and Senior Citizens at Tehsil Social Welfare Office, Reasi.

The aim of the camp was to assess and register the targeted Divyangs with 40% or more benchmark disability and Senior Citizens with age of 60 years and above under ADIP and RVY schemes respectively. Such beneficiaries in turn shall be provided free of cost equipment and appliances which includes hearing aids, wheelchairs, tricycles, artificial limbs, walking sticks, motorised tricycles etc. by ALIMCO.

Speaking about the



camp, District Social Welfare Officer, Sachin Sharma addressed that this scheme is for disabled citizens of BPL category. He was told that by taking Aadhaar card, ration card, UDID Card and photographs from the divyangjans, the eligible beneficiaries are being registered on the concerned portal. He further informed that such camps shall be

continued till 11th April across various locations of district Reasi which were started on 05th April with an aim to register maximum number of eligible citizens for such government schemes to make an inclusive society.

It should be noted that 112 disabled and senior citizens were registered in this assessment camp.

GDC Ramgarh celebrates birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, APRIL 10

NSS unit "Prabha" of Government Degree College, Ramgarh solemnly observed the birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, by organizing a pledge ceremony dedicated to upholding the values enshrined in the Constitution.

The event was held under the overall guidance of the College Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Meeru Abrol and coordination of Prof. Bham Dutt, Programme Officer of the NSS Unit of the college. The event aimed to honor Dr. Ambedkar's legacy and reaffirm the commitment of students and staff to constitutional values such as justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity. The pledge emphasized the significance of safeguarding the democratic principles that form the foundation of the nation.

Govt won't allow mining at cost of environment: Deputy CM

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 10

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Kumar Choudhary, today chaired a high level meeting to review the mining issues related to NHAI projects besides assessing progress on National Highway projects being executed across J&K.

The meeting was attended by senior officers including Commissioner Secretary Mining Vikramjit Singh, Secretary, Public Works (R&B), Bhupinder Kumar besides representatives from key agencies like the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), Border Roads Organisation (BRO), MoRTH, Project Directors while other officers participated online including RO NHAI, RS Yadav.

The review encompassed critical infrastructure projects especially Delhi-Amritsar-Katra (DAK) Expressway, Srinagar Ring Road, Chenani-Patnitop-Nashri, Jammu-Rajouri and other crucial projects. Emphasising the critical importance of these projects, he issued firm direc-



tives to ensure their timely completion while minimising public inconvenience.

Earlier, the representative from NHAI apprised of the issues regarding delay in permissions related to mining, pending permissions at various levels, STPs for ordinary soil and RBM, and supply of material.

The Deputy Chief Minister assured that all their concerns are under consideration and shall be dealt prominently to avoid any kind of hindrance to development works.

Meanwhile, raising serious concern over illegal mining, the Deputy Chief Minister exhorted that mining will not be allowed at the cost of environment of J&K. "Saving environment is government's responsibility and we will not allow illegal mining at any cost," he reaffirmed.

The Dy CM directed the concerned officials to initiate strict measures as per law against those involved in illegal mining across J&K.

Surinder Choudhary impressed upon the concerned to go tough against the illegal miners. He told them to use the provisions of enforcement measures quite rigorously for putting total end to this illicit practice.

Th Dy CM also asked the executive agencies working on various packages to deposit the penalties first imposed on them by the department to get the incessant supply of material. He assured full cooperation to NHAI from the Government prior to clearance of penalties imposed on executive agencies.

The Deputy CM also reviewed various National Highway projects, exam-

ining the individual packages, scheduled completion dates and current progress. He specifically instructed the NHAI to expedite project completion while ensuring that public inconvenience is minimised.

Surinder Choudhary emphasized that projects must not be delayed and completed on time to avoid public inconvenience to general public.

In a move to prevent resource-related delays, the Dy CM asked the departmental officials to conduct field visits along with officers from NHAI and ensure that no illegal mining activities are held and hinder the project progress. He asked all the concerned departments and stakeholders to work in tandem and convene regular meetings to resolve issues, if any.

DC Srinagar reviews progress on implementation of PMAY-U

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 10

In order to review the progress in implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY-U 2.0) and saturate the process in District, a meeting of the Officers of line departments was today held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat at DC Office Complex, here.

At the outset, DC took a detailed appraisal about the implementation of the PMAY-U Urban scheme in the District. He also assessed the status of registration made under the PMAY-U scheme.

DC directed the concerned authorities to organize special awareness camps across the district so that all eligible beneficiaries are covered under the scheme. He asked the concerned Officers to undertake a proper demand survey and ensure that not a single genuine beneficiary is left out from the scheme.

He also stressed on maintaining utmost transparency and accountability ensuring timely approval of cases.

Dr Bilal further



impressed upon the Officers to follow the robust mechanism already put in place to ensure immediate verification of the application as per scheme guidelines.

DC asked the SMC and other Departments to maximize the reach of the scheme through mass awareness campaign so that eligible beneficiaries are informed about the scheme and the eligibility criteria to get registered under PMAY-U Urban scheme.

The meeting was informed that as many as 325 verified cases stands already forwarded to concerned authorities for

release of financial assistance under BLC component of PMAY Urban in favour of the beneficiaries to minimize the physical and financial gap under the scheme, as the target has been already fixed upto 31st of December 2025.

With regard to the physical progress as on March 2025, the meeting was informed that over 3000 houses sanctioned in the District so far under the scheme have been Geotagged. The construction of as many as 2008 houses stands completed, while 1017 are in the under construction phase.

DC was also apprised that an expenditure of Rs

38.03 crores has been disbursed till date under the scheme in the district after following due procedure and multilevel verification.

Besides Additional District Development Commissioner, Rifat Aftab Qureshi, Joint Commissioner SMC, Syed Abul Qasim; the meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Development, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, SDM East, Chief Planning Officer, District Social Welfare Officer, District Statistics & Evaluation Officer, all Tehsildars, Lead District Bank Manager, Officers from JK Housing Board and other concerned Departments.

Shree Machail Mata Yatra 2025 Service providers asked to maintain high standards of hygiene, cleanliness during annual pilgrimage



JJ NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, APRIL 10

In line with the directions of Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan, the Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Padder Dr. Amit Kuma on Thursday convened a crucial meeting with hoteliers, paying guest operators, dhaba and restaurant operators and other business stakeholders to review preparedness for the upcoming Shree Machail Mata Yatra 2025.

Speaking at the meeting, the SDM Padder emphasised the need for maintaining high standards of cleanliness and

hygiene in all accommodations and food establishments.

The Business owners were directed to ensure clean bedsheets, blankets, and bathrooms for visiting pilgrims. The SDM informed attendees that dedicated sanitation teams would conduct regular inspections to monitor and maintain hygiene standards in and around lodging facilities throughout the Yatra period.

Furthermore, owners of dhabas, restaurants, and retail shops were instructed to strictly adhere to approved rate lists for all items, which must be prominently displayed for customer transparency. The importance of offering courteous service, maintaining proper sanitation, and extending warm hospitality to the devotees was highlighted as key to ensuring a smooth and spiritually fulfilling experience for all pilgrims.

The SDM reiterated that the collective efforts of the local business community will play a vital role in the success of the Shree Machail Mata Yatra 2025 and urged all stakeholders to cooperate fully with the administration in making the Yatra a safe, clean, and memorable journey for all participants.

Deputy Commissioner inspects Waste Management Site at Katra

JJ NEWS SERVICE
REASI, APRIL 10

Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik today inspected the Municipal waste management site at Village Kundrorian near Tan Talab in Katra to address the concerns of residents living in the vicinity regarding ongoing waste management operations being conducted by Municipal Committee Katra.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner engaged directly with the affected residents to understand their grievances and assure them of the administration's commitment to environmental safety. She also conducted a detailed inspection of the ongoing bio-mining project, which is focused on processing legacy waste at the site.

Emphasizing the importance of adhering to the



timelines set in the project's contractual framework, the Deputy Commissioner sought detailed information about each phase of the bio-mining process. She stressed the need for efficiency, transparency, and accountability throughout the operation.

The Deputy Commissioner discussed comprehensive waste management strategies with officials and outlined the importance of adhering to scheduled implementation timelines. She reaffirmed that scientific waste management and timely disposal are among the district administration's highest priorities.

The district administration remains committed to developing a sustainable, long-term waste management framework that prioritizes public health, environmental protection, and community well-being. EO MC Katra and other municipality officials accompanied the Deputy Commissioner.

CoF North Kashmir reviews working of Forest Department in Kehmil Forest Division

JJ NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, APRIL 10

Conservator of Forests (CoF) North Forest Circle, Irfan Ali Shah reviewed working of Forest Department in Kehmil Forest Division, deliverance of Government work and the targets set for the current financial year in a meeting held at North Forest Headquarters at Sopore.

The CoF interacted with the Senior Forest Officers and Forest officials on various Deliverables, schemes and Government programs in forestry sector including Green J&K Drive, Green India Mission, Har Gaon Hariyali, Non Timber Forest Products policy implementation, livelihood and income generation projects, Forests for recreation, fodder, livelihood, development of eco-tourism etc.



The CoF said our focus in Kehmil Forest Division Kupwara is to increase the quality of degraded moderately dense forests and to ecologically restore open forests which have suffered degradation here due to different reasons.

He added that Ecotourism in border areas of Karnah and Keran will be one of his focus areas and

as a way to generate livelihoods for youth and to generate revenue for the Government.

The meeting among others was attended by Faisal Farooq, Divisional Forest Officer, Kehmil Forest Division, RO Ramhall, RO Naihari, RO Keran, RO Karnah, RO W.P. and Forest officials of North Forests Circle.

DDC Pulwama chairs DLRC meeting

JJ NEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, APRIL 10

To assess the performance of banks and line departments under various financial and developmental parameters, a District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting for the third quarter of the financial year 2024-25 was held today at Circuit House Pulwama under the chairmanship of District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom.

At the outset, the Lead District Manager Pulwama presented a detailed report through a Power-Point presentation, highlighting the district's banking performance.

The chair was apprised that Pulwama has recorded a year-on-year growth of 6.32% in deposits, while advances and CD ratio grew by 9.49% and 2.98% respectively. The district's CD ratio stands at 110.65%, ranking among the highest in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

During the review, Dr. Basharat examined the sector-wise performance of banks against allocated targets and directed all concerned banking institutions to identify existing gaps across sectors and prepare a comprehensive strategy to address them during the current financial year.

Emphasizing the importance of financial inclusion, the DDC instructed the officers of line departments and banking institutions to ensure saturation of all Government Sponsored Schemes, with a particular focus on



extending benefits to the marginalised and underprivileged sections of society.

Banks were also directed to augment the ATM infrastructure across the district to ensure equitable access to financial services for the entire population.

On the issue of NPA management, banks, particularly the ED Bank were directed to take prompt corrective measures and prioritize efforts to reduce the burden of Non-Performing Assets in the district.

The progress under Smart Card distribution under Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme was also reviewed. The DDC instructed the banking institutions to expedite the distribution of smart cards and achieve full saturation on priority.

As part of the proceedings, the Potential Linked Credit Plan for the financial year 2025-26 was formally launched, outlining sectoral credit potential and investment opportunities.

The meeting concluded with an emphasis on collaborative efforts between banks and government departments to drive inclusive growth, improve financial service delivery and enhance credit outreach in the district of Pulwama.

The meeting was attended by representatives from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Lead District Manager (J&K Bank), other banks operational in district and Director RSETI and officers from various line departments, forming part of the committee framework.

DC Kulgam inspects ongoing works at JNV site, Transit accommodations at Mirhama

JJ NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, APRIL 10

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today conducted an extensive inspection of ongoing developmental work projects at the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) construction site in Mirhama, Kulgam.

It was informed that

the project, construction of Phase A and B works at JNV Kulgam, is being developed at a cost of Rs. 35.30 crore.

The school is coming up on 143 kanals of land, allotted specifically for the purpose in Mirhama.

During the visit, DC took detailed stock of the physical progress of the project and issued

directions to expedite the pace of work while ensuring quality standards are maintained.

He also visited the transit accommodation which is under the execution of R&B Department at Mirhama. The project comprises 12 blocks housing a total of 192 flats, out of these, 3 blocks have been completed so far.

GDC Vijaypur organises series of contests for students

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, APRIL 10

Government Degree College Vijaypur Organised today organised a series of contests to assess students' perceptiveness on a wide range of subjects.

An essay writing competition was hosted on the theme 'The Consequences of Drug Abuse' under the aegis of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan. The Participants were encouraged to express their views on the detrimental impact of drug abuse on individuals, families and civil society, also suggesting effective strategies for prevention and control.

The first position was secured by Palak Panotra of B. A Sem-IV, the second position was secured by Amit Kumar of B.A Sem VI and third was secured by Shravan Jamwal of B.A Sem II.

As part of the series of activities being organized to celebrate B. R. Ambedkar Jayanti, Department of History, in collaboration with NSS Unit (KHIDMAT) organized slogan writing on the theme 'Constitutionalism and Rule of Law'.

Nasha Mukta J&K Abhiyan: DC presides over IEC campaign at GDC Bandipora



JJ NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, APRIL 10

As part of IEC campaign against drug abuse under Nasha Mukta Jammu and Kashmir, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri today presided over an awareness programme at Government Degree College (GDC) Bandipora.

Speaking on the occasion, DC highlighted the pivotal role of parents in identifying early symptoms of drug abuse and emphasized the importance of vigilant monitoring in combating the menace.

He stressed on promoting strong social values and bonding among youth to prevent them from falling prey to substance abuse.

"Children are the future of our society and it is imperative for them to uphold moral and social values to secure a healthy and progressive future," DC added.

Qadri said that the district administration is conducting a series of IEC campaigns at the panchayat level on every Monday and in municipalities and educational institutions on

every Thursday, focused on vulnerable age groups to raise awareness at the grassroots level and ensure effective rehabilitation of individuals affected by drug addiction.

DC encouraged students to actively participate in awareness initiatives and act as ambassadors in spreading the message against drug abuse among their peers, families and localities.

On the occasion, resource persons from various departments deliberated on the social, economic, and medical impacts of drug addiction, highlighting the collective responsibility in eradicating this social evil.

The programme witnessed the participation of the Principal GDC Bandipora Prof. (Dr.) Gazala Firdous, college faculty, students, and other concerned. It is worth mentioning that, under the Nasha Mukta Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan, district administration Bandipora on Thursday organised similar IEC campaigns across municipalities and educational institutions throughout the district to strengthen the fight against drug abuse.

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer (C&W) Firozpur acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the works/services listed below. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make online payments against these tender. Document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on www.treps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

Tender Type	Bidding System	Date of uploading tenders	Bid closing Date/Time	Date and Time of opening E-Tenders
Open	Single Packet System	09.04.2025 Time 18:30 hours	09.05.2025 Time 15:00 hours	09.05.2025 Time 15:05 hours

S. No.	Tender Number	Details of Tender				
1	02-2025-watering	General Watering Arrangements at FKA, MOGA & LNK	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of completion
			61,33,762.95	1,22,700/-	45 Days	120 Days

Funds are available in Allocation Number 080-593-32. For more details please log on to www.treps.gov.in 1088/2025

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

MORE SUMMER SPECIAL TRAINS

For the convenience of Rail Passengers, Railways have decided to run the following additional Summer Special Trains as per schedule given below:

Train No.:	04402/04401	04403	04402	04401
ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.
11:40	23:45	09:30	09:30	21:20

DATE OF RUN: 04402 Ex New Delhi on 15.04.2025 to 18.04.2025 and 04401 Ex Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra on 16.04.2025 to 19.04.2025. STOPPAGES: Panipat, Kurukshetra Jn., Ambala Cantt. Jn., Dhandari Kalan, Jalandhar Cantt., Pathankot Cantt., Jammu Tawi & Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan stations. ACCOMMODATION: AC-3 Tier & IInd Class.

Train No.:	04404	04403	04404	04403
ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.
09:30	19:15	08:50	08:50	18:35

DATE OF RUN: 04404 Ex New Delhi on 16.04.2025 & 18.04.2025 (Wednesday & Friday) and 04403 Ex Varanasi Jn. on 17.04.2025 & 19.04.2025 (Thursday & Saturday). STOPPAGES: Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Lucknow, Rae Bareilly Jn. & Maa Belha Devi Dham Pratappur Jn. stations. ACCOMMODATION: Sleeper & General.

Train No.:	04406	04405	04406	04405
ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.
14:20	15:50	16:50	16:50	18:00

DATE OF RUN: 04406 Ex New Delhi on 11, 14 & 17.04.2025 (Friday, Monday & Thursday) and 04405 Ex Darbhanga on 12, 15 & 18.04.2025 (Saturday, Tuesday & Friday). STOPPAGES: Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patliputra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur & Samastipur stations. ACCOMMODATION: Sleeper & General.

Train No.:	04407	04407	04407	04407
ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.
14:20	15:50	16:50	16:50	18:00

DATE OF RUN: 04407 Ex New Delhi on 12, 15 & 18.04.2025 (Saturday, Tuesday & Friday) and 04407 Ex Darbhanga on 13, 16 & 19.04.2025 (Sunday, Wednesday & Saturday). STOPPAGES: Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patliputra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur & Samastipur stations. ACCOMMODATION: Sleeper & General.

Train No.:	04414	04413	04414	04413
ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.
16:00	15:20	20:10	20:10	20:00

DATE OF RUN: 04414 Ex Delhi Jn. on 11, 12, 14 & 18.04.2025 (Friday, Saturday, Monday & Friday) and 04413 Ex Saharsa Jn. on 12, 13, 15 & 19.04.2025 (Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday & Saturday). STOPPAGES: Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Varanasi Jn., Ghazipur City, Ballia, Suraimanpur, Chhapra Jn., Sonpur, Hajipur Jn., Barauni Jn. & Khagaria Jn. stations. ACCOMMODATION: Sleeper & General.

Train No.:	04408	04407	04407	04407
ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.
14:20	15:50	16:50	16:50	18:00

DATE OF RUN: 04408 Ex New Delhi on 12, 15 & 18.04.2025 (Saturday, Tuesday & Friday) and 04407 Ex Darbhanga on 13, 16 & 19.04.2025 (Sunday, Wednesday & Saturday). STOPPAGES: Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patliputra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur & Samastipur stations. ACCOMMODATION: Sleeper & General.

Train No.:	04408	04407	04407	04407
ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.
14:20	15:50	16:50	16:50	18:00

DATE OF RUN: 04408 Ex New Delhi on 12, 15 & 18.04.2025 (Saturday, Tuesday & Friday) and 04407 Ex Darbhanga on 13, 16 & 19.04.2025 (Sunday, Wednesday & Saturday). STOPPAGES: Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patliputra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur & Samastipur stations. ACCOMMODATION: Sleeper & General.

Train No.:	04414	04413	04414	04413
ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.
16:00	15:20	20:10	20:10	20:00

DATE OF RUN: 04414 Ex Delhi Jn. on 11, 12, 14 & 18.04.2025 (Friday, Saturday, Monday & Friday) and 04413 Ex Saharsa Jn. on 12, 13, 15 & 19.04.2025 (Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday & Saturday). STOPPAGES: Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Varanasi Jn., Ghazipur City, Ballia, Suraimanpur, Chhapra Jn., Sonpur, Hajipur Jn., Barauni Jn. & Khagaria Jn. stations. ACCOMMODATION: Sleeper & General.

Train No.:	04408	04407	04407	04407
ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.
14:20	15:50	16:50	16:50	18:00

DATE OF RUN: 04408 Ex New Delhi on 12, 15 & 18.04.2025 (Saturday, Tuesday & Friday) and 04407 Ex Darbhanga on 13, 16 & 19.04.2025 (Sunday, Wednesday & Saturday). STOPPAGES: Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patliputra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur & Samastipur stations. ACCOMMODATION: Sleeper & General.

For any kind of information & detailed time-table etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTEs App. Visit RailMadad Website - www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in Download RailMadad app.

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SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

1089/2025

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

No one will be...

visited J&K for 3-days earlier this week. He met top government officials, political leaders, and security brass during his visit.

He assessed the current security situation in the Union Territory and devised the future course of action. KNO

NIA arrests Mumbai...

spokesman said that Rana was arrested formally immediately after his arrival at Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi, following his successful extradition from the United States.

"NIA secured Rana's extradition following years of sustained and concerted efforts, and after the terror mastermind's last-ditch efforts to get a stay on his extradition from the US failed," the statement added.

It said that Rana was escorted to New Delhi by teams of NSG and NIA, comprising senior officials, on a special plane from Los Angeles, US. The NIA investigation team at the airport arrested Rana, a Canadian national of Pakistani origin living primarily in Chicago (US), soon after he emerged from the airplane, after completing all the necessary legal formalities.

"With the coordinated efforts of India's Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs, along with the relevant authorities in the United States, NIA has worked closely with other Indian intelligence agencies through the entire extradition process, which marked a major step in India's efforts to bring individuals involved in terrorism to justice, irrespective of which part of the world they had fled to," the statement added.

"Rana was being held in judicial custody in the US pursuant to proceedings initiated by NIA under the India-US Extradition Treaty. The extradition finally came through after Rana's various litigations and appeals, including an emergency application before the U.S. Supreme Court, were rejected with the active assistance of U.S. Department of Justice's Office of International Affairs, U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California, U.S. Marshals Service, FBI's Legal Attaché Office in New Delhi, and U.S. Department of State's Office of the Legal Adviser for Law Enforcement. The diligent and persistent efforts of India's Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs culminated in securing the surrender warrant for the fugitive, leading to his eventual extradition," the statement said, as per KNO.

Rana is accused of conspiring with David Coleman Headley @ Daoud Gilani, and operatives of designated terrorist organisations Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Harkat-ul-Jihadi Islami (HUJI) along with other Pakistan-based co-conspirators, to carry out the devastating terror attacks in Mumbai in 2008. A total of 166 persons were killed and over 238 injured in the deadly attacks.

Both LeT and HUJI have been declared as terrorist organisations by the Government of India under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, the statement said.

ICI PREZ WELCOMES TRUMP GOVT'S DECISION TO ALLOW EXTRADITION

Meanwhile, International Council of Jurists (ICJ) President, Senior Advocate Dr Adish C Aggarwal on Thursday welcomed the decision of Donald Trump administration to extradite 26/11 Mumbai attacks accused Tahawwur Rana to India.

Aggarwal while talking to the reporters in Srinagar, according to KNO said, "Trump government took special interest and allowed Tahawwur Rana's extradition to India. Donald Trump himself making a statement on this as soon as his government came into power shows that he is against terrorism."

Asked would this move pave the way for extradition of the Mumbai attacks mastermind Hafiz Sayed also, Aggarwal said, "Everything will happen. Our forces are doing a good job. I assure you that whether economic offender or terrorist offender, everyone will have to come here."

Pertinently, soon after taking over as the President of United States for second time, Donald Trump in February this year had confirmed 26/11 Mumbai terror attack accused Tahawwur Rana's extradition to India and said that he was pleased to announce that Rana is "going back to India to face justice".

During the joint press meet with Prime Minister Narendra Modi after their bilateral meeting, Trump had said. "I am pleased to announce that my administration has approved the extradition of one of the plotters (Tahawwur Rana) and one of the very evil people of the world, having to do with the horrific 2008 Mumbai terrorist attack to face justice in India."

"He is going back to India to face justice," he had said. KNO

8 members of separatist...

activities and dismantle their networks, unfolded at the premises of various suspects at different locations across the district Bandipora," a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency.

In connection with the investigation of a case under FIR number 04/2024 under UAPA Act of PS Bandipora, the spokesman said the police arrested three persons identified as Nazir Ahmad Ahangar S/O Late Abdul Khaliq Ahangar of Shahgund Hajin, Sheikh Danish Mushtaq S/O Mushtaq Ahmad Sheikh of Aloosa Bandipora and Tahir Ahmad Mir S/O Late Habibullah Mir of Ward 2 Plan Bandipora—all members of Tehreek-e-Hurriyat JK.

In connection with a case under FIR number 07 & 62/2024 under UAPA Act of Ps Sumbal, three persons were arrested including Ghulam Din War S/o Habib Ullah War of Naidkhai, member of Jammu Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party (JKDFP), Khursheed Ahmad Lone S/o Mohammad Jamal Lone of Naidkhai and Mohammad Shafi Dar S/o Sonaullah Dar of Karnai Mohalla Shahgund, both members of Jammu and Kashmir Peoples League (JKPL).

Moreover, in connection with a case under FIR number 06/2024 under UAPA Act of PS Hajin, two persons were arrested, who have been identified as

Ab Majeed Gojri S/o Gh Mohd Gojri of R/o Vigpara and Ab Majeed lone S/o Mohd Maqbool Lone of Vigpara Hajin, both members of Tehreek-e-Hurriyat JK.

Some objectionable material, pamphlets and electronic devices including mobile phones were seized from the arrested persons, the spokesman said, adding that the investigations have revealed that the members have continued to promote terrorist and secessionist activities in J&K even after the outfits of which they had affiliation were banned under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

The arrested members were engaged in motivating impressionable youth and recruiting new members (Rukuns) in J&K to further their nefarious and secessionist activities.

"The arrests serve as a stark reminder of police in its ongoing crackdown against extremism and the imperative of collective vigilance in J&K. Bandipora police remain committed to maintaining peace and security in the district. Any individual found furthering the agenda of violence, disruption, or unlawful activities will face strict legal consequences under the law also persons promoting secessionist or separatist ideology will face strict legal action as warranted under law," the statement reads. KNO

PM Modi led Govt...

tablets worth Rs 24.32 crore while arresting three people in Assam."

"Our offensives against drugs will continue with ruthless force. Congratulations to the NCB, Assam Police, and the CRPF on this major breakthrough," he added. KNO

J&K LG dismisses...

credible inputs from agencies that he was in continuous touch with Pakistan Intelligence Operatives. He was sharing critical and vital information to the Adversary about security installations and deployment with the enemies. He, being a trained police official, posted at a sensitive place, had access to the vital information concerning National Security but instead of choosing to shoulder the responsibility of a responsible police official, chose otherwise to be an active conduit playing in the hands of the adversary. His actions posed a significant threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India having potential to comprise broader National Security Interest of India.

Ishtiyak Ahmed Malik, Senior Assistant in Public Works (R&B) Department S/o Late Ghulam Rasool Malik Ahmad R/o Shitroo Larmoo, District Anantnag, is listed as an active member of the proscribed unlawful association (JeI-JK) and terror associate of proscribed terrorist organization Hizbul-Mujahideen. He, as a key functionary of JeI, played a crucial role in strengthening the organization within his sphere of influence. He also facilitated creation of network of sympathizers who later became Overground workers and foot soldiers of Hizbul Mujahideen terror outfit, which has been involved in series of terrorist attacks on Indian Security Forces, Politicians, Government Functionaries, Civilians, Military Establishments and Critical Infrastructure. He covertly facilitated terrorist activities of Hizbul Muzahideen by providing food, shelter and other logistics to the terrorists and played a significant role in aiding, facilitating, guiding and abetting terrorist activities especially in South Kashmir. He used to provide crucial intelligence to the terrorists regarding movement of security forces, helping them to evade capture and launch counter attacks often resulting in casualties among security forces.

A Zero tolerance policy has been adopted towards the anti-national elements who have been taking advantage of being in the Government service. KNO

NC leaders trying...

calendar and strikes because law & order is in purview of the Modi government."

The LOP said, "Today no fear prevails in J&K, any tourist can easily travel to any district without apprehension. Today, an ordinary person can move around safely. Situation has changed for the good."

Referring to the demand of the National Conference to restore J&K's statehood, Sharma said, "BJP would want the statehood restoration only after the terrorism is fully eradicated from the Union Territory. We wanted to have a debate on statehood restoration in the Assembly so that we could expose the conduct of the National Conference (NC) government—which is now demanding the return of statehood—has been like."

"When NC had the police, when they had full state, how did they treat the people here? I believe there is no harm in saying this—how were the people oppressed here? You must have seen it yourself—many massacres, many targeted killings happened. That happened when the National Conference was in power," the LOP said, as per KNO.

He said that now peace has been established in Jammu and Kashmir. "Today, separatism has declined, stone-pelting and terrorism have ended. So, if there are still any remnants of this, we want to uproot them completely. After that, there will be statehood restoration. But we will never, at any cost, accept the National Conference's version of separatist statehood," Sharma said, adding, "BJP wants the state where a common citizen of Jammu and Kashmir prospers, where he lives in peace. This is the vision the Bharatiya Janata Party holds, and the BJP government is committed to it." KNO

Agriculture, allied...

Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), the Soil Health Card Scheme, the Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), Per Drop More Crop, Rainfed Area Development (RAD), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), and the Sub-Mission on Agroforestry (SMAF).

The government added that under the flagship Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), several transformative initiatives have been

introduced to boost productivity, enhance infrastructure, and improve market linkages for farmers and growers.

One such initiative is the Production of Designer Plants, which aims to promote hybrid varieties and rejuvenate orchards across 5,500 hectares over a five-year period. This project is expected to reduce dependence on imported planting material and improve the quality and yield of horticultural produce.

Another significant component of HADP, the government said, is the Strengthening of the Agro-Marketing System, which focuses on developing key infrastructure like Controlled Atmosphere (CA) stores, modern grading lines, refrigerated vans, and new mandis to minimize post-harvest losses and improve the market value of produce.

In parallel, the Food Processing Clusters project is developing seven product-specific clusters across the UT, providing end-to-end solutions in food processing—from production and processing to packaging and marketing. These initiatives are aimed at expanding the reach of J&K's produce in domestic and international markets.

The government also highlighted the provision of a top-up subsidy to encourage investment in CA storage, crucial for preserving produce and regulating market supply. Presently, the UT has a CA storage capacity of 2.11 lakh metric tonnes, and an additional 37,250 metric tonnes is expected to be added during the financial year 2024-25.

Efforts under the High-Density Plantation Scheme have already brought 836 hectares under cultivation by January 2025, out of the targeted 5,500 hectares. The government also noted ongoing upgrades to fruits and vegetable markets across the Union Territory, with support from NABARD. A total of 17 mandis have been integrated with the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) platform. As of January 2025, 3,816 farmers and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) had registered on the platform, trading approximately 9.37 lakh quintals of produce worth around Rs 592 crore. Since 2020-21, e-NAM has facilitated the trade of 16.87 lakh quintals, with a cumulative transaction value of Rs 1,041.96 crore.

The government also reported progress on the Mission for Economic Revival of Saffron, which was launched in 2010-11 to rejuvenate saffron cultivation across the region. Developed by the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Kashmir (SKUAST-K), and implemented under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, the mission set a target to revive saffron farming across 3,715 hectares.

To date, 2,598.75 hectares have been successfully rejuvenated. The project is being implemented in the key saffron-growing districts of Pulwama, Budgam, Srinagar, and Kishtwar.

Pulwama district, with the highest target area of 3,200 hectares, has seen rejuvenation on 2,055.75 hectares. Budgam exceeded its target of 300 hectares by achieving 328 hectares of revival, while Srinagar and Kishtwar achieved their respective targets of 165 and 50 hectares.

The total cost of the project stands at Rs 400.11 crore, with Rs 315.99 crore contributed by the Government of India and Rs 84.12 crore as the farmers' share. Out of Rs 269.91 crore released so far, Rs 259.68 crore has already been utilized across various components of the project.

The government concluded by reaffirming its commitment to transforming Jammu and Kashmir's agricultural economy into a sustainable and resilient model. "These reforms are designed not only to modernize the sector but also to improve the livelihoods of farming communities across the Union Territory," it said. KNO

Peace prerequisite...

"Chhota London," saying the town had immense potential. "Had it not witnessed years of disturbances, it might have even become a full-fledged district by now," he said.

DIG North Kashmir assured the public that the police force is operating under strict directions from the Lieutenant Governor (LG) to work with a humanitarian approach. "We have been clearly instructed to ensure that no innocent is harmed, but at the same time, those indulging in criminal activities will not be spared. For this balance to work, public cooperation is essential," he said.

On the issue of police verifications, often a concern for job and passport applicants, the DIG reassured. "The government has a sympathetic and youth-friendly policy. A committee has been formed to scrutinize cases thoroughly, ensuring fairness at every level," he said.

Zaman added that in today's digital age, the system is increasingly transparent. "Everything is visible. We can't bluff the system, and no one else can either. This transparency is leading to faster justice delivery and will eventually change public perception," he said.

Encouraging civic engagement, the officer urged people to come forward with complaints if they feel that any police official or government employee is not performing their duties properly. "If you have grievances, put them up. Everything will be addressed. The only thing needed is faith in the system," he said. KNO

Indo-Pak Army...

commander-level flag meeting, lasting 75 minutes, had taken place at the Chakan-Da-Bagh crossing point area, with both sides highlighting the need to maintain peace along the borders.

Ceasefire violations along the LoC have been very rare ever since India and Pakistan renewed the ceasefire agreement on February 25, 2021. KNO

ACB arrests Girdawar...

team was constituted which laid a successful trap and caught the accused public servant Ayaz Ahmad Hurra, Girdwar Chatabal (holding additional charge of Patwari Halaqa Habakadal and Halqa Shivpora

Srinagar) red-handed while demanding and accepting Rs 20,000 as bribe from the complainant through Mohammad Rafiq Sheikh, Lumberdar, the statement added.

After completing all legal formalities, both the accused Public Servants were taken into custody, the statement reads, adding that further investigation of the instant case is going on. KNO

UAPA Case: Searches...

that the search has been carried out in a case under FIR number 01/2024 under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, pertaining to banned organizations after obtaining search warrant from the designated NIA Court Srinagar.

"The search related to investigation of case FIR 01/24 which have been registered under sections 10, 13 UAP Act of Police Station Rajbagh was carried out alongwith Executive Magistrate 1st Class in the houses of Tehreek-e-Hurriyat members namely Bashir Ahmed Bhat @ Peer Saifullah son of Ali Mohd Bhat resident of Zadoora Pulwama A/P Rawalpura presently in Tihar jail and Mohd Ashraf Laya son of Gh Rasool Laya resident of Jamia Qadeem Baramulla A/P Old Barzulla," the statement reads.

During the search, police said incriminating materials including books, letter heads, pamphlets and letters related to the investigation of instant case have been recovered from the house of Bashir Ahmed Bhat and they have accordingly been seized in the presence of the Magistrate and independent witness as per proper legal procedures.

"The investigation of the case is going on," it reads. "J&K Police remains committed to maintaining peace and security in the city. Any individual found furthering the agenda of violence, disruption, or unlawful activities will face strict legal consequences under the law," the spokesman added. KNO

AAP workers...

police in Srinagar during a demonstration held in support of the MLA Doda Mehraj Malik.

The AAP workers, according to details gathered by the news agency—alleged that Malik was harassed during the recently concluded Assembly Session for raising public welfare issues.

In Jammu, Malik himself led the protest and accused BJP and PDP leaders of attempting to intimidate him. "They want to silence me because I speak for the people, but I will not succumb," he told the gathering.

Meanwhile, in Srinagar, AAP workers assembled at the Press Colony here, raising slogans in support of Malik and holding placards. Police intervened, stopping the protest midway and detaining several demonstrators.

An AAP member told reporters that Malik represents the common people's voice in the Assembly, adding that any attempt to "suppress him is an attack" on democratic rights.

Separately, a police complaint was filed against Malik on Wednesday over alleged remarks made by him against a former J&K Chief Minister. KNO

Lt Governor addresses...

compassion towards all living beings. He says that the spirit of selfless service eliminates the ego which hinders spiritual liberation apart from welfare," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted that the followers of Lord Mahavir and millions of institutions associated with the Jain community have continuously strived to follow his path and live his vision of selfless service, charity, caring for the sick, helping the devotees and contributing to the welfare of the community and the environment.

He urged the educational institutions to incorporate the core Jain values of non-violence and compassion into student learning, thereby fostering a spirit of selfless service.

"Selfless service should be propagated as a spiritual practice among youth. It should not be seen only as an act of empathy, but it should become a way of life. I assure you that such spirit will promote individual development, strengthen the social fabric and enrich our culture," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasised that the people need to understand that the principles of Lord Mahavir, his philosophy of life not only fulfils the practical needs of human society but also create a culture where values like service, non-violence, asceticism and compassion are seen as a way of life.

"Lord Mahavir inspired the society to be compassionate towards living beings and sensitive towards the environment. Rooted in his teachings, let us strive to build a unified society that emphasizes "We" over "I," the Lieutenant Governor said.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor felicitated the Youth from Jain community for their outstanding achievements in diverse fields.

Anand Jain, ADGP Armed Police; Pankaj Jain, President S.S Jain Sabha; Rajeev Jain, Vice President, S.S Jain Sabha; Sandeep Jain, General Secretary and other members of the Sabha, senior officials, people from all walks of life and youth in large were present. KNO

Drug peddlers...

specialised treatment. Both officers received fractures in their legs, he added.

An FIR has been registered in Police Station Bari Brahmana, and a search operation has been launched to nab the culprits, but so far, no one has been arrested.

For the past few months, gang wars and drug menace have been increasing in Samba district. Recently, police arrested a few gangsters belonging to the area in a murder case of another gangster. Now, drug peddlers are also involved in violent activities, and a few police officers have been injured in the incident. KNO

DC Srinagar reviews status of public grievances on JK-Samadhan Portal

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 10

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting to review the status of public grievances on JK-Samadhan Portal and progress of the registrations on the platform.

At the outset, DC took a detailed assessment of the JK-Samadhan Portal and resolution mechanism put in place by each line department in the district. He also reviewed the status of all pending grievances and analyzed the resolution of already addressed citizen complaints.

DC directed all departments to expedite the resolution process of each grievance with quality disposal to the best satisfaction of the citizens. He stressed the importance of citizen engagement and awareness regarding the JK-Samadhan Portal.

He instructed officers to actively assist citizens in registering on the platform, ensuring wider participation and better grievance redressal.

While highlighting the significance of citizens registrations on the JK Samadhan Portal, the DC said the Government has launched the initiative to streamline and simplify the grievance redressal mechanism and ensure transparent, efficient and quality redressal of public complaints.

On the occasion, Dr Bilal stressed the Officers



to sensitize the masses about the JK Samadhan Portal and prioritize registering citizens on the platform. He emphasized the importance of timely and efficient registration of grievances, which can be accessed and resolved through the portal.

He underscored the importance of the portal in facilitating citizen's access to Government services and resolving grievances. DC directed all the line departments to ensure maximum outreach and participation

in the portal's registration process and enjoined upon them to achieve set targets at the earliest. He asked the departments to share progress of grievances disposed-off and citizens registration on the portal on a daily basis so that progress is monitored and supervised in an efficient manner.

During the meeting, DC was informed that out of total 7232 grievances registered on JK Samadhan Portal as many 5078 public grievances have been resolved till date.

DC Baramulla reviews progress of RIDF projects under NABARD

JI NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, APRIL 10

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) projects being executed under NABARD assistance in the district.

A total of 82 projects, including roads, bridges, water supply schemes, lift irrigation and micro irrigation schemes, are currently underway with a total estimated cost of Rs.437 crore, out of which 90% funding has been sanctioned by NABARD. So far, Rs.237 crore has been disbursed.

During the meeting, District Development Manager (DDM) NABARD presented a detailed Pow-



erPoint presentation outlining the status of ongoing projects and financial progress.

DC emphasized the completion of RIDF-25 projects on priority by June 2025, while setting September 2025 as the deadline for RIDF-26 projects. He also directed concerned departments to submit Project Completion Reports (PCRs) and Project Completion Certificates (PCCs) to NABARD for already completed works to ensure timely closure.

Moreover, the Allied

Agriculture Departments were instructed to formulate and submit new DPRs under RIDF-31, focusing on micro irrigation, land development, seed farms, and animal husbandry infrastructure to further strengthen the rural development framework.

Meeting was attended by Joint Director Planning Baramulla, Javed Ahmad; Superintending Engineer R&B, Sanjeev Gupta; DDM NABARD, Mohammad Zubair Wasil, besides other concerned officers.

ADDC reviews arrangements for Rajouri Day Celebration

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, APRIL 10

To ensure smooth and grand celebration of the Rajouri Day, Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa today chaired a meeting of officers to review the preparations and arrangements for the event and the series of activities preceding the main function.

The meeting held detailed discussions on various aspects including installation of stalls, organization of cultural programmes, law and order management, seating arrangements, barricading, fire emergency preparedness, traffic regulation, and overall security measures.

ADDC Dr. Thapa directed the concerned departments to work in close coordination to ensure that all arrangements are put in place well in time. He emphasized the importance of showcasing local art and culture through the cultural programs and



directed for proper planning and rehearsals.

The layout and proper installation of stalls representing different departments, schemes and local crafts was also reviewed. The ADC instructed the officers to maintain the aesthetics and ensure visitor-friendly arrangements.

With regard to law and order, traffic, and fire safety, the concerned departments were directed to deploy adequate personnel and make all necessary arrangements to deal with any eventuality. Special

instructions were given for ensuring smooth vehicular movement and crowd management.

The ADC urged all stakeholders to work with dedication and in a coordinated manner to make Rajouri Day celebrations a grand success.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, CP Kotwal; Programme Officer ICDS, Mohd Fareed Kohli and other district and sectoral officers.

Awareness, registration drive launched for Platform Workers in Ramban



JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, APRIL 10

The Labour Department Ramban, in line with the directives of Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary and under the guidance of the Office of the Labour Commissioner J&K, has launched a 10 day comprehensive awareness and registration drive to enroll platform workers on the e-Shram portal.

The initiative is aimed at bringing workers from the unorganized sector under the ambit of social security benefits.

As part of this ongoing campaign, a dedicated registration camp was organized at Maitra. The camp was coordinated by DEO Tanveer Ahmed and it facilitated on-spot registration of 12 platform workers including parcel delivery workers and Commission based Workers on the e-Shram portal

here at Bus Stand. The enrollment will enable the workers to access various welfare schemes.

Meanwhile, the Labour Department conducted awareness drives across the Ramban Municipal area, with a particular focus on hotels and restaurants to identify and educate platform workers associated with these establishments.

Assistant Labour Commissioner Amit Kumar urged the eligible platform workers and members of the general public to register themselves on the e-Shram portal to avail the social security benefits provided by the government.

"The e-Shram portal, launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, is a national database of unorganized workers. It offers a range of benefits including access to social security schemes, employment

opportunities, and financial inclusion," he stated.

The portal features a Universal Account Number (UAN) linked to Aadhaar, ensuring seamless access to different benefits. The single registration process requires minimal documentation – just an Aadhaar card and bank account details. To ensure wider accessibility, the portal also offers multilingual support, enabling users to interact in different Indian languages.

Eligibility for Registration includes individuals aged between 16 and 59 years, employed in the unorganized sector such as self-employed individuals, daily wage laborers, and gig workers. Possession of an Aadhaar card, valid mobile number, and a bank account are essential requirements. The Campaign shall be conducted across the District till 17th of April 2025.

IEC campaign on Drug Abuse: District level Seminar held at Shopian

JI NEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, APRIL 10

District administration Shopian today organised an impressive seminar at Government Degree College (GDC) Shopian under the ongoing IEC Campaign against Drug Abuse with an aim to target the vulnerable sections of society especially youth against the scourge of Drug Addiction in the society.

The seminar was presided over by ADC, Shopian, Dr.Nasir Ahmad Lone, who on the occasion implored youth to be cautious against the Drug menace threatening the health and development of the country.

He asked them to be focused towards their studies and pursue dreams for career development rather than engaging in pervasive and life threatening mis-adventures of Drugs and Smoking.

Speakers from Health, Education and GDC on the occasion spoke on the gravity of the Drug Menace which is destroying the



families and social fabric. Ethical, moral and religious invocations were made out by the speakers to convey the target audience, the severe extent of the menace in the society.

Health, economic and social repercussions of the evil were highlighted abundantly in order to acquaint the massive gathering about the urgency to discuss the issue at all platforms.

Teachers and parents were also sensitised about their role in shaping their kids and wards development and making their empowered citizens.

Cultural and dramatic performances reinforced the need to fight against

the Drug Abuse which is consuming lives of innumerable young and shattering dreams of Happy families.

The public including civil society members, activists, attended in large numbers along with teachers and frontline workers of Poshan Abhiyaan, Youth services and sports and college and higher secondary students.

The seminar was also attended by CEO, DIO, DSWO, DYSSO, CDPOs, faculty of College and other officials of Health, School education, Higher education, Poshan Abhiyan and other stakeholder departments.

DC Shopian visits Mughal Road; reviews traffic worthiness post snow clearance



JI NEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, APRIL 10

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta today visited historical Mughal Road up to Pir Ki Gali to take stock of the traffic worthiness of the road, post completion of snow clearance from Shopian side.

DC took stock of snow/rock debris removal at vulnerable spots that remain affected due to continuous slide.

DC also met DC Poonch, Vikas Kundal at Pir ki Gali and discussed its re-opening.

The Mughal Road, a strategic link between the Pir Panjal area and Shopian district in South Kashmir is a critical route

for transport and public movement and the administration is eager to throw it open for traffic subject to the good weather conditions and traffic worthiness.

The decision to re-open the road shall be taken in consultation with district administration Poonch.

DC directed the concerned departments to expedite the clearance work of slide and rockfall completely so that safety protocols are in place for smooth and safe travel.

The administration shall be closely monitoring the situation of Mughal Road on a daily basis, said DC on the occasion and assured that the road will be opened for traffic soon.

One-day technical seminar on 'Sustainable Solutions in Animal Husbandry' held at Budgam

JI NEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, APRIL 10

A successful one-day Technical Seminar titled 'Sustainable Solutions in Animal Husbandry' was today held at the Conference Hall of Chief Animal Husbandry office in Budgam.

The Director of the Animal Husbandry Department Kashmir, Dr Parvinder Singh Sudan graced the event as the chief guest.

The seminar aimed to connect cutting-edge research with practical application in the livestock and poultry industries, bringing together leading experts from academic institutions and the poultry sector to discuss sustainable and science-based approaches to animal rearing.

The Director commended the seminar for promoting collaboration and the adoption of innovative, research-backed

methods to ensure the long-term sustainability, productivity, and welfare of animals in the region.

Dr. Asif Bashir Shikari from SKUAST-Kashmir discussed the potential of hydroponics for increasing fodder availability in Kashmir, emphasizing its resource efficiency.

Dr. Basharat Maqbool Wani of Maharashtra Feeds addressed the challenges and disease management in Kashmir's poultry industry, stressing the need for better disease control and farmer education.

Additionally, Dr. Ghulam Rasool Bhat from FVSc provided strategies for diagnosing and managing repeat breeding in cattle to improve reproductive health.

Later, the Director acknowledged the excellent work of several officers and staff members.

DC inspects beautification, upkeep measures at historic Chowgan Ground Kishtwar

JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, APRIL 10

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rajesh Kumar Shavan today conducted a detailed inspection of the historic Chowgan Ground.

During the visit, the DC issued a string of directives aimed at enhance the aesthetic and cultural value of the place.

The DC gave on-spot directions for expediting the ongoing works, including the development of flower beds along the periphery of the ground, construction of entry gates, and other beautification measures to preserve and promote the heritage signif-

icance of Chowgan Ground. He directed for regulation of cattle and restricting entrance of those with no grazing permit.

In addition, the DC emphasized the importance of cleanliness and directed the Chief Executive Officer Kishtwar Development Authority and the Executive Officer, Municipal Council to ensure comprehensive sanitation and maintenance of the area.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by CEO KDA Rishi Kumar Sharma; EO Municipal Council, Mirza Mumtaz Iqbal and other concerned officers and officials.

EDITORIAL

Reviving Roots – Agriculture at the Heart of Jammu and Kashmir's Economic Future

In a time when economies are increasingly tilting toward industry and services, Jammu and Kashmir stands as a compelling reminder of the enduring strength and relevance of agriculture. As revealed in the recent Legislative Assembly session, agriculture and allied sectors contribute more than 78 percent to the Union Territory's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), supporting the livelihoods of over 13 lakh families. This is not just an economic statistic; it is a powerful statement on identity, culture, and sustenance.

The government's reaffirmation that agriculture and horticulture remain the backbone of the region's economy rightly acknowledges the foundational role these sectors play. But it is the range and ambition of the interventions—particularly under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP)—that signal a real intent to modernize, rejuvenate, and future-proof this lifeline of the UT.

From designer plant production to high-density orchards, from Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage to food processing clusters, these efforts are no longer just about increasing yield—they are about value addition, market integration, and economic empowerment. This is where Jammu and Kashmir is beginning to shift from being just a land of growers to becoming a land of agri-entrepreneurs.

The government's focus on infrastructure development—cold storage, grading lines, refrigerated vans, and mandis—responds to a long-standing challenge: post-harvest loss. For decades, a substantial portion of Kashmir's fruit and vegetable yield was lost to inadequate storage and inefficient marketing. The e-NAM integration of 17 mandis and trade worth over 1,000 crore since 2020 show that digitally-enabled agricultural commerce is no longer a dream but a growing reality.

Saffron, the region's most iconic and labor-intensive crop, has also seen much-needed intervention. The Mission for Economic Revival of Saffron has successfully rejuvenated nearly 2,600 hectares, bringing new life to the fields of Pulwama, Budgam, Srinagar, and Kishtwar. The impact here goes beyond economics—saffron farming is intertwined with Kashmir's cultural and agricultural heritage. Ensuring its revival is an investment in both legacy and livelihood.

But alongside these achievements, challenges remain. Access to capital, climate change vulnerabilities, land fragmentation, and youth disinterest in farming continue to cast long shadows. Government schemes can only succeed if they are backed by last-mile delivery, grassroots capacity building, and consistent farmer engagement. Moreover, schemes must be inclusive—reaching smallholders, women farmers, and marginalized communities who often remain on the fringes of state benefits.

Additionally, to ensure true sustainability, the administration must prioritize climate-smart agriculture. With shifting weather patterns and increased risks of floods, droughts, and unseasonal snowfall, the farming system in J&K needs resilience-building technologies—be it in seed varieties, irrigation practices, or disaster preparedness.

The journey from subsistence to surplus, from local markets to international exports, is not a short one. But with the robust framework of HADP and aligned centrally sponsored schemes such as RKVY, SMAM, and PKVY, the scaffolding is in place. What is needed now is consistent execution, transparent monitoring, and community ownership.

Jammu and Kashmir's fertile fields have long sustained its people. With renewed focus, strategic support, and technological integration, they can now propel the region into a new era of agricultural prosperity—resilient, inclusive, and future-ready. It is not just about growing crops anymore; it is about growing confidence, opportunity, and lasting economic strength.

OMKAR DATTATRAY

The consistent and concerted efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his NDA government bore fruits the other day when a US Court gave its judgment and ordered the extradition of the mastermind of 26/11 Mumbai terror attack to India. Today 10th of April 2025 is really a great day of triumph for Modi's diplomacy as on this day Tahawwur Rana was finally extradited to India and reached New Delhi. All the options had been exhausted and finally the mastermind of 26/11 attack has been handed to India. Now the terrorist will be tried as per the law of the land and centre government has constituted a special cell of NIA for handling this case. The accused will be produced before the judicial magistrate in Delhi which will order his remand to NIA. The people of Mumbai in particular and the Indians in general demand death sentence for him. While the US Court decision is the big diplomatic win for India, it is a big slap on the face of Pakistan. So in a major win for India, a US appeals court has approved the extradition of the mastermind of the 26/11 Mumbai terrorist attack, David Coleman Headley, and has links to Lashkar-e-Tabaia and the ISI, as per a 405-page charge sheet. 26/11 Mumbai attack accused Tahawwur Rana will be extradited to India. In a big win for India, a US appeals court has approved the extradition of Tahawwur Hussain Rana, a Pakistani-origin Canadian businessman accused of involvement in the 2008 Mumbai terror attack. "The India-US treaty permits Rana's extradition," the court said in its ruling on August 15, 2024. In a major setback to Pakistan -

backed terrorist Tahawwur Rana, who is sought by India for his involvement in the 2008 Mumbai terror attack, the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has ruled that he is extraditable to India under the extradition treaty between the two countries. The India-US Extradition Treaty permits Rana's extradition, "the court said in its ruling on August 15, 2024. Ruling on an appeal filed by Rana, a panel of Judges of the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed the District Court in the Central District of California's denial of his habeas corpus petition challenging a magistrate Judge's certification of his as extraditable to India for his alleged participation in terrorist attacks in Mumbai in November 2008. It is after a long gap of 20 years from the terror attack in Mumbai that the mastermind accused is being extradited to India, where he will face the punishment as per Indian laws. Today the dreaded terrorist who conspired the deadly serial terrorist in Mumbai in September 11, 2008 has finally been extradited and handed over to India and he reached New Delhi. It is in fact a victory of Modi's diplomacy. The extradition of the Rana is the result of the constant efforts of the Modi government and his extradition is the big diplomatic win for India. A US court approved the extradition of Chicago businessman Tahawwur Rana to India where he is wanted for his role in the 2008 terror attack in Mumbai. Rana was convicted in 2011 of supporting an Islamic militant group blamed for the attack on India's financial capital Mumbai that killed 166 innocent and unarmed civilians. But he was cleared of the more serious

charge of helping plot the attack. The businessman was arrested after an extradition request by India in 2020. Rana, who denied all the charges against him, had challenged India's extradition request which was also supported by the US government. But a court on charged Monday consented his extradition. The court said that Rana had been, in India with criminal conspiracy, committing terrorist acts and murder—all of which are extraditable offences as per the treaty between US and India. It, however, added that Rana will remain in US custody till the Secretary of state to India takes a final decision on his extradition. More than 160 people were killed in November 2008 when a group of 10 men stormed a train station, hotels and cafes and a Jewish centre, shooting and throwing bombs. Indian authorities accused Rana, a Pakistani-born Canadian of conspiring with his childhood friend David Coleman Headley to assist Pakistani militant group Lashkar-e-Tabaia (LeT), which was blamed for the attack. Prosecutors in the case said that in 2006, Rana allowed Headley to open an office of his Chicago based immigration services firm in Mumbai, which Headley then used as cover to scout sites for the 2008 attack. Rana was also accused of al-lowing Headley to pose as a representative of his firm in order to gain access to newspaper offices by feigning interest in purchasing advertising space. Headley, who is serving a 35-year jail term in the US for his role in the attacks, testified against Rana in 2011. Rana's defense team at the time said he was manipulated and misled by Headley, an old friend from their days in a Pakistani military school. In 2011, jurors at the fed-

eral court in Chicago convicted Rana of providing support to LeT and for his role in an aborted plot against a Danish newspaper. But he was cleared of charges of direct involvement in the Mumbai attacks. In 2013, he was sentenced to 14 years in prison. In 2020, Rana was released from jail in the US on the compassionate grounds for testing positive for the Covid-19. He was arrested again after the extradition request by India. The US court agreed to extradite Tahawwur Rana to India for 2008 attacks, marking a pivotal development in the 2008 Mumbai attacks case. Rana, linked with LeT, played a significant role in orchestrating the attacks. After prolonged legal proceedings, the court ruled the evidence aligns with the India-US extradition treaty. Mumbai terror accused Tahawwur Rana approaches US Supreme Court to challenge extradition to India. Rana faces charges for his role in the 26/11 Mumbai attack and is known to be associated with Pakistani-American Lashkar-e-Taiba LeT terrorist David Coleman Headley, one of the main conspirators of the terror incident that hit India's financial hub in 2008. Having lost his legal battle in all lower courts, Mumbai terror attack accused Tahawwur Rana, a Canadian national of Pakistani origin, has now knocked on the doors of the US Supreme Court against his extradition to India. India has sought Rana's extradition for his involvement in the 2008 Mumbai terror attack. Rana has last reached out to the US Court of Appeals for the North Circuit in San Francisco after losing the legal battle in lower courts and several federal courts. On September 23, the circuit court threw out his petition to give a

stay on the decisions of the other courts that approved the move of the Department of State to extradite him to India. On November 13, Rana filed a "petition for a writ of certiorari" before the US Supreme Court. In a long battle, this was Rana's last legal chance not to extradite to India. In his "petitions for a writ of certiorari to review the judgment of the United States court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit." In this case, Rana made the same argument that he was tried and acquitted in federal court in the Northern District of Illinois - Chicago on charges relating to the 2008 terrorist attack on Mumbai. India now seeks to extradite him for trial on charges based on the identical conduct at issue in Chicago case," it says. The petition says that if the 'elements' standard applies, he very likely will be sent to India to be put on trial a second time for the same conduct, with conviction and death sentence ominously on the horizon for him. "In addition, resolution of this issue will have considerable and increasing impact, as the growing globalization of criminal law enforcement and international cooperation, which in turn has led to a dramatic rise in extradition, will affect more and more individuals and nations going forward," it said. In brief now the US Court has approved Rana's extradition to India who will face legal trial here and it is a big diplomatic win for India. The mastermind of Mumbai bombing attack called 26/11 has finally been handed over to India and it is the diplomatic win for India.

[The author is a columnist, social, KP activist & Freelancer]

K.L SAIGAL—FIRST SUPER STAR OF BOLLYWOOD

On the occasion of his 121st birth anniversary which fall on 11th Apr 2025

Saigal was a perfect gentleman, fully of compassion and generous. He is often known to have given away his money, also clothes, to the poor and needy. It is said that his salary was collected by his family direct from the New Theatres' office for fear that he might part with it on his way home. Once, he is said to have given away his diamond ring to a widow in distress at Pune.

BY: RAVI ROHMETRA
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Kundan Lal SAIGAL was a singer, and actor in the early days of the Indian cinema. He is generally acknowledged to be the first Bollywood superstar. He was really the first male superstar of Indian cinema who set the tone for musical melodrama acting in the 1930s and 40s. SAIGAL was born on April 11, 1904 at Nawa Shahar of R.S Pura, Jammu. His father Amar Chand SAIGAL was a Naib Tehsildar in State revenue department. His mother Kesar Kaur was a deeply religious lady who was very fond of music. She used to take young Kundan to various religious functions where bhajans, kirtans and shabads were sung in traditional styles. Kundan often accompanied his father to the interior parts of the state where he would drink deep into the folk music of Punjab and Kashmir straight from the shepherds and wandering minstrels.

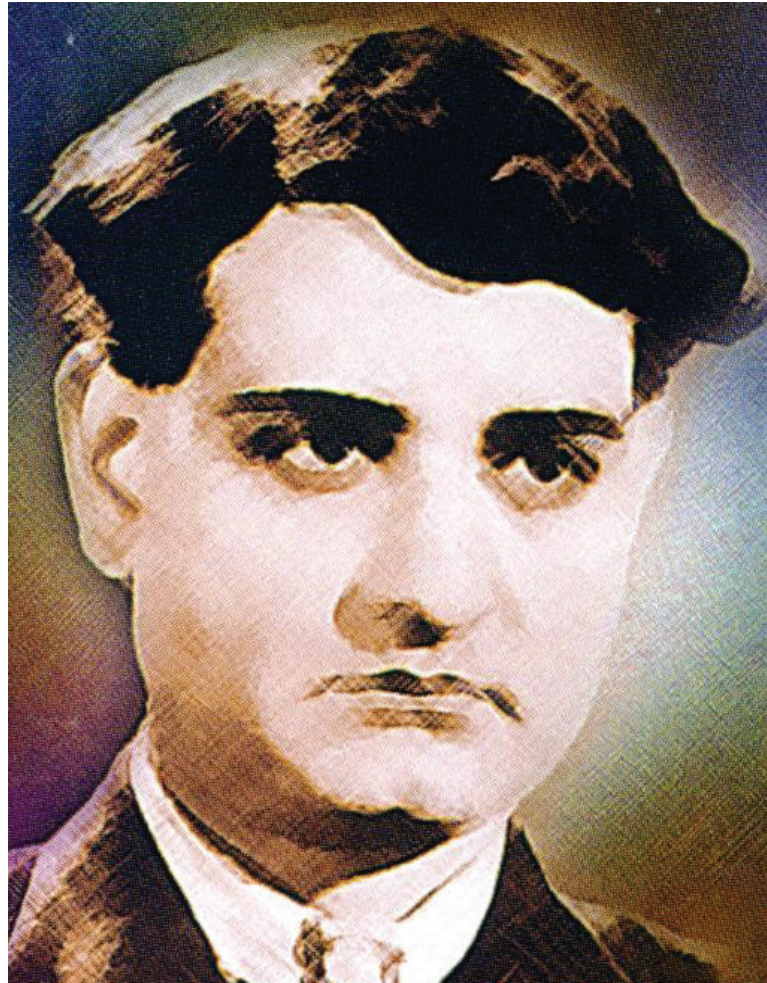
As a child occasionally played Sita in the Ramlila at Diwan Mandir, Jammu. At the age of 12 he got the opportunity to sing a Meera bhajan in the court of Maharaja Partab Singh. Maharaja was to be impressed by the voice of little Kundan and said one day this child would shine in the world of music. When SAIGAL was thirteen he lost his golden voice he was upset and did not speak to any one

for several months. Seeing his condition his mother became worried about her son's condition and she approached a Sufi peer named Salman Yussuf to regain his lost golden voice.

He also spent much time at the shrine of the Sufi saint Salaman Yussuf, there he sang and practiced along with other musicians and devotees. The singing tradition he assimilated had little classical rigour but emphasized, the poetic blending of syllables into musical forms like the thumri and ghazal. His renditions of Mirza Ghalib's poetry and his identification with its tragic iconography formed the famous SAIGAL persona.

As a young man he had several occupations. After he dropped out of school, he worked for a while as a railway timekeeper. Later he worked typewriter as a salesman for the Remington Typewriter Company. This occupation gave him the opportunity to travel widely in India.

All the time that he was travelling in his job, he was signing on an amateur basis. He used to sing in gatherings with friends and met many people.



On one occasion he met Meharchand Jain; would become one of SAIGAL's early friend and supporter. In his travels, he also met B.N Sircar the founder of New Theatres. It is said that it was Sircar, who persuaded SAIGAL to go to Calcutta.

SAIGAL's life in Calcutta was steeped in music. Although he briefly worked in a hotel manager, his interest was in the music scene. He was a frequent participant in mehfil. He also recorded

number of discs of songs written and arranged by Harishchandra Bali. These were released through Indian Gramophone Company. His reputation as a singer was growing.

The film business at that time was in the midst of a shake-up. The talking picture was just introducing so the film companies were clamouring for actors that knew how to sing. We must remember that these were the days before the custom of "playback" singing came into fashion.

but they did demonstrated that SAIGAL had what was necessary in the film industry. During this period SAIGAL continued to make disks. Hindustan Records Company of Calcutta brought out several disks, of which Jhulana Jhulao attracted much attention from the public. He continued to sing and act in a number of films. However the film that made him famous was "Chandidas" (1934). After that he had many offers to do more

films, but the one which earned him a place in film history was "Devdas" (1935). After the phenomenal success of "Devdas", there was a doubt that SAIGAL was a formidable entity in the film industry.

SAIGAL was fortunate in that he worked for an institution like New Theatres. Known for their quality film making, SAIGAL featured in many of the studio's masterpieces - Didi (Bengali)/ President (hindi) (1937), Saathi (Bengali)/ Street Singer (Hindi) (1938), Zindagi (1940).

In Street Singer, SAIGAL's rendition of Babul Mora was done live in front of the camera. Though playback had come into vogue, he convinced director Phani Mujumdar he would do a better job live in front of the camera.

Thus SAIGAL 'walked the streets' in the studio singing Babul Mora, with the entire orchestra following him out of the camera's reach. The result was magic! Seeing the popularity SAIGAL had, Sagar Movietone launched Surendra as an answer to SAIGAL and though he had a distinguished career of his own, SAIGAL was still SAIGAL. It was during this period that his personal life developed as well. In 1935 he married Asha Rani. Together they had three children. There was a son named Madan Mohan (no connection to the director of the same name) and two daughters, Nina (b. 1937) and Bina. While in Calcutta, SAIGAL became proficient in Bengali.

Indian Women's Hockey Team set to tour Australia for five-match series

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, APR 10

The Indian Women's Hockey Team is all set to embark on an exciting tour of Australia for a five-match series scheduled from April 26 to May 4.

India will open the series with two matches against Australia A, followed by three encounters against the senior Australian team. The tour will begin with back-to-back matches against Australia A on 26 and 27, followed by three high-intensity encounters against the world No.5 ranked Hockeyroos on 1st, 3rd, and 4th May. All fixtures will be held at the Perth Hockey Stadium.

Currently ranked ninth in the FIH World Rankings, the Indian team will look to build on their recent momentum and continue their strong performances on the international stage. The tour will serve as vital preparation ahead of their European leg of the FIH Pro League 2024-25, which



kicks off in June.

India enters the series on a high after a spirited performance against world No.1 Netherlands, securing a 2-2 draw and clinching the bonus point in a thrilling shootout in Bhubaneswar - marking a confident end to their home leg of the Pro League.

India also have recent success against Australia to draw confidence from. In their last encounter during the FIH Pro League 2023-24, India emerged 1-0 winners. Notably, they had scripted history at the Tokyo Olympics 2021, defeating the three-time Olympic champions 1-0 in

the Semi-Finals to reach the bronze medal match.

Despite a close battle in the 2022 Commonwealth Games Semi-Final that ended in a 1-1 draw during regulation time, Australia clinched the win in the shootout.

Historically, however, Australia holds the upper hand, having won 10 out of the 16 matches played between the two sides since 2013. India has registered three wins while three matches have ended in draws.

Speaking on the tour, Harendra Singh, Head Coach of the Indian Women's Hockey Team, said,

"This tour is an important step in our preparations for the European leg of the FIH Pro League. Playing against a strong side like Australia will test our players and give us valuable insights into where we stand. We've seen how this team can rise to the occasion, like we did against the Netherlands recently, and we want to build on that momentum."

"Our matches against Australia have always been competitive, and while they've had the edge historically, we've shown in recent years that we can go toe-to-toe with them. The team is motivated and working hard in camp to fine-tune key aspects of our game before we head to Perth," he added.

Ahead of the tour, the Indian players are undergoing intensive training at the ongoing Senior Women's National Coaching Camp at SAI, Bengaluru, working to sharpen strategies and enhance on-field synergy.

Djokovic exits Monte Carlo in horrible Tabilo defeat

AGENCIES
PARIS, APR 10

Novak Djokovic's wait for a 100th ATP singles title continues after he exited the Monte Carlo Masters in a "horrible" straight-set opening loss to Alejandro Tabilo.

Djokovic, a two-time winner of the event, made 29 unforced errors compared to his 18 winners in a subdued start to the 37-year-old's clay-court season, resulting in a 6-3 6-4 defeat.

The record 24-time men's major champion had won the last 10 matches he had contested on clay - including his run to Olympic gold in July.

But Chilean Tabilo, who beat Djokovic on the surface at the Italian Open 11 months ago, replicated that surprise victory to reach the third round, the BBC reported.

"I expected myself at least to have put in a decent performance. Not like this,



it was horrible," Serbia's Djokovic said.

"I did not have high expectations. I knew I'm going to have a tough opponent and I knew I'm going to probably play pretty bad. But this bad, I didn't expect.

"I was hoping it was not going to happen, but it was

quite a high probability I'm going to play this way.

"A horrible feeling to play this way, just sorry for all the people that have to witness this."

Earlier on Wednesday, Carlos Alcaraz rallied to a comeback victory over Francisco Cerundolo in the

21-year-old's first clay match of the season.

Spanish world number three Alcaraz was unable to match Argentine Cerundolo in the first set but dominated thereafter, winning 12 of the last 13 games for a 3-6 6-0 6-1 victory.

Norwegian fourth seed Casper Ruud beat Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut 6-2 6-1 to reach the third round, while Russian seventh seed Andrey Rublev overcame Frenchman Gael Monfils 6-4 7-6 (7-2).

Australian eighth seed Alex de Minaur came from behind to defeat Czech Tomas Machac, while Russian ninth seed Daniil Medvedev beat Alexandre Muller of France, also in three sets.

Great Britain's Jack Draper is back in action on Thursday, when the Indian Wells champion faces Spain's Alejandro Davidovich Fokina for a quarter-final place.

IPL: Sanju Samson fined Rs 24 Lakh for maintaining slow over-rate

AGENCIES
AHMEDABAD, APR 10

Rajasthan Royals Captain Sanju Samson has been fined after his team maintained a slow over-rate during Match No. 23 of the Indian Premier League (IPL) match against Gujarat Titans at the Narendra Modi Stadium, here on Wednesday night.

As this was his team's second offence of the season under Article 2.22 of the IPL's Code of Conduct, which pertains to minimum



over-rate offences, Samson was fined INR 24 lakhs, an IPL statement said.

The rest of the members

of the Playing XI, including the Impact Player, will be fined either Rs Six lakhs or 25 per cent of their respec-

tive match fees, whichever is lesser.

Earlier, Gujarat Titans (GT) earned the top spot on the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 points table with another statement performance to make it four victories on the trot.

An all-round batting effort, once again led by Sai Sudharsan, followed by another high-caliber outing in the field, gave the Shubman Gill-led team a 58-run victory over Rajasthan Royals (RR) in Match 23 here.

AGENCIES
CHENNAI, APR 10

Chennai Super Kings, reeling from four consecutive defeats, will seek to revive their IPL 2025 campaign against Kolkata Knight Riders at Chepauk, where their traditional home advantage is under threat.

With just one win from five matches, the five-time champions find themselves in unfamiliar territory, languishing at ninth place on the points table. Their famed fortress at the MA Chidambaram Stadium has already been breached twice this season, and another slip-up could deepen the crisis in CSK's camp.

The side has been struggling to find the right balance, with the top order failing to fire in tandem and the bowling attack unable to apply pressure in key



moments. While Devon Conway and Rachin Ravindra have shown flashes of form, CSK's cautious powerplay approach has hurt their ability to set or chase competitive totals. Middle-order contributions from Shivam Dube and MS Dhoni have offered brief respite, but the lack of consistent firepower remains a concern.

On the bowling front, Khaleel Ahmed and Noor Ahmad have been standout

performers, picking up 10 and 11 wickets respectively, but experienced campaigners like Ravindra Jadeja and Ravichandran Ashwin are yet to stamp their authority on slow, turning tracks.

Kolkata, meanwhile, have been patchy themselves but come into the contest on the back of a spirited performance despite a narrow four-run loss to Rajasthan. Skipper Ajinkya Rahane's fluent 61, along with late-order fire-

works from Rinku Singh and the spin duo of Sunil Narine and Varun Chakravarthy, keep them in good stead for a surface like Chepauk's.

KKR have traditionally struggled in Chennai, with just three wins in 11 matches at the venue. However, the slow surface, combined with CSK's recent home losses, may present the visitors with their best opportunity in years to tilt the record.

A first-innings score around 170-180 is likely to be par, and the toss could once again prove crucial, with chasing becoming increasingly difficult under lights.

With both teams desperate for points and confidence, Friday's clash promises to be a high-stakes encounter, with much more than just two points on the line for the Super Kings.

Dhoni returns back as CSK skipper, injured Ruturaj to miss rest of IPL

AGENCIES
CHENNAI, APR 10

Talismanic M S Dhoni, who had guided Chennai Super Kings (CSK) to a record five IPL titles, has been re-appointed as the team's captain on Thursday evening after Ruturaj Gaikwad was ruled out for the rest of the tournament due to an injury.

He returns back at the helm of CSK team after a gap of two years.

This was announced by Head Coach Stephen Fleming ahead of match against KKR.



CSK is now languishing in the ninth spot in the points table.

Dhoni was re-appointed as Captain following an injury to present skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad who took

over the mantle from his illustrious captain last year.

However, an injury to Ruturaj in the last match, has ruled him out for the rest of the IPL.

After Dhoni, who led the

team right from its inception, it was briefly led by Ravindra Jadeja before Ruturaj Gaikwad was made the skipper.

Dhoni is returning as captain at a crucial stage as CSK had lost four of its five matches in the present edition and needs to seek redemption in the coming matches to keep its chances of qualifying for the play offs alive.

Dhoni will be leading against defending champions KKR in CSK's fourth home match on the tomorrow.

Bangladesh off to a strong start with dominant win over Thailand in ICC Women's CWCQ

AGENCIES
LAHORE, APR 10

Bangladesh kicked off their ICC Women's Cricket World Cup Qualifier 2025 campaign in emphatic fashion, securing a commanding 178-run victory over Thailand.

Skipper Nigar Sultana Joty led from the front with a scintillating century, while bowlers Fahima Khatun and Jannatul Ferdus starred with the ball, each claiming five-wicket hauls.

Thailand skipper Naru-mol Chaiwai won the toss and opted to field first. The decision paid off early as Phannita Maya struck in the fourth over, finding the edge of Ishma Tanjim's bat, with the wicketkeeper making no mistake.

It was an encouraging start for Thailand, but that momentum was short-lived. Sharmin Akhter joined opener Fargana Hoque, and the duo stitched together a resilient 104-run partnership off 141 deliveries. Fargana played a composed knock, scoring 53 runs from 82 balls



before she was finally dismissed by Onnicha Kamchomphu. A well-set Sharmin Akhter was joined at the crease by Bangladesh skipper Nigar Sultana Joty, who picked up right where the previous partnership had left off. Together, they forged a formidable stand of 152 runs off just 138 deliveries. The skipper was in sublime touch, bringing up her maiden international century with a blazing 101 off just 80 balls, before being dismissed on the final ball of the innings by Thipatcha Putthawong, an ICC report said.

Meanwhile, Sharmin Akhter anchored the

innings superbly, remaining unbeaten on 94 from 126 balls. Their efforts powered Bangladesh to an imposing total of 271.

Thailand were off to a steady start in their chase, but Fahima Khatun made the breakthrough by dismissing Chanida Suthiruang. Once the opening stand was broken, the Bangladesh bowlers took control, picking up quick wickets and preventing any significant partnerships from forming.

Fahima Khatun added two more wickets to her tally, dismantling Thailand's top order. Then, Jannatul Ferdus struck twice

in the 20th over, leaving Thailand in dire straits at 65/5. The dominant bowling pair of Khatun and Ferdus continued their rampage, both finishing with five-wicket hauls. They bowled Thailand out for just 93, securing a comprehensive 178-run victory for Bangladesh.

With this commanding win, Bangladesh climb to the top of the table with two points and a healthy net run rate of +3.560. Their next challenge comes against Ireland in a day-night clash on April 13 at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore.

Injury forces change to Scotland's WCWCQ 2025 plans

AGENCIES
LAHORE, APR 10

Scotland have brought in Kirsty McColl as a replacement for all-rounder Darcey Carter in the squad, approved by the Event Technical Committee of the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 Qualifier.

Nineteen-year-old Kirsty McColl, who is yet to make her international debut, joins the squad at a pivotal moment, following their impressive win over the West Indies in their opening match of the Qualifier on Wednesday.

Carter has been ruled



out of the tournament after sustaining an injury to her right hand. The batter made 25 off 48 in the campaign opener and picked up the wicket of Windies opener Qiana Joseph for a duck in her very first over.

As per tournament regulations, any player replacement requires

formal approval from the Event Technical Committee before the new player can be officially added to the squad.

The Scots delivered a commanding all-round performance, to take a thrilling 11-run win despite a spirited Hayley Matthews fighting her way through to

an unbeaten hundred, an ICC report said.

Sarah Bryce's half-century and Katherine Fraser's three-wicket haul got Scotland off to a winning start in the campaign.

They take on hosts Pakistan next on Friday in Lahore.

Terror sympathizers will be uprooted without mercy: Kavinder

Hails LG Sinha for sacking Govt Employees with terror links

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 10

Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta has strongly supported the decision of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to dismiss two government employees with proven links to terror outfits. He said the bold move reflects the unflinching commitment of Modi government to rid Jammu and Kashmir of the terror ecosystem.

He stated that the dismissal of Ishitayq Ahmad Malik, Senior Assistant



in PWD, and Basharat Ahmad Mir, Assistant Wireless Operator in J&K Police, under Article 311(2) (c) of the Constitution, is a necessary step to safeguard national security and uphold the sanctity of government institutions. "These individuals were not just sympathiz-

ers but active collaborators with terror outfits like Hizbul Mujahideen and hostile foreign agencies. Their continued presence in government departments was a threat to national integrity," he asserted.

Commending LG Sinha's zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism, Kavinder emphasized that the ongoing crackdown is a part of a larger vision under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership to establish enduring peace and development in J&K. He said the Modi-led government is committed to eliminating every element that supports, funds, or facilitates terrorism in any form, and no compromise will be made when it comes to national interest.

The senior BJP leader reiterated that the Modi government has transformed Jammu and Kashmir's security landscape, cutting off financial and logistical support to terror outfits. "The government is determined to ensure peace, stability, and development in J&K. No one will be allowed to disrupt the progress we have achieved," he added.

Appealing to the people to stand united against terrorism, Kavinder said that the central government is working tirelessly to create a secure and prosperous future for Jammu and Kashmir. "The nation stands firm against terrorism, and the Modi government will continue to take decisive action to eliminate its roots," he added.

Dr Darakhshan launches Mobile Heart Clinic at Pulwama

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10

Chairperson of Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi today inaugurated the 'Indian-Oil Heart-Clinic on Wheels' in Hall Pulwama. This unique initiative has the collaboration of Gauri Koul Foundation with the Indian Oil Corporation Limited under Corporate Social Responsibility. The prominent persons present on the occasion included Member Parliament Mian Altaf Ahmad, eminent cardiologist of the country & the head of Gauri Koul Foundation Dr Upendra Koul, Arif Akhtar (GM-HR, CSR IOCL), M A Pathan (Formerly CEO IOCL), Dr Zubair Saleem & Businessman Mushtaq Chaya. This launching event was held at an impressive function at Hall hamlet of Pulwama.



A large number of local personalities, medicos, civil society representatives were also present. Speaking on the occasion Dr Andrabi congratulated Dr U Kaul & IOC for this noble initiatives. "Such CSR projects play important role in helping people at the grassroots. On wheels cardiology clinic will be a great boon for the ailing people. We have to think out of box to upgrade and

enhance the medical facilities for the people", said Dr Andrabi. She hailed the efforts of Dr Kaul in helping the patients from his home place out of turn and also for his extensive awareness and rehabilitation initiatives. Dr Andrabi appealed to the local businessmen to enhance their contribution in upgrading our health and education sectors particularly in rural areas.

NSF tribute of 30th Death anniversary of Morarji Desai

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10

National Secular Forum (NSF) paid tributes to Morarji Ranchhodji Desai on his 30th Death Anniversary at University Campus, who laid his life for the country.

Dr. Vikas Sharma Coordinator Jammu District and Zonal Secretary JKNC was the chief guest while, Dr Sukhdev Singh State President NSF presided over the function and Vikshay Vashist state Secretary NSF, was the guest of honour.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Vikas Sharma appreciated the initiative taken by the University Unit NSF to remember the death anniversary of those who have contributed their lives for the Country.

Dr Vikas threw light on the life and supreme sacrifices of "Morarji Ranchhodji Desai".

Sharma also said Morarji Ranchhodji Desai was an Indian politician and independence activist who served as the prime minister of India between 1977 and 1979 leading the government formed by the Janata Party. During his long career in politics, he held many important posts in government such as the chief minister of Bombay State, the home minister, the finance minister, and the deputy prime minister.

Dr Vikas Further said that Desai then joined the freedom struggle under Mahatma Gandhi and joined the civil disobedience movement against British rule in India. He spent many years in jail during the freedom struggle and owing to his sharp leadership skills and tough spirit, he became a favourite among freedom-fighters and an important leader of the Indian National Congress in the Gujarat region.

On this occasion, Dr Sukhdev Singh State President NSF said that Desai campaigned for the Janata Party in 1980 General Election as a senior politician but did not contest the election himself. In retirement, he lived in Mumbai. When former French Prime Minister Antoine Pinay died on 13 December 1994, Desai became the world's oldest living former head of government. He was much honoured in his last years as a freedom-fighter of his generation. On his 99th birthday, he was visited by Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao, and soon after began to fall ill. He was treated in a hospital in Mumbai due to low blood pressure and a chest infection. He died on 10 April 1995, aged 99, after he underwent surgery for a blood clot in his brain. Desai was a moralist. He was a vegetarian "both by birth and by conviction."

Vikshay Vashist, State Secretary NSF also addressed this occasion. Pankaj Sharma Sr Vice-President University Unit delivered the welcome address, Gourav Partap Singh President University Unit was delivering the vote of thanks.

PDP leaders slam silence of JK government over Waqf Act

J I NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 10

The People's Democratic Party (PDP) on Thursday voiced serious concern over the "silence" of the Jammu and Kashmir government on the Waqf Act, calling it a critical issue that demands urgent legislative attention.

A meeting was convened by the party in Srinagar to deliberate on the evolving situation surrounding the Waqf. The meeting was chaired by PDP president Mehbooba Mufti and attended by several senior party leaders.

Sources said Mufti termed the failure to pass a resolution on the Waqf Act a "political lapse," with party leaders emphasizing the need for clear legislation that would safeguard Waqf properties from "mismanagement or political interference."

Addressing reporters after the meeting, PDP chief spokesperson Mehboob Baig said the meeting had been called to discuss the overall political atmosphere in the Union Territory, particularly in light of the controversy surrounding the Waqf Act. Baig sharply criticized the ruling National Conference government, accusing it of "stifling" debate in the Assembly by citing the matter as "sub-judice"

"The Waqf Bill is being labelled as sub-judice. But when Article 370 was sub-judice, the Prime Minister and Home Minister won elections over it," he said. "If you don't want to talk, then don't - but for God's sake, don't take refuge behind this excuse."

Drawing comparisons with other states, Baig pointed out that Tamil Nadu, despite having only a 6 percent Muslim population, had unanimously passed a resolution against the bill.

"Even Mamata Banerjee in West Bengal said she would not implement it. And here we are - in a Muslim-majority state - refusing to even talk about it," he said.

The PDP spokesperson also expressed disappointment in the conduct of the Assembly Speaker, Abdul Rahim Rather, stating that he had initially welcomed his appointment, hoping his experience would promote fair and open debate.

Citroën India's Exclusive Dark Edition: A Striking All-Black Statement Across C3, Aircross, and Basalt SUV Coupé

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 10

Citroën India announced the launch of its most stylish lineup with the Citroën Dark Edition - an exclusive, limited-run collection available across the top variants of the C3, Aircross, and the Basalt SUV Coupé at incremental prices starting INR 19,500*. Celebrated cricket legend and Citroën's Brand Ambassador Mahendra Singh Dhoni unveiled the new Dark Edition and also took delivery of 1st Basalt Dark Edition from the series, making him the first owner of this highly anticipated edition.

Limited units available nationwide, the Citroën Dark Edition brings to Indian roads head-turning design, and upscale interiors to deliver a unique and

premium Citroën experience.

"The Dark Edition underscores our commitment to blending bold design with contemporary style and delivering distinct vehicles that reflect the evolving tastes of Indian consumers," said Shishir Mishra, Brand Director, Citroën India. "With its striking all-black aesthetics, limited availability, and premium enhancements, we are offering an enhanced level of exclusivity that makes each Citroën in this lineup truly special. As we unveil the Dark Edition, we're elated to welcome MS Dhoni as the first customer, officially joining the Citroën Owners Club in style."

A Darker Shade of Sophistication

Clad in the deep, Perla



Nera Black body colour, the Dark Edition models exude a bold, sporty attitude. The exterior is further enhanced with dark chrome accents on the Chevron badge, front grille, and body side molding, along with gloss black treatments on the bum-

pers, and door handles. These enhancements come together to give the cars a powerful and distinctive road presence.

Inside, the all-black theme continues with a distinctly premium vibe. The cabin is styled with Metropolitan Black leather-

ette seats, and a custom leatherette-wrapped instrument panel, the Carbon Black Interiors are further enhanced by a Lava Red Detailing and high-gloss black finishes on key touchpoints. The Dark Edition also includes exclusive elements such as

custom seat covers, dark chrome mouldings, and a grille embellisher, delivering a personalised and upscale in-cabin experience.

This limited edition is offered exclusively on the top variants of the Citroën C3, Aircross, and the Basalt SUV Coupé and will be available through Citroën's nationwide dealership network starting April 10, 2025. The Dark Edition has been carefully crafted to offer a sense of exclusivity and design flair that aligns with the preferences of today's discerning Indian buyers.

With its bold styling cues and a celebrity owner like MS Dhoni, the Citroën Dark Edition is all set to make waves as one of the most desirable limited editions in the market today.

Grand Welcome for Swimmers After Winning 19 Medals at National Masters Games

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU APRIL 10

In a heart-warming and inspiring ceremony today, the Jammu and Kashmir Masters Games Association (JKMGA) hosted a grand welcome for five exceptional swimmers from Jammu and Kashmir, who recently returned from the 7th National Masters Games in Mohali. These athletes brought home an impressive haul of 19 medals, including 7 gold, 9 silver, and 3 bronze, marking a proud moment for the state's sporting community.

The event took place at the M.A. Stadium in Jammu, where a large gathering of supporters, officials, and sports enthusiasts came together to honor the athletes. The swimmers were greeted with enthusiastic applause and admiration, and the atmosphere was filled with a sense of pride and celebration.

Among the distinguished attendees at the welcome ceremony were JKMGA President Ranjeet Singh Chib, Secretary General Neete Kaur, Treasurer Ramesh Sharma, and several other key members of the association, including Joint Secretary Mousmi Verma, Prabal Sharma, Virender Sharma, Meetu Singh, Jyoti Sharma, and



Mukesh Sharma. The leadership extended heartfelt congratulations to the swimmers, recognizing their exceptional achievements and dedication.

In his address, President Ranjeet Singh Chib expressed how the performance of the swimmers at the National Masters Games was a significant milestone, not only for the athletes themselves but also for the state of Jammu and Kashmir. "Your dedication and hard work are an inspiration to all of us. You have shown that with perseverance, we can excel on the national stage. We encourage you to continue your journey and participate in future events," Chib said.

The athletes, overwhelmed by the warm

reception, took the stage to share their experience. They expressed immense satisfaction with the arrangements made for the event and their delight at the opportunity to compete. "After a long time, we had the chance to participate in such a prestigious event. The support and encouragement from our family, friends, and the JKMGA has been invaluable," said one of the swimmers. "This experience has motivated us to make sports an integral part of our lives and to continue improving our fitness."

The success of these athletes is a testament to the growing culture of sports in Jammu and Kashmir, especially for older athletes who have embraced the Masters

Games as a platform to showcase their skills and passion for physical activity. The swimmers' impressive medal tally serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration for other athletes in the region, proving that age is no barrier to achieving greatness.

The JKMGAs efforts to promote sports and fitness at all ages have undoubtedly made a positive impact, and today's celebration is just the beginning. As the athletes look forward to future events, the community continues to rally behind them, fostering a spirit of resilience and determination that will drive the next generation of sportspeople in Jammu and Kashmir.

OBC Leader Ramesh Dogra and many others Joined BSP



J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 10

During a program organized by Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in Samba district, OBC Leader Ramesh Dogra and many others joined BSP, who were welcomed by the party's Jammu and Kashmir president Darshan Rana

During this program organized under the chairmanship of District Samba president Devendra Kumar, other party members were also present, OBC Leader Ramesh Dogra along with Dharam chand Bhagat, Bansi Lal, Mohan Lal, Purushottam Lal and Fakir chand and others joined BSP. Welcoming the people who joined BSP State president Darshan Rana said that the party is getting stronger with more and more people joining the party and influenced by the party's policies, people are

constantly joining Bahujan Samaj Party. Rana said that OBC Leader Ramesh Dogra is a well-known face and has always worked for the betterment of the society and now he has joined the Bahujan Samaj Party, which will strengthen the party a lot. Rana said that under the membership campaign being run by the party across the state, more and more people are joining the Bahujan Samaj Party. On this occasion, District President Samba Devendra Kumar said that in the coming days, a large number of people are going to join the Bahujan Samaj Party. During the meeting, the party also discussed about celebrating the birth anniversary of Baba Sahib Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar on April 14. Apart from this, the participation conference to be held on April 19 was also discussed in with the party workers.

ADGP Armed J&K Chairs Preparatory Meeting for Inter-Battalion & Inter-Zone Sports Meet - 2025

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 10

Sh. Anand Jain, IPS, ADGP Armed J&K, convened a meeting to review the arrangements for the upcoming Inter-Battalion and Inter-Zone Sports Meet-2025, which is scheduled to take place from April 21st to April 30th, 2025, in Jammu.

The Opening and Closing Ceremonies for both the events will be held on April 21st, 2025, and April 25th, 2025, for the Inter-Battalion Sports Meet, and on April 27th and April 30th, 2025, for the Inter-Zone Sports Meet.

In his address, the ADGP Armed emphasized the significance of organizing these sports events, which are part of the J&K Police's Annual Sports Calendar.

He highlighted that such events are designed to identify and select talented athletes from all wings of J&K Police to represent the force at State and National-level competitions as part of the J&K Police Central Sports Team.

The sports events will be held across various disciplines, including Basketball, Football, Handball, Hockey, Kabaddi, Volleyball, Tug of War, Athletics (Shot-put, Javelin throw, Discus throw, Long and High Jump), Shooting, Badminton, Table Tennis, Wushu, Weightlifting, Fencing, Archery, Swimming, Wrestling, Boxing, Judo, Bodybuilding, Powerlifting, Pencak Silat, Taekwondo, and Arm Wrestling.

These events will be organized in both men's



and women's categories across different Zones: Armed, SDRF/HG, Training, and INTELSECT (which includes CID, Crime, Telecom, Traffic, Security, Railways, and SSG). It is anticipated that 1,500 to 2,000 players, including Gazetted Officers in the GOs event, will compete across various games during the sports meet.

The ADGP further stated that the primary objective of organizing

such events is to promote sports culture in Jammu and Kashmir and provide a platform for budding athletes. These events play a crucial role in identifying and nurturing hidden sports talent within the force.

Earlier, Sh. Kuldeep Hondoo, DySP Sports APHQ, delivered a detailed PowerPoint presentation outlining the formation of various committees and sub-committees responsible for ensuring the suc-

cessful organization of the event. The meeting was attended by several senior officers, including Sh. Vivek Gupta, IPS, IGP Railways J&K; Sh. Suliman Choudhary, IPS, IGP Traffic/Tech Service; Ms. Sarah Rizvi, IPS, DIG IR Jammu; Ms. Rashmi Wazir, IPS, DIG Security J&K; Sh. Sandeep Wazir, IPS, AIG Personnel PHQ; Sh. Rajesh Kumar Sharma, IPS, SSP Security Jammu; Sh. Dalip Kumar, SO to ADGP Armed J&K; Sh. Manoj Pandita, SSP, AIG Training/Communication, PHQ; Dr. Minakshi Kotwal, Medical Superintendent, Police Hospital Jammu; and all Commanding Officers (COs) of Jammu City-based Battalions, and Srinagar city based Commandants through VC. among other officers.

Derogatory comments on Hindus will not be tolerated, apologize publicly: Shiv Sena

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10

Aam Aadmi Party MLA Mehraj Malik should apologize for his alleged and objectionable comments on Hindus otherwise will be welcomed with shoes in Shiv Sena style, stated by Manish Sahni, President Shiv Sena UBT Jammu-Kashmir unit.

In a press conference held today at the party's state central office, state chief Manish Sahni said that those who made the alleged remarks on Hindus will be welcomed with shoes. Malik's statement is not only insulting but also completely false, shameful and hurts the religious sentiments of crores of Hindus. It is a direct attack on our religion, culture and identity.

How can an elected public representative, who has taken an oath to serve



all religions, make such hateful and communal remarks? Such words not only reflect his deep hatred and bias towards the Hindu community, but also create an atmosphere of tension and disrespect in the society.

The 'Tilak/Tikka' on our forehead is a symbol of devotion and purity. It is a part of our daily religious life. Linking it with alcohol

and wrong deeds is not only derogatory but a direct insult to our religion.

Sahni said that Malik's alleged remarks deserve to be thrashed and Shiv Sainiks know very well how to bring such leaders to the right path. He has demanded the Speaker to cancel the membership of Mehraj Malik and strict legal action through a written complaint to SSP Jammu.

Police arrest three drug smugglers with heroin, pistol and Rs 33 lakh hawala money

JI NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, APR 10

In a major crackdown on narco-hawala networks, Amritsar Rural Police arrested three persons and recovered 500 gm heroin, one Glock 9mm pistol (with two magazines), and Rs 33 lakh hawala money.

The accused, identified as Ranjit Singh alias Rana, Gurdev Singh alias Gedi, and Shailendra Singh alias Selu, are involved in cross-border drug trafficking and illegal monetary transactions, said DGP Punjab Gaurav Yadav here on Thursday.

DGP Yadav said that an FIR has been registered at PS Lopoke, Amritsar, and efforts are underway to trace the forward and backward linkages of this cross-border smuggling network.

SWD organizes Awareness Programme at AWC Sample Sapla, Bajwal Pyt, Kathua

JI NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, APRIL 10

The *District Social Welfare Department*, in collaboration with the *Health Department*, organized a successful *awareness programme* today at the *AWC Sample Sapla*, Bajwal Panchayat, Kathua.

The primary focus of the event was to raise awareness about the *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)* scheme and various other women-centric social welfare initiatives aimed at empowering women and improving their well-being. The programme saw active participation from local women and community members.

As part of the event, the *Social Welfare Department* distributed *baby care kits* among *lactating mothers* for their girl children, which will aid in the early care and health of the newborns. The event also provided an excellent platform for local women to learn about the different schemes available for their upliftment. 72 beneficiaries attended this programme.

SMVDU conducts orientation session for B.Tech. students on Honors and Minor Specialization

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10

An orientation session for B.Tech. 2023, Batch students was organized by the Academic Affair Section, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) at the Matrika Auditorium, SMVDU. The session aimed to familiarize students with the wide range of Honors and Minor Specializations offered by various engineering departments, enabling them to tailor their academic paths according to their interests and industry trends. The event commenced with opening remarks by Prof. (Dr.) Balbir Singh, Dean, Academic Affairs. Dr. Balbir Singh extended his heartfelt gratitude to the Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, SMVDU, for his unwavering support and for making the event possible through his continued encouragement and guidance. He acknowledged the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor's farsighted vision towards holistic student development and the overall growth of the institution, which continues to inspire and shape the university's academic



initiatives. He encouraged students to pursue academic excellence and take full advantage of the diverse specialization options. The orientation highlighted a rich bouquet of Honors and Minor specializations designed to equip students with domain-specific expertise and interdisciplinary knowledge. The students will be able to choose Honors or minor specialisation in various cutting-edge technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Information System Security, VLSI Design, Multimedia Technology, Millimetre Wave Technology, Structural Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Power Electronics & Drivers, System & Control, Robotics & Automation, and 3D Printing & Technology. The orientation session proved to be a significant step in empowering students to make informed decisions about their aca-

demetic trajectories and enhance their readiness for future industry and research opportunities. Dr. V. K. Dogra, Head, School of Civil Engineering, Dr. Sunanda Gupta Head, School of Computer Science & Engineering, Prof. Kumud Ranjan Jha, Head School of Electrical Engineering and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Anil Kumar Bhardwaj Head SoECE and Dr. Yatheshth Anand, Head, School of Mechanical Engineering presented the students with Honors and Minor Specialization areas available in the respective schools. An interactive session provided students with the opportunity to clarify doubts, gain clarity on eligibility, curriculum structure, and career prospects, and understand the scope and structure of each program. Dr. Shafaq Rasool, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs delivered the formal vote of thanks.

She expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the Honourable Vice Chancellor for his constant support and visionary leadership, which played a pivotal role in the successful organization of the event. She extended her gratitude to all Heads of the Schools, Dean Academic Affairs, Associate Dean Academic Affairs, Dr. B.B. Jindal, Academic Affairs Section for their support in the conduct of this event and NSS volunteers who diligently managed logistics and helped ensure the smooth execution of the program. She also encouraged students to take advantage of such events in making an informative decision regarding their careers and strive for excellence. The event was moderated by Ms. Amook Sharma and Ms. Samra-geey, M.Sc. Biotechnology final-year students. The event concluded with a group photograph.

Grand Ambedkar-Phule Rally held in Jammu to mark 134th Birth Anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10

In a tribute to the legendary social reformers Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Mahatma Jyotiba Phule, the Babasaheb Ambedkar Jayanti Celebration Committee, Jammu & Kashmir, organized a grand Ambedkar-Phule Rally on Thursday to mark the 134th birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar. The rally on bikes and cars commenced from Bhagwati Nagar and culminated at the iconic Ambedkar Chowk in Jammu, drawing an enthusiastic response from all corners of the Union Territory.

The rally aimed to honour the indelible legacy of the two great champions of social justice who dedicated their lives to the upliftment of marginalized communities and the promotion of equality, education, and empowerment. The event served not only as a commemorative gathering but also as a platform to reaffirm commitment to the constitutional values of liberty, equality, and fraternity.

Scores of participants



from various social organizations, student unions, youth groups, and citizens from different walks of life took part in the vibrant procession. A sea of Jai Bhim flags fluttered across the city as hundreds of cars, trolleys, and bikes adorned with flowers, banners, and statues of Ambedkar and Phule made their way through the streets, creating an electrifying atmosphere of unity and pride.

Addressing the gathering, Advocate Sahil Kundal, Incharge of the Celebration Committee, urged people from all communities to uphold the ideals championed by Dr. Ambedkar and

Phule. "This is more than a celebration; it is a call to action. Let us unite to build a society rooted in justice, equality, and brotherhood," he said.

He emphasized the importance of educating the younger generation about the sacrifices and vision of these social icons, whose work continues to inspire millions across India and beyond.

The rally concluded at Ambedkar Chowk with slogans of social harmony echoing in the air, as participants paid floral tributes and vowed to carry forward the mission of building an inclusive and just nation.

Randhawa inaugurates newly constructed Street in Sunjwan Lower, Bahu AC

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU (SUNJWAN), APRIL 10

Continuing the momentum of development in the Bahu Constituency, senior BJP leader and MLA Vikram Randhawa inaugurated a newly constructed street in Ward No. 2, Sunjwan Lower. The inauguration was carried out in the presence of officials from the Rural Development Department (RDD), including BDO Sandeep Gupta, Panchayat Secretary Younas Malik, and contractor Ismayal.

Addressing the gathering, MLA Randhawa reiterated his commitment to the holistic development of every ward in the constituency and emphasized that better roads and infrastructure are the backbone of growth in rural as well as semi-urban areas. He appreciated the swift execution of the project by the concerned department and urged them to maintain the



same pace for upcoming developmental works.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from the local residents and prominent figures including Narian Dutt Tripathi (DDC), Surjeet Singh (Mandal President), Raman, Farmaan, Gulshan, Ajay Sharma, Daljeet Singh, Vikram Singh, Babbu, Liaquat Ali, Shakeel, Amit Gupta, Abdulmani (Panch),

Billa (Lamberdar), among others. Their presence reflected the strong support and satisfaction of the public toward the ongoing developmental initiatives in the region.

Local residents expressed their gratitude to MLA Randhawa for his proactive approach and people-centric policies. They hailed the inauguration as a much-needed

improvement that would benefit daily commuters and residents alike.

MLA Randhawa concluded by assuring that more such developmental projects are in the pipeline for the Bahu Constituency and urged the public to remain connected with local representatives to ensure effective implementation of welfare schemes.

Indian Army organizes Free Eye Check-Up Camp for People at Rajouri

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI 10 APR 2025

In the run-up to Rajouri Day celebrations, the Indian Army's Ace of Spades Division, in its ongoing efforts to serve the local population and promote accessible healthcare, has organised a three-day Free Eye Check-up Camp for the people of Rajouri, in collaboration with Madhav Netralaya, a renowned eye care NGO based in Nagpur. The camp was led by senior ophthalmologists, whose expertise and dedication ensured comprehensive eye care for hundreds of individuals from Rajouri and surrounding areas. The medical team from Madhav Netralaya, along with assistance from the Indian Army, conducted detailed eye examinations, dispensed medicines, and recommended further treatment or surgeries wherever necessary. A total of 908 patients were



examined during the camp, and 500 spectacles were distributed free of cost to those in need, ensuring not just treatment but tangible assistance for improved quality of life. The initiative saw enthusiastic participation from all age groups, with special attention given to elderly individuals and school children. This health outreach initiative not only provided critical

medical support to the underprivileged but also reinforced the Indian Army's unwavering commitment to the welfare of the people of Rajouri. The Ace of Spades Division continues to stand as a pillar of strength, compassion, and care, fostering deeper bonds with the local community through such inclusive and impactful engagements.

UK, India look to boost economic ties, secure FTA

AGENCIES
LONDON/NEW DELHI, APR 10

The UK Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves held talks with Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman as part of the 13th UK-India Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD) in London on Wednesday, as the two countries look to strengthen economic ties and secure a Free Trade Agreement and Bilateral Investment Treaty.

Rachel Reeves, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said: "In a changing world, it is imperative we go further and faster to kickstart economic growth. We have listened to British businesses, which is why we're negotiating trade deals with countries across the world, including India.

"Our relationship with India is longstanding and broad and I am delighted with the progress made throughout this dialogue to develop it further."

The EFD saw the signing of a joint statement

unlocking cooperation across a range of business sectors, including defence, financial services, education and development, and strengthened governmental collaboration across growth, economic resilience and international financial issues.

At the London Stock Exchange today, the Chancellor and her Indian counterpart set out plans to generate growth, improve Financial Services ties and deepen policy cooperation on the UK Industrial Strategy, tax, sustainable finance and illicit finance, a UK High Commission statement said.

The total commercial package from this dialogue is made up of new announcements worth pounds 128 million in export deals and investments, as well as recent deals worth pounds 271 million.

This includes: Paytm, India's largest digital payment app, announced plans to invest in the UK to accelerate

access to affordable digital payments and credit for small businesses.

Barclays Bank PLC India announced on 18 March a further capital injection of over pounds 210 million into its Indian operations, affirming its long-term commitment to India. This capital investment will grow its businesses across the Investment and Private Banking in India.

HSBC Bank will expand its presence from the current 14 cities to 34 cities in India. This significant expansion will enable the bank to cover approximately 95% of India's wealth market, reinforcing their commitment to India.

Standard Chartered Bank today announced that it has shifted to larger office premises at GIFT City, reinforcing its long-term commitment to India's premier international financial services hub.

Mphasis, an Indian tech business, are setting up a quantum centre of



excellence in London and exploring an office in Nottingham which will support 100 jobs.

British International Investment Plc (BII) is committing \$10 mn to the agritech start up, Grow Indigo, to pilot an innovative carbon credit programme to promote regenerative agricultural practices in India.

WNS, a global digital-led business transformation services company founded in India with a \$2.7 billion market cap, will expand

their London HQ presence with a new office and open a state-of-the-art AI design hub to expand the UK's AI and digital talent pool to drive growth and create jobs.

Revolut announced that they are gearing up for launch in India later this year, following authorisation this week from Reserve Bank of India.

UK firm Wise announces plans to open a new office in Hyderabad, India as part of broader mission to transform the tril-

lion-pound international money movement market.

Prudential's announcement of launching their first fully owned global services hub in Bengaluru and third joint venture in India establishing a standalone health insurance business.

British International Investment invest \$15 mn investment in vehicle dedicated to investing in India based on inclusion-focused early-stage companies.

The UK welcomes India paving the way to allow Indian companies to list internationally and exploring listing at the London Stock Exchange. The India-UK Financial Partnership published its report 'Catalysing Bilateral Growth: Connecting India and the UK's Equity Capital Markets report'.

Coventry University announced that it is set to become the first English university to be granted a licence to open a campus in India, as UK universities are being granted licences to open a campus in India's

new GIFT city.

The London School of Economics announced that Tata Trusts is continuing its enduring partnership with LSE by awarding a Corpus Grant to support scholarships for Indian students at the School.

Agreement for both sides to continue excellent collaboration as co-chairs of the G20's Framework Working Group and to work closely together to promote discussion and build consensus around responses to risks to the global macroeconomic outlook.

New ambitions set for joint investments in green enterprises, tech start-ups and climate adaptation building on the success of the UK-India Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF).

Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds and Minister Sitharaman also hosted a business round-table, bringing together key leaders from the financial and professional business services sectors

including Tide, HSBC, Aviva, Vodafone, WNS, and Mizuho International. Attendees recognised the strength of the economic relationship between the UK and India, as well as the opportunity for closer collaboration - including through an ambitious trade deal.

Areas for collaboration on defence were also identified, as both sides looked forward to the finalisation of the India-UK Defence Industrial Roadmap, set to strengthen ties between industrial sectors and integrate supply chains.

Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds said: "I was delighted to meet with Minister Sitharaman, hear from businesses, and discuss how we can strengthen the strong economic bonds between our two nations."

"Both the UK and India are committed to delivering economic growth and giving businesses the confidence and stability they need to expand."

Bengal Raj Bhawan defends Governor's actions on pending Bills, cites constitutional compliance

AGENCIES
KOLKATA, APR 10

A day after West Bengal Assembly Speaker Biman Banerjee reminded Governor C V Ananda Bose of the 22 pending bills awaiting his assent, the Raj Bhawan here said the governor has been "particular in abiding by Constitutional proprieties in dealing with all matters, including those concerning passage of Bills".

Biman Banerjee had made the remarks following a Supreme Court ruling on Tuesday that governors cannot indefinitely withhold approval of bills passed by the state legislature,

Giving a detailed account of the 22 bills that are pending with the governor, the Raj Bhawan said in a release that it had been informed that there were 22 Bills "supposedly 'pending' with Bose.

"On being reported thus HG (the honourable governor) immediately had the matter assessed. Out of those Bills, HG assented to five, while two are pending with the state government for want of information sought."

"HG has reserved for the consideration of Hon'ble President II Bills during 2024 and 2025. Ten of these relate to university matters and one



is the 'Aparajit Bill' which was reserved as recommended by the State Government," Raj Bhawan said in its release.

The Raj Bhawan was referring to The Aparajita Woman and Child Bill (West Bengal Criminal Laws and Amendment), 2024, which was introduced by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee following the rape and murder case at R.G. Kar Medical College in August last year.

The Trinamool Congress has frequently raised concerns that the bill - aimed at strengthening justice through harsher punishments, swift investigations, and expedited trials in sexual assault cases - was unanimously passed in the Assembly in September 2024 but could not be implemented as the Governor's assent remained pending.

However, Raj Bhawan clarified that the bill had been forwarded to the

President of India for approval and is currently pending at the Rashtrapati Bhawan. The President of India has withheld consent on bills like The West Bengal Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Bill, 2013, Dunlop India Ltd (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Bill, 2016 and Jessop & Company Ltd (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Bill, 2016.

In a similar vein, the Raj Bhawan clarified that at least five other bills are still pending with the state government. These include the West Bengal Estate Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2017; The West Bengal Commission for Backward Classes (Amendment) Bill, 2018; The Code of Criminal Procedure (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 2018; The West Bengal (Prevention of Lynching) Bill, 2019; and The Howrah Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2021.

According to Raj Bhawan, clarifications were sought on these bills, but the state government has yet to respond.

The governor's response comes after the Speaker following the Supreme Court judgement said that it was a welcome one and believed it would put pressure on the governor.

He implied that important bills could not be kept pending indefinitely and emphasised that the state government, being an elected body, should not be denied by the governor. He mentioned that he had been voicing this concern for a long time and hoped that the governor would now grant consent to the bills.

The Supreme Court on Tuesday ruled that Governors cannot indefinitely delay or withhold assent to Bills passed or re-passed by a state Assembly and fixed a timeline of one to three months for their actions as per the Constitution.

The verdict was delivered by Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan after a year of intense constitutional standoff between the DMK-led Tamil Nadu government and Governor R N Ravi, who had withheld assent to 10 key Bills, some pending since 2020.

France could recognise Palestine state by June: President Macron

AGENCIES
PARIS, APR 10

French President Emmanuel Macron has said that his country could recognise a Palestinian state by June.

Macron, who recently travelled to Cairo to hold extensive talks with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah-El Sisi and Jordanian King Abdullah on the ongoing Gaza war, said, "We must move towards the recognition of the Palestinian state and we will do so in the coming months. I am not doing it to please anyone, but I

feel this is the right time to do so," he told France 5 Television in an interview.

"And because I also want to take part in a collective dynamic that should also enable those who defend Palestine to recognise Israel in their turn, something that many of them are not doing," he added.

"Our aim is to chair this conference with Saudi Arabia in June, where we could finalise this movement of mutual recognition (of a Palestinian state) by several parties," he added. Though Palestine

has been recognised as a sovereign state by almost 150 countries, most major Western powers have not, including the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Japan. Among countries that do not recognise Israel are Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Syria and Yemen.

"Our objective is somewhere in June, with Saudi Arabia, to chair this conference where we could finalise the movement towards reciprocal recognition by several countries," Macron said. Reacting to Macron's

Indian engineers team assessing quake-affected sites in Myanmar

AGENCIES
NAY PYI TAW/NEW DELHI, APR 10

After assessing six affected sites in quake-hit Mandalay, the safety and demolition engineers team from India assessed six quake affected sites in Naypyitaw today, as part of Operation Brahma, the MEA said.

An Orthopaedic surgeon from the Indian Army Medical team is assisting in the treatment of 70 patients at a Nay Pyi Taw Hospital.

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir
Office of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (M) Jammu
(Email id: ikrelieforganisation@gmail.com, Ph. 0191-2586218 (Tel), 0191-2580283
"GREATER PARTICIPATION FOR A STRONGER DEMOCRACY")

Subject:-By Election in Assembly Constituency (27-Budgam Ac, J&K); Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls w.r.t. 01.04.2025- schedule of camps for different places at Jammu/Udhmapur Regarding.

SNO	Name of Place	Date	Nodal Officer	Name of Official/ BLO'S
1	Migrant Camp Nagrota	11.04.2025 to 12.04.2025	Dr Satish Kumar Dhar 8825061272	Sh. Dalip Kumar Jalali 7889602402 Roop Krishen Sapru Cell No. 9906219587 Ankit Bhat MTS Cell No. 70061 60581
2	Migrant Camp Jagti	14.04.2025 to 16.04.2025	Sh. Omi Raj Sombria Mob. No. 6005484607	Sh. Vijay Kumar Sapru Mob. No. 9596964212 Sh. Ramesh Kumar Bhat Mob. No. 9419124298 Sh. Manoj Bhan Mob. No. 7889441724 Sanjeev Kumar Mob.No-9596728315 Deepak Bhat MOB.No-8716018466 Sanjay Kumar MOB.No-7006161704 Rishab Dhar MOB.NO-9596703650
3	Purkhoo Camp	19.04.2025	Raj Nath Thusoo 8825060665	Sh. Murad Ali Mob. No. 7051123602 Raj Nath MOB.NO-7006019280
4	Shiv Mandir Sarwal	13.04.2025	Pardeep Singh 9906220811	Sh.Ashwani Kumar Bhat BLO Mob. 7006347241 Chand Ji Walli MOB.No-9086699128 Ashok Koul Cell No.7006003477
5	Migrant Camp Muthi	17.04.2025 to 18.04.2025	Sh. Ateeq Ahmad Wani Mob. No:9906366388	Sh Kuldeep Kumar Tickoo Mob.No.9149539124 Jagdish Kardar Cell No. 7889543723 Sh.Sunil Kumar CL Cell No.7006320421
6	Jigar Institute, Sector 4 Gangyal	20.04.2025	Sh. Gourav Sharma Mob. No. 9419129449	Sh. Amit Tutoo Mob. No. 7006846495 Virender Kumar Mob No. 9858721878 Karan Singh Cell No.9419149377 Raj Kumar JA MOB.No.9149469580
7	Sanjeevani Sharda Kendra Bohri	21.04.2025	Pardeep Singh 9906220811	Sh.Ramesh Kumar Mob. No. 9469384591 Sh.Bansi Lal Raina Mob. No. 9419115009 Sh.Rakesh Koul Mob. No. 8082131252 Sh.Kiran Jee Cell No.9149672561 Sh.Chankar Singh Cell No.9682337443
8	Shiv Mandir Durga Nagar	22.04.2025	Raj Nath Thusoo 8825060665	Sh.Ramesh Raina Cell No 9858112088 Sh.Ajay Sudan Mob. No.7889966427 Sh.Dileep Kumar Koul Mob. No. 7006184174 Sh.Rajinder raina Cell No. 9622332274
9	Sharika Mandir M.H Chowk Udhampur	23.04.2025	Sh. Raj Kumar, Zonal Officer (9596557086)	Sh.Surjeet Singh Jamwal RA cell No. 9419163539. Sh.Raj Kumar Bumzai BLO Cell No. 9419270203

Dr Arvind Karwani, JKAS
Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (M)
J&K

NO: RRCM/AERO/SSR/2025-26/14-17

Dated:-7-04-2025

DIP/J-181/25
Date: 10-4-25

Northern Railway Men's Cricket Team clinches 68th All India Inter-Railway Cricket Championship Title

JI NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, APRIL 10

Northern Railway Men's Cricket Team Wins the 68th All India Inter-Railway Cricket Championship by Defeating South Eastern Central Railway Bilaspur by One Wicket in Hubli, Karnataka! This tournament was contested among a total of 29 teams! League matches were played in Kapurthala, Patiala, Bhubaneswar, and Guwahati, while the knockout matches were held in Hubli, Karnataka! In the knockout stage, teams from Northern Railway, Western Railway, Central Railway, Metro Railway Kolkata, NF Railway Guwahati, South Western Railway, Eastern Railway, and South Eastern Central Railway advanced! The Northern Railway team emerged victorious in all their matches, with coach Jaswinder Singh and captain Mahesh



Rawat providing skillful leadership! Northern Railway batsman Mohammad Saif scored the highest in the tournament with 495 runs, while fast bowler Varun Palne took the most wickets with 17! Northern Railway General Manager Ashok Kumar Verma met with the players! Under the leadership of Northern Railway Sports Association Secretary Shri Koustubh Mani, all North-

ern Railway teams are performing well in sports! The tournament featured BCCI umpires Nikhil Patwardhan, Prahlad Rawat, Saurav Dhote, Praveen Sinha, Adipta Mukherjee, Neeraj Sharma, Karan Thakur, Mohammad Arif, and Ashwini Mandhani! The knockout matches were live-streamed! BCCI scorers Mahesh Sawant and Dinesh Suryavanshi handled the scoring!

After domicile data revelation, KPSS slams Govt's 'selective justice'

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 10

The Kashmiri Pandit Sangharsh Samiti (KPSS) on Thursday demanded a time-bound, publicly monitored roadmap for rehabilitating non-migrant Pandits, with job and housing reservations and legal safeguards to ensure the survival and dignity of Kashmir's aboriginal Hindus in their homeland.

The demand of KPSS, an organization of Kashmiri Pandits living in the Valley, came a day after the J & K government said that around 83,742 domicile certificates have been granted to non-locals in the Union Territory over the past two years.

Citing the domicile issuance data, KPSS criticized the government's policy of "demographic accommodation," while sidelining the Valley's remaining non-migrant Kashmiri Pandits.

"This (issuance of domicile certificates to non locals) amounts to

a staggering average of 115 domicile certificates being issued per day—a figure too precise to overlook and too alarming to be dismissed as routine administrative procedure. The actual number could be significantly higher if data since 2019 were to be taken into account," the KPSS president Sanjay Tickoo said in a statement.

"While the government claims this as part of its post-Article 370 "integration process", it is painfully evident that integration has been selectively applied—welcoming outsiders with open arms, while turning a blind eye to the plight of those who never left," it added.

"The question arises: Is the policy of justice selective? If domicile is a tool of empowerment and belonging, why has it not been used first to restore dignity to the indigenous community still surviving against odds in the Valley? Does the state believe that demographic expansion through

non-locals takes precedence over constitutional responsibility towards its own citizens?" the KPSS asked

Calling it a case of "apno par sitam, ghairon par karam" (injustice to our own, kindness to outsiders), KPSS questioned why welfare measures haven't first been extended to the community still living in the Valley.

"If the state can process nearly 84,000 domicile certificates in two years, it certainly has the capacity to rehabilitate 3,445 native families. What is lacking is not infrastructure-but intent," it added.

KPSS demanded a time-bound, publicly monitored roadmap for rehabilitation, reservation in employment and housing schemes tailored to the community, and legal safeguards to ensure their survival and dignity.

"We will not remain silent witnesses to the slow erasure of a people who stayed back when leaving was easy," said Tickoo.

Health Awareness Program held at Police Station Bakshi Nagar



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 10

In a heartfelt gesture to promote health and wellness among the frontline protectors of society, a Health Awareness Programme and distribution of nutrition items was held at Police Station Bakshi Nagar. The event was jointly organised by the Social Reform and Charitable Organisation Kishtwar and Vichar Kranti Manch International.

Ms. Sanjeev Parihar, Founder President, took the lead in arranging one-litre packs of fruit juice and Amla tablets—sourced from DABUR India Limited—as a token of appreciation and to boost the immunity of police personnel who tirelessly serve in all weather conditions.

The programme was graced by Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner and President of Vichar Kranti Manch International, who attended as the Chief Guest. Mr. Azad Manhas, SHO of Bakshi Nagar Police Station, presided over the event. Special invitees included Mr. Rahul, Parameter, and Mr. Deepak.

Dr. Jain delivered a brief

yet insightful address on the importance of maintaining physical and mental well-being. His health advisory included: Daily stretching and breathing exercises to reduce stress

Regular intake of Vitamin C and natural immunity boosters like Amla

Maintaining a healthy diet rich in seasonal fruits and green vegetables

Ensuring proper hydration and sleep despite demanding schedules

Practicing yoga and meditation to enhance inner calm and focus

In a moving tribute to the police personnel, Dr. Jain also recited a heartfelt poem highlighting their unwavering commitment to duty, irrespective of extreme heat, cold, or rain—acknowledging their role as true sentinels of public peace and safety.

SHO Mr. Azad Manhas extended a warm Vote of Thanks to all the organisers, guests, and supporters, appreciating the thoughtful gesture and the motivational spirit it brought to the station.

The event concluded on a note of gratitude and encouragement, reinforcing the message that a healthy force is a stronger, more resilient force for the community.

BYS upholding Indian values through yoga: Rekha Mahajan

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 10

Bharatiya Yog Sansthan Ranbir House, Trikuta Nagar Branch (Near RBI), marked its Foundation Day with great zeal and reverence today. The event was graced by senior BJP leader, Rekha Mahajan, who was present as the chief guest and lauded the Sansthan's pivotal role in promoting holistic health and well-being through the timeless discipline of yoga.

In her address, Rekha Mahajan highlighted the relevance of yoga in today's fast-paced world,

emphasizing its roots in the Bharatiya cultural heritage. She appreciated the efforts of Bharatiya Yog Sansthan in propagating a lifestyle that is in harmony with nature and spirituality, transcending caste, creed, and religion. "Organizations like Bharatiya Yog Sansthan are the torchbearers of our ancient values and cultural ethos. Their selfless service to society through yoga is truly commendable," she said.

Bharatiya Yog Sansthan (Regd.), established on 10th April 1967, is a non-sectarian, social, cultural, and non-profit making



organization that firmly believes in the spiritual and cultural legacy of India. The programme commenced with the lighting of the traditional lamp followed by a warm welcome of dignitaries. Prominent attendees

included Retired Secretary to Government (KAS) Chandra Gupta, Pran-tita Sadasya Colonel V.S. Jamwal, and Kendra Parmukh Savita Gupta, who have all been associated with the Sansthan's activities and mission for years.

Colonel V.S. Jamwal (Retd) elaborated on the upcoming initiatives and programmes of the Sansthan, emphasizing their focus on increasing youth engagement and wider community participation in yoga practices.

He highlighted that these efforts aim to create a more health-conscious and disciplined society by integrating yoga into daily lives, especially among the younger generation. He also stressed that the involvement of youth is

vital for building a stronger, healthier, and more harmonious nation.

Savita Gupta shared a brief history and vision of Bharatiya Yog Sansthan, elaborating on its humble beginnings and its expansion across India and beyond, spreading the message of health, unity, and inner peace.

Suresh Gupta, serving as Mantri, efficiently conducted the proceedings of the programme.

The event concluded with a collective pledge to continue the mission of spreading yogic wisdom and Bharatiya cultural values across the region.

BJP SC Morcha gears up for Ambedkar Jayanti celebrations



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 10

BJP SC Morcha Prabhari Jagdish Bhagat, along with Morcha Vice President Rakesh Sangral and Morcha General Secretary Gulshan Bhagat, chaired a preparatory meeting of SC Morcha office bearers for forthcoming Ambedkar Jayanti programmes to be organised in Jammu and Kashmir.

Balbir Ram Rattan, BJP Spokesperson & former Vice Chairperson, also graced the meeting. The meeting focused on mobilizing the cadre for a series of district-level programmes to be held from April 13 to April 25, commemorating Ambedkar Jayanti.

Jagdish Bhagat, while addressing the meeting, shared details of the recently held National Workshop in New Delhi. He highlighted the vision and planning of the BJP leadership to ensure that the messages

and ideals of Dr. Ambedkar reach every corner of the nation. He told that the BJP has chalked out a series of programmes to celebrate Ambedkar Jayanti from April 13 to April 25, and these will be observed in every district with full enthusiasm and respect," Bhagat said.

He emphasized the role of district prabharis of the morcha and office bearers in ensuring the successful execution of these events. Your cooperation at the local level is vital, we must work together to ensure these programmes reflect the true spirit and commitment of the party towards social justice and equality, he urged.

Balbir Ram Rattan, in the meeting, underscored the party's consistent and respectful tribute to Dr. Ambedkar over the years. It is indeed a matter of pride that BJP has always showered true honour on Dr. Ambedkar. Be it at the

national or the state level, the party has remained steadfast in organizing programmes that reflect our unwavering commitment to taking forward his legacy, Rattan said. He also reiterated that BJP has not merely remembered Dr. Ambedkar in words but has actively worked towards fulfilling his vision through various government initiatives and schemes aimed at empowering the marginalized sections of society.

The participants in the meeting assured to contribute dedicatedly in organizing the Ambedkar Jayanti programmes in their respective areas.

Vijay Anand Gill, morcha Vice President, Seema Devi, Vice President, Mohinder Bhagat, Vice President, Raj Kumar Shabotra, Raj Kumar Bhagat, Kalshi, Umesh Kumar, K.K.Digra, Lokesh Kumar, Hans Raj Loria, attended this meeting.

BJP working tirelessly to address people's concerns: Yudhvir



Holds Janata Darbar

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 10

Reaffirming the BJP's commitment to public welfare, senior BJP leader and MLA East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi today held a Janata Darbar at Pt Prem Nath Dogra Bhawan, Kacchi Chawni, Jammu, to listen and respond to the grievances of the citizens.

During the camp, the MLA Sethi was accompanied with Swati Sharma, President Amphalla Mandal, Shiv Sharma President Bajalta Mandal and Adarsh Kumar, President East Mandal along with other party leaders.

The public grievance camp witnessed a significant turnout, with people from different areas of Jammu city arriving at the party headquarters

to raise various issues. The deputations and individuals highlighted a wide range of concerns, including irregularities in ration supply, pension delays, challenges in PHE and PDD services, water scarcity, poor road conditions, and other civic and administrative matters. Many also brought forward personal problems, seeking support and guidance from the senior BJP leader.

Yudhvir Sethi gave a patient and sympathetic hearing to every visitor and assured them that their concerns would be promptly taken up with the concerned departments. He emphasized that bridging the gap between the administration and the public has always been a key focus for the BJP.

Sethi asserted that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra

Modi, the BJP is dedicated to building a responsive governance model that listens to people, understands their needs, and acts swiftly to resolve their problems. He said the party's outreach programs like the Janata Darbar are reflective of this resolve, ensuring that the common man feels heard and represented.

"The BJP is not just a political party; it is a movement for people's empowerment. Our commitment is to work day and night to bring relief and development to every doorstep, especially in Jammu, which has always remained close to our hearts," he stated.

The MLA further said that only the BJP has the vision, determination, and capacity to realize the aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Col Mahan visits historic shrine of Baba Rajamandlik, emphasizes infrastructure development



JI NEWS SERVICE
BASOHLI, APRIL 10

Col (Retd) Mahan Singh, DDC Chairman Kathua, paid a reverent visit to the centuries-old shrine of Baba Rajamandlik in Rehan near Basohli, receiving a rousing welcome from prominent citizens and members of the Baba Rajamandlik Shrine Committee.

Among those present were veteran Col Harnam Singh Billowaria, former JK Bank Manager Vijay Dev Singh, Lamberdar Kuldeep Singh, Sub Jasbir Singh, social activist Yubkaran Singh, Sardara Singh, and several other notable residents.

Col Mahan Singh offered prayers at the revered shrine and took a detailed round to assess the existing infrastructure and amenities for devotees who frequent the site throughout the year. He noted with pride the secular spirit of the shrine, as both Hindus and Muslims visit in large numbers.

The Shrine Committee presented key demands, including the construction of a 1-kilometer Pucca Link Road connecting the Shrine to the Basohli-Bani Road on one end and Rehan village

on the other. They also appealed for protection work around the shrine and improvements to the adjacent children's park.

Later, Col Mahan Singh visited the under-construction Rehan-Batada NAB-ARD-funded road and commended the proactive role of the Basohli Sub-Division administration in resolving land issues that had previously hampered project execution. He stressed that robust infrastructure and improved road connectivity in Basohli Rural Panchayat are essential to expanding the outreach and economic integration of the historic Basohli town.

In a gesture of remembrance and respect, the DDC Chairman also paid tribute at the memorial of Amar Shaheed Mast Ram and visited the families of late Ex-Subedar Joginder Singh and Teetu Ram, expressing his solidarity with them.

Concluding his visit, Col Mahan Singh called on the newly posted ADC Basohli, Pankaj Bhagotra (JKAS), to welcome him to his new role and held a brief interaction on various public concerns and ongoing developmental priorities in the region.

DDC Poonch inspects Snow Clearance Operations on Historical Mughal Road

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, APRIL 10

District Development Commissioner Vikas Kundal today conducted an on-site inspection of the snow clearance operations along the historical Mughal Road, assessing the progress made up to Pir ki Gali.

During this crucial visit, DDC Kundal met with Deputy Commissioner Shopian Shishir Gupta to discuss the feasibility of reopening this vital link that connects the Pir Panjal region with the Kashmir Valley. The reopening is essential for local communities, facilitating access and promoting economic activity.

Accompanied by SSP Poonch, SDM Surankote, and officers from BRO, Traffic Police, DC Kundal



and his team traveled approximately 43.6 kilometers along the Mughal Road from the Poonch side. He emphasized the urgency of expediting snow clearance efforts to

restore access following fresh snowfall today. Highlighting the historical significance of the road, DC Kundal directed the executing agency to ensure that the road is

made traffic-worthy at the earliest. He also stressed the importance of maintaining safety protocols on slippery and sliding spots prior to the opening of traffic.

"We understand the importance of this road for the residents and businesses in the region," said DC Kundal. "We are committed to ensuring that the snow clearance operations are completed promptly to facilitate safe travel."

The Mughal Road is not only a historical route but also serves as a strategic lifeline for the region. Early access to the Kashmir Valley will benefit farmers, traders, and tourists alike, fostering economic growth and enhancing the quality of life for residents of Poonch.

Two-day mega Flower Show concludes at Udhampur

JI NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, APRIL 10

The two-day Flower Show organized under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai here at the scenic Jakhani Park, concluded today amid an overwhelming response from the public.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from people from across the district, who turned up in large numbers to admire the vibrant display of blooming flowers and enjoy a host of cultural activities.

On the concluding day, Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh graced the occasion as the chief Guest. He lauded the efforts of the different departments for successful completion of the event. He said that such a colorful



and meaningful event not only celebrates nature but also promotes social awareness through creative expression.

The second day of the Flower Show came alive with captivating cultural performances presented by local and Information department artists and students.

The major highlight of the day was a powerful Nukkad Natak focusing on the ill effects of drug abuse, which left a lasting

impact on the audience and emphasized the importance of a drug-free society.

The event concluded on a high note, leaving the visitors with beautiful memories and a renewed appreciation for nature and community-driven awareness initiatives.

The event was attended by Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Dr Umesh Shan and district heads of other departments besides local people, Students of various educational institutions.

DC reviews implementation of Holistic Agriculture Development Programme in Samba

JI NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, APRIL 10

District Development Commissioner Rajesh Sharma today reviewed the implementation and progress achieved under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) here at a meeting held in the Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

At the outset, Chief Agriculture Officer S. Madan Gopal Singh and Sectoral heads provided a comprehensive update on the progress achieved under HADP across their respective departments.

Speaking at the meeting, the DDC urged the officers to intensify efforts to reach out to farmers, ensuring their maximum participation in HADP initiatives. He emphasized the optimal utilization of available resources to achieve tangible results.

The DDC also directed the Agriculture and Allied Departments to strengthen beneficiary tracking through the Kisan Sathi Output Tracking App (KSOT) and ensure the registration of maximum farmers on the Kisan Kendra Ghar (KKG) Portal.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Samba, Champa Devi; Chief Horticulture Officer Samba; District Sheep Husbandry Officer Samba; Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Samba & others.

Director Agriculture Jammu takes stock of farming activities in District Doda

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, APRIL 10

Director Agriculture Jammu Arvinder Singh Reen conducted a comprehensive tour of District Doda to assess field-level functioning and engage directly with the farming community.

During the visit, the Director Agriculture interacted with progressive farmers in the Assar area, gaining firsthand insights into their experiences, challenges, and innovations. He appreciated their efforts and encouraged them to adopt modern, sustainable agricultural practices to boost productivity and income. The Director Agriculture also held a detailed review meeting with the field functionaries at the Agriculture Complex Doda. Emphasizing the need for dedication, punctuality, and zeal in service delivery, he assured the field staff of full support from the Directorate. He further directed the officials to ensure timely completion of all assigned tasks as per government guidelines and timelines.

The Director Agriculture was accompanied by Chief Agriculture Officer Doda, Anil Gupta, along with district officers, sub-divisional officers and field-level staff.

DIPR Pulwama hosts Mahjoor Day

JI NEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, APRIL 10

A mega function was held today at Mahjoor Memorial Govt Boys Higher Secondary School Pulwama to pay tribute to the legendary poet of Kashmir, Peerzada Ghulam Ahmad Mehjoor—widely revered as 'Shaair-e-Kashmir'.

The event was organised on the occasion of Mahjoor Day to honour his timeless legacy, celebrate his profound contribution to Kashmiri language and literature and reflect upon the social, cultural and philosophical messages embedded in his poetry.

The programme was organised by Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR) Pulwama in joint collaboration with the JK Mahjoor Foundation and District Cultural Society Pulwama along with special invitation to A. R. Azaad Memorial Foundation.

Peerzada Abdaal Mahjoor, grandson of Peerzada Ghulam Ahmad Mehjoor and President of J&K Mahjoor Foundation, graced the occasion as the chief guest while Dr. Peerzada Farhat Ahmad, ACD Pulwama, also presided over the event as the chief guest, which was also attended by CMO Pulwama, BDO Pulwama.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation



from renowned poets, literary figures and cultural enthusiasts from across the valley, besides students in large numbers also attended the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Peerzada Abdaal Mahjoor introduced the audience to lesser-known aspects of Mahjoor's life and informed that work on various projects of Mahjoor is currently underway, with "Kulliyat-e-Mahjoor" expected to be published soon in response to the pressing demand of Public.

He commended the DIPR, Pulwama, along with various literary associations, for their efforts in

organising events of cultural and literary importance. During his speech, he highlighted the message of universal brotherhood and peace conveyed by Mahjoor through his poetry.

In his address, Dr. Peerzada Farhat Ahmad highlighted the significance of Pulwama's intellectual and cultural heritage, emphasizing the need to preserve and promote these traditions for future generations.

Earlier in her welcome address, District Information Officer, Wajeeza expressed her gratitude to the participating poets and literary organisations

for their presence. She reiterated DIPR Pulwama's commitment to preserving the district's cultural identity by providing platforms that uphold and sustain the district's rich cultural heritage.

This was followed by a vibrant Mushaira, where noted poets from various parts of the valley presented soulful recitations in Kashmiri, paying rich tributes to Mahjoor and his unmatched contribution to Kashmiri language, culture and identity. Besides, essays and literary lectures focusing on the life and works of Mahjoor were also presented by the eminent literary figures of the district.

A major highlight of the event was the colourful cultural performances where artists melodiously recited Mahjoor's poetry, which mesmerized and captivated the audience adding vibrant hues to the gathering.

The event culminated with a felicitation ceremony during which participating poets were honoured and mementos along with certificates of appreciation were distributed in recognition of their literary contributions. Besides, as a gesture of respect and appreciation, mementos were also presented to the distinguished guests who graced the occasion with their presence.

Rajouri Day celebrations District admin hosts Trekking Expedition to promote adventure tourism



JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, APRIL 10

As part of the ongoing Rajouri Day celebrations, Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma today flagged off a trekking expedition from Chenani Bagla aimed at promoting adventure tourism and highlighting the scenic splendor of the district.

The trekking event was organized by the Chief Executive Officer Rajouri Development Authority Mohammad Fareed Kohli

and witnessed enthusiastic participation from officials and nature enthusiasts alike. The route charted out for the expedition took the trekkers from the serene Chenani Bagla to the culturally rich village of Mankote and the revered Shiv Cave, culminating at the picturesque Thandikassi Park.

Additional District Development Commissioner Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa, along with other district and sectoral officers, also participated in the trek, showcasing

ing their commitment to promoting eco-tourism and healthy lifestyles. Speaking on the occasion, the DDC emphasized the potential of Rajouri as a hub for adventure tourism and stated that such initiatives not only foster community engagement but also bring attention to the natural and cultural treasures of the region.

The event formed a vital part of the Rajouri Day festivities, celebrating the spirit, heritage, and natural beauty of the district.

J&K Startup Policy 2024-27: Renowned experts from TISS mentor J&K startups at JKEDI

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 10

Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) in collaboration with the Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS) organized an exclusive mentorship programme for the startups of Jammu and Kashmir here.

The mentorship cum interaction session involving renowned experts from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Prof. Satyajit Majumdar, Managing Director TISS Incube Foundation and Sujay Dixit, CEO TISS Incube Foundation, was aimed to provide guidance and insight to the J&K startups, thereby handhold them to navigate the challenge of building and sustaining their ventures.

The session offered a unique opportunity for startups of Jammu and Kashmir to benefit from the knowledge and expertise of these distinguished professionals, who have made a mark in academia, social entrepreneurship and startup incubation.

The mentoring session provided the participating startups valuable insights into business growth, scalability, innovation, and entrepreneurial best practices guiding them through the challenges and opportunities in their journey.

The session brought together a diverse group of participants including budding entrepreneurs, startup founders and innovators from across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and facilitated a direct interaction between the startups and seasoned professionals in social entrepreneurship and incubation, thus inspiring and equipping them to address challenges and seize opportunities in their ventures.

Interacting with the participants, Prof. Majumdar, MD TISS Incube Foundation highlighted the importance of such collaborative initiatives in fostering a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Sujay Dixit, CEO TISS Incube Foundation stressed that mentorship

session in collaboration with JKEDI is a part of ongoing efforts of TISS to empower local startups with knowledge, skills and network for their growth.

The session also featured one on one mentoring opportunities where participants submitted their problem statement and experts provided customized solutions to their business needs. The participants expressed enthusiasm about the insights gained in the mentoring session and appreciated the opportunity to engage with the experts from one of the country's premier institutes.

The mentoring session was coordinated by Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Business Modeling (CIIBM), a program vertical of JKEDI, under the overall supervision of Director JKEDI, Khalid Jahangir.

The mentoring session was part of JKEDI's continued approach towards building the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the U.T of Jammu and Kashmir, under the auspices of J&K Startup Policy 2024-27.

CS pushes for tourism promotion of Reasi's iconic rail bridges

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, APRIL 10

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today conducted an exhaustive visit to two of the region's most iconic engineering landmarks; the Anji Khad Bridge and the world's highest railway bridge over the Chenab River in Reasi district.

Recognizing the immense potential of these architectural marvels, the Chief Secretary called for their immediate promotion as key tourist destinations. He emphasized that both sites, due to their engineering brilliance and scenic location, deserve to be integrated into the broader tourism circuit of the region.



Highlighting the proximity of these sites to the holy shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, the Chief Secretary advised that the pilgrims visiting the cave shrine should be encouraged to also visit AnjiKhad and the Chenab Rail Bridge.

This, he observed, would not only diversify the tourism offerings of the region but also serve as a catalyst for local economic development, generating employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for

the local youth.

In his interaction with the district administration, the Chief Secretary directed the officials to explore development of supporting infrastructure and visitor amenities around both the locations. This included provision for rest areas, guided tours, food stalls and other facilities aimed at enhancing the overall experience for the tourists and pilgrims alike. He also stressed the need for installing informative sig-

nage and display boards at the sites. These boards, he said, should highlight the unique technological and structural features of these bridges. By doing so, visitors would not only gain insights into the engineering prowess behind these projects but would also develop a sense of national pride and appreciation for the infrastructural advancements being made across the country, he added.

The Chief Secretary was accompanied by Divisional Commissioner, Jammu; DC, Reasi; SSP, Reasi; senior officers from the Northern Railways and other local officers from civil administration and police department.