

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:

- Headache
- Joint and muscle pain
- Diarrhea
- Fatigue
- Stomach pain
- Reddened eyes
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Unusual bleeding or oozing
- Severe muscle pain
- Stomach pain or tenderness
- Weakness

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

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Cabinet discusses J&K Budget 2025-26

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

The cabinet headed by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday discussed J&K Budget 2025-26.

Sources told news agency that the cabinet which met here this evening discussed the Budget which would be presented in the Assembly on March 7.

"The Finance secretary briefed the cabinet about budget proposals and figures," sources said, adding that financial situation of J&K was also discussed there during the meeting.

They said that the budget would now go to Lieutenant Governor for approval. It is worthwhile to mention that it would be for the first time that Chief Minister would present budget of J&K in the Assembly.

Sources told KNO that the cabinet also discussed the upcoming Khelo India Winter Games slated to be held in Gulmarg from March 9 to 12.

Government committed to restoration of statehood, actively engaged with all stakeholders to facilitate process: LG Sinha



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that Jammu & Kashmir government is steadfast in its commitment to address the legitimate desire of restoration of full statehood of Jammu & Kashmir.

In his address to the Assembly, LG Manoj Sinha, as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer, said that his government is actively engaged with all stakeholders to facilitate restoration of statehood.

"One of the foremost aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir is the

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Govt transforming JK into education hub: LG Sinha

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAR 3

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that the government is focusing on transforming Jammu and Kashmir into an educational hub with strategic investments in higher education.

Addressing the Budget Session of J&K Legislative Assembly here, LG Sinha, according to the news agency, said that the government is transforming the education sector through innovative interventions, including the establishment of smart

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I leave it to history to judge my tenure: Omar quotes late Dr Singh at obituary session in J&K Assembly



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday paid rich tributes to former Prime Minister late Dr Manmohan Singh, who passed away on December 26, last year.

Speaking at the obituary

session on the first day of the ongoing Budget Session of the Legislative Assembly here the Chief Minister, according to the news agency, lauded the efforts of the late leader in fostering peace and development in Jammu and Kashmir.

"In his final press conference, he [Dr Singh] had

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No possibility about NC forging any alliance with BJP: CM Omar

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday ruled out any possibility about the National Conference forging any alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Omar, while replying to a query about a BJP legislator R S Pathania dropping hints about possible NC, BJP alliance, according to the news agency, said,

"We are not talking about any alliance (with the BJP), neither is there any scope, nor the need. Our thoughts also do not align. If we talk about J&K, our thoughts

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LG address endorsement of PM Modi's J&K vision: LOP Sharma

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

Leader of Opposition in Legislative Assembly and senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader, Sunil Sharma on Monday termed the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's address to the House as an endorsement of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision towards Jammu and Kashmir.

Sharma while talking to reporters here after the LG's address, according to the news agency, said that they (BJP) were expecting the manifesto of the government in the speech. "We were expecting the address will mention the things promised by the government, but it was Narendra Modi's vision. Whatever PM Modi has

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Snow blankets Kashmir parts, rains lash plains

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAR 3

The parts of Jammu and Kashmir once again received the fresh snowfall on Monday while the rains lashed the plains, bringing down the mercury further.

According to the news agency, the higher reaches of north and south Kashmir received fresh snowfall today. Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, however was lashed by the rains intermittently since the morning.

Sadhna Top and Razdan Top have received a snowfall of one feet while Zojila pass and Sonamarg have received a snowfall of 10 inches today, said an Independent Weather Forecaster, Aadil Maqbool.

As per the details, Gulmarg recorded a snowfall of 8 inches

while Doodhpatri recorded 7 inches of snow. Peer ki Gali recorded 8 inches of snow while Sinthan top recorded 10 inches of snowfall till today, he said, adding that light snow was also reported in some plains of Shopian, Baramulla, Kupwara and Bandipora.

Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that the generally dry weather is expected from tomorrow till March 09, adding that a fresh spell of rain and snow is expected from March 10 to 12. Moreover, the MeT has issued an advisory, predicting a possibility of landslides, rockfall, shooting stones and mudslides over vulnerable places.

It advised the tourists, travellers and transporters to follow administration and

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CM Omar calls for market checking to curb overpricing, ensure quality food

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAR 3

The government has passed strict directions to the enforcement agencies, asking them to ensure no overpricing of the essentials in the markets during the month of Ramadan.

As per the record note, accessed by the news agency, of the meeting held under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on March 1, the Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) and other allied departments have been asked to conduct market checking for ensuring proper display of rate lists by the traders/shopkeepers.

The direction was passed to ensure that there is no unfair practice and ensuring appropriate strict action under law against delinquent shopkeepers or traders.



The departments have asked to ensure availability of essential commodities viz; rice, atta, sugar, LPG etc., besides, fair pricing of essential commodities and conducting of intensive market checking to curb the menace of hoarding, black marketing and illegal profiteering.

Further, the Agriculture Production Department has been asked to ensure availability of poultry, sheep, fish,

vegetables etc. Also, the Chief Minister has directed for effective public service delivery, control of over pricing and ensuring quality of essential commodities and products, random market checking to ensure that instances of overcharging are fully checked and standard and purity of the products sold by the shopkeepers, retailers and fruit vendors are

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DGP chairs meeting of top officials to reviews security situation

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAR 3

Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Monday chaired a meeting here to review the crime and security situation in the Union Territory.

"The focus of the meeting was to assess the current security situation and evaluate the effectiveness of crime management strategies across the region," a police spokesperson said.

IGP Kashmir, Range DIGs and district SSPs from the Kashmir Zone and other senior officers participated in the meeting, while Jammu Zone officers joined the meeting virtually, the official said.

During the meeting, the DGP emphasised the

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Mubarak Gul seeks free transportation, medical services for former J&K legislators

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

Former speaker and MLA Eidgah, Mubarak Gul on Monday demanded free treatment and transportation services for former legislators of Jammu and Kashmir. He urged the government to provide these services at par with those offered to former parliamentarians.

According to news agency, Gul made the remarks during obituary references on the first day of the budget session

He stated that Jammu and Kashmir's legislators, after serving their tenure, are unable to resume their routine lives due to uncertain situations, unlike their counterparts in other parts of the country.

"A former legislator cannot engage in normal

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BRO conducts inaugural blast for 1.1-Km Bhimber Gali tunnel along Jammu-Poonch NH

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

Authorities on Monday conducted the inaugural blast for building the Bhimber Gali Tunnel as part of the Jammu-Poonch National Highway, with a defence spokesman terming it a significant milestone in the construction of a critical infrastructure project in the Pir Panjal region of Jammu and Kashmir.

The tunnel, spanning an impressive 1.1 km, is a key component of the 16.1-km-long project from Kalali in Rajouri district to Bhataduria in Poonch district, the spokesman said.

It will reduce the distance between the regions by 10.8 km.

The spokesman said the project will serve as an alternative axis for the movement of troops and general public in the challenging terrain from Rajouri to Poonch.



The spokesman said the inaugural blast was executed by BRO's Project Sampark Chief Engineer Brig Neeraj Madan and Ministry of Road Transport and Highways Jammu Regional Officer A M Prasad by pressing the button Prior to the blast, a 'puja' (prayer) was conducted at the site, he said, adding the event was attended by officials from the civil administration, highlighting the collaborative effort between the Border Roads

Organisation and the various departments of district administrations.

The spokesman said the project is poised to enhance connectivity in the region by reducing the distance by 10.8 km, facilitating smoother and more efficient transportation between strategic locations.

The Bhimber Gali Tunnel is in continuation of the BRO's relentless efforts to enhance regional infrastructure

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India's R&D spending double in one decade, redefining future economy: Dr Jitendra

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, MAR 3

"India R&D spending (GERD) is double in last one decade during the government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, from Rs 60,196 cr in 2013-14 to Rs 1,27,381 cr and is redefining the future economy of India which will be defined by homegrown innovations in artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and quantum computing," Dr. Jitendra Singh said, underscoring the role of government-backed initiatives in catalysing scientific advancements.

Speaking at the DISHA event at India Habitat Centre here, the Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions highlighted the government's



multi-pronged strategy to position India as a global leader in deep-tech innovation and commercialization.

Dr. Jitendra Singh reiterated that India is making significant strides in fostering an intellectual property (IP)-driven innovation ecosystem, with academia, industry, and startups playing a pivotal role. He noted that the government's emphasis on research and development (R&D) funding has led to India's Gross Expen-

diture on Research and Development (GERD) more than doubling in the last decade, from Rs 60,196 cr in 2013-14 to Rs 1,27,381 cr. "The government is not only investing in research but also ensuring that these innovations are seamlessly transitioned from labs to industries, strengthening the foundation of Atmanirbhar Bharat," he added.

The DISHA Program, an initiative aimed at

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Indian Army organizes Medical Camp for marginalised communities at Malpur, Akhnoor

J1 NEWS SERVICE
AKHNOOR, MAR 3

Upholding its unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of the people, Indian Army organized a 'Med Camp at Bhatara (Akhnoor) on 03 Mar 25. The primary objective of the camp was to offer free medical and dental check up and to distribute essential medicines to the marginalized communities of the area. The camp also provided vital medicines for common ailments and seasonal diseases. The camp led by White Knight Gunners was meticulously planned to ensure that medical assistance reached the most remote and needy areas. In addition to addressing the health concerns



the team also informed the residents about government health schemes, encouraging them to take advantage of available resources. The heartfelt gratitude of the local populace was visible in their eyes and further expressed

though the blessings of the elders. The community was deeply thankful to the White Knight Gunners for their continuous support and for spearheading this initiative that has made a meaningful difference in their lives.

DC Srinagar reviews progress on implementation of Mission Yuva

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MARCH 3

To review the progress on implementation of Mission Yuva, a meeting was chaired by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex, today.

At the outset, the DC discussed the different aspects with regard to the constitution of Small Business Development Units (SBDUs) and Business Help Desks (BHDs) under Mission YUVA.

Dr Bilal emphasized the need for seamless coordination among the Departments to provide holistic support to Nano-Enterprises and MSMEs.

He said that the initiative is a significant step towards boosting self-employment and entrepreneurial initia-



tives under Mission YUVA in Srinagar district.

During the meeting, Deputy Director Employment through a PowerPoint presentation highlighted the formation, roles, and responsibilities of BDUs and BHDs, ensuring their effective implementation to support entrepreneurship, financial facilitation, and business development in the district.

All stakeholders actively participated in the delib-

erations, highlighting their respective roles in strengthening the business support ecosystem at the district and sub-division levels.

Besides, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Syed Ahmad Kataria; Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar and Deputy Director Employment, Dr Sheeba, the meeting was attended by Sectoral/ District Officers and all members of SBDUs and BHDs.

MD JCCB reviews physical, financial progress of Bank



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

Managing Director Jammu Central Cooperative Bank, Bal Krishan along with Additional Registrar Cooperative Societies, Jammu, on Monday conducted a comprehensive branch wise review of 85 branches of the bank.

The review meeting addressed various crucial aspects of the bank including gross and net Non- Performing Assets (NPA), Deposits, Loan & Advances, different financial ratios, measures to reduce loss percentage

and recovery enhancement.

Managing Director exhorted upon the Branch Heads to achieve the set targets on a monthly basis. He directed the officers to organise camps to recover the amount and raise awareness among the general public with the help of Cooperative Department Officers about the benefits of Cooperative Bank. The Managing Director urged all Branch Heads to enhance CD ratio and reduce NPAs through robust recovery strategies and delivery of improved banking services.

Panchayat/Village-Level awareness campaign against drug abuse continues to receive overwhelming response across Kishtwar

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, MARCH 3

As part of an ongoing Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaign launched by the District Administration Kishtwar to combat the growing issue of drug abuse, today saw an overwhelming response from all segments of society across Block Drabshalla, Block Bunwah, Block Palmar, Block Thakrie and Block Trigam.

The initiative, spearheaded by Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan, has generated significant enthusiasm and community participation.

This grassroots-level initiative seeks to educate the public about the harmful effects of substance abuse



and engage local communities in the fight against addiction. The campaign focuses on raising awareness and mobilising action to address the issue effectively.

To ensure continuous engagement, awareness programs are being held every Monday across panchayats, with active

participation from local residents, students and community leaders. Various designated officers and nodal agencies have organised activities today, where a series of IEC programs took place aimed at spreading awareness among the participants.

The day's events included speeches by speakers,

distribution of informational pamphlets, public announcements and sharing success stories of individuals who have overcome addiction, as well as discussions on the socio-legal consequences of substance abuse.

The events emphasised the importance of building a "Nasha Mukta" (drug-free) society, encouraging youth to take an active role in educating others about the dangers of drug abuse. The administration's ongoing efforts to tackle the problem through consistent information-sharing and community involvement were highlighted throughout the programs.

The events were attended by civil administration officials, students, teachers and various dignitaries.

Workshop on Gender Studies Under PU-USHA

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KATRA, MARCH 3

The School of Languages and Literature, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), inaugurated a three-day workshop on Gender Studies today. The workshop aims to provide an academic platform for scholars and students to engage in critical discussions on gender issues, fostering interdisciplinary perspectives. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. In his address, he emphasized the significance of gender studies in contemporary academia and policy-making, urging participants to contribute meaningfully to the discourse. Prof. Kavita Suri, the Guest of Hon-our, highlighted the need for a



gender-sensitive approach in education and research, encouraging scholars to explore innovative methodologies in gender studies. Dr. Amitabh V. Dwivedi, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, delivered the inaugural address, stressing the evolving nature of gender studies and its relevance in fostering inclusivity and equity. The workshop commenced with a warm welcome address by Dr. Anurag Kumar,

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Power shutdown

J1 NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MARCH 3

Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Vijaypur Industry, Old Vijaypur and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 04, 05 and 06 from 8 am to 2 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Housing Colony, College Road, PHE, Kuka Chack, Saraswati Vihar and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 04 from 8 am to 2 pm.

Meanwhile, Executive Engineer, Electric Division-I, JPDCL, Parade Jammu has informed that power supply to Residency Road Yes Bank, Residency Road opposite Yes Bank, Complaint Office, Ghummat Chowk-II, Rajinder Nagar, Rajinder Nagar Canal, Commerce College, PHE near Axis Bank-II, Chand Nagar Gokul Guest House-II, Chand Nagar, Patoli Morh Auto Stand, Rehari Chowk-I, Rehari Chowk-II, Rehari Honda Showroom and Rehari Honda Showroom-II will remain affected on March 04 to 31 from 10 am to 6 pm.

Superintending Engineer, O&M Circle-III, JPDCL, Batote has informed that power supply to Tandar will remain affected on March 02 to 7 from 9 am to 4 pm.

Entrance exam for Agniveer candidates of Leh, Kargil, Lahaul & Spiti to be held at Ladakh Scouts Regt Centre on 09 March

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

The Common Entrance Exam for Agniveer candidates of Leh & Kargil districts of UT Ladakh and Lahaul & Spiti (HP) will be conducted at Ladakh Scouts Regt Centre on 09 March 2025. According to an official communication, the candidates are inform to report at Drill Ground, Ladakh Scouts Regt Centre for Collection of Admit Card on 06 March 2025 at 8 AM.

Govt committed to upgrade healthcare infra across JK: Dy CM



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

Asserting his government's commitment towards upgrading the existing healthcare infrastructure across Jammu and Kashmir, Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today said that quality health services are being provided to the people with special focus on rural and far flung areas.

The Deputy Chief Minister was addressing the officers during a meeting of "Rogi Kalyan Samiti" (RKS) held to review the functioning and patient care facilities available at Sub District Hospital (SDH), Nowshera, here today.

On the occasion, the Deputy Chief Minister, who is also the Chairman "Rogi Kalyan Samiti" was

apprised of the progress and performance registered by the SDH under different indicators and financial allocation under RKS.

A brief discussion was held on various services including Maternity and Child Health Services, referral services, Ayushman Bharat, ABHA card status, services under JSY, ambulance service besides status of Hospital's civil works.

BMO Nowshera gave a detailed presentation regarding the facilities, functioning and activities proposed under RKS 2024-25 for infrastructure up-gradation and overall advancement of healthcare system in the Hospital.

The Deputy Chief Minister directed the concerned authorities to work on

various necessities vital for upgrading the basic infrastructure in the hospital. He directed the BMO to submit a detailed list of department wise requirements so that measures are taken with respect to the facility upgradation of the hospital accordingly.

He directed all the concerned to follow the objectives as envisaged in RKS guidelines. He asked the officials of health department to work with added zeal and dedication to ensure efficient and prompt healthcare facilities to the people.

Among others the meeting was attended by ADC Nowshera, Babu Ram Tandon, BMO, Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti and R&B, EO, representatives from civil society and other members.

J&K exhibits sustainable innovations at 12th Regional 3R, Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

In a landmark move, Srinagar Smart City Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under the CITIIS 2.0 program regarding implementation of integrated waste management systems including smart collection networks and AI-driven recycling hubs to transform Srinagar into a zero-landfill city by 2030.

The MoU was signed during the 12th Regional 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific, being held in Rajasthan from March 3 to 5, 2025.

Additionally, the UT government inked a state-level agreement to establish a Climate Observatory, a first-of-its-kind institution in North India. The observatory will monitor climate variables, assess risks and formulate adaptive strategies for vulnerable sectors like agriculture, tourism and water resources.

The event, a flagship platform for advancing sustainable development and resource efficiency, saw J&K highlighting its



pioneering initiatives in waste management and circular economy practices, reinforcing its commitment to environmental stewardship.

The Lakes Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA) showcased Jammu & Kashmir's ground-breaking Dal Lake Weed Processing Unit at the forum, drawing widespread attention from policymakers, technocrats and sustainability experts. The project, which converts invasive aquatic weeds into organic manure and biogas, exemplifies the UT's innovative approach towards tackling ecological challenges while promoting circular economy principles.

Dignitaries including Policy Makers, Thinkers, Researchers and Planners

from all across the Country visited the J&K stall and applauded the initiative of transforming lake waste into valuable resources adopting sustainable waste management practices.

The J&K delegation, led by senior officials from the Housing and Urban Development Department, engaged in extensive knowledge-sharing sessions with the representatives from other states and Self-Help Groups (SHGs). Key focus areas included "Waste-to-Wonder Technologies", "Waste-to-Energy Innovations" and "Community-Led Circular Economy Models".

The forum offered a wealth of ideas, particularly in decentralizing waste management and empowering local commu-

nities. The visit provided an opportunity to explore best practices and modern technologies for potential replication in Jammu & Kashmir.

The participation of Jammu & Kashmir in the forum highlights its unwavering commitment towards sustainable urban development and the promotion of circular economy principles, aligning with the broader vision of environmental conservation and resource efficiency. Pertinently, CITIIS 2.0 is a flagship initiative driving integrated waste management and climate action. Proposals for integrated waste management in smart cities were invited by the Ministry of Housing Affairs, GoI and 18 proposals worth Rs. 1800 Cr were shortlisted benefiting 18 cities across 14 states of the Country.

The 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum will continue in the coming days, featuring expert discussions, policy dialogues and collaborative initiatives aimed at shaping the future of sustainable urban development and circularity in the country.

District Level Implementation Committee Approves 54 Cases Under Mission Youth in Ganderbal

JINNEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, MARCH 3

The District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) of Ganderbal, under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore approved 54 cases under various Mission Youth schemes.

The approved cases include 27 under the Mukin scheme, 19 under Tejaswini, and 8 under the Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative (SEI).

These initiatives aim to empower the youth of the district by providing financial and infrastructural support for self-employment and entrepreneurship.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer, General Manager of the District Industries Centre, Lead District Manager, Assistant Director of Employment, Assistant Regional Transport Officer, District Nodal Officer JKEDI, District Officer KVIB, and other concerned officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the government's commitment to



youth empowerment and encouraged eligible candidates to take advantage of these schemes. He reiterated that the administration is focused on creating sustainable livelihood opportunities and fostering an entrepreneurial ecosystem in the district.

The Mission Youth schemes have been instrumental in uplifting young

entrepreneurs, particularly women and unemployed youth, by providing necessary financial assistance, skill training, and mentorship.

The beneficiaries expressed their gratitude to the administration for their support and pledged to make the most of the opportunities provided to them.

NCC Cadets of Amar Singh College bring laurels to J&K at Republic Day Camp-2025

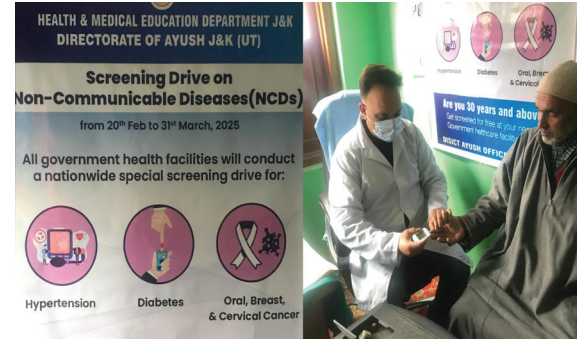
JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MARCH 3

NCC cadets of Amar Singh College, Srinagar SUO Musaib Hassan Bhat and JUO Aqib Javaid have brought immense pride to the institution and the Union Territory by excelling at the Republic Day Camp (RDC) 2025 held at DG NCC, New Delhi.

The cadets were also selected for the NCC marching contingent at the prestigious Kartavya Path, a remarkable achievement showcasing their discipline, dedication, and patriotism.

The RDC 2025 featured 148 cadets from all 17 NCC Directorates across India, with participants selected through a rigorous training and screening process. Representing Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh NCC Directorate, both cadets demonstrated exceptional leadership and commitment, standing out at the national-level event.

JUO Aqib Javaid was honored with a Letter of Appreciation from the Additional



Director General (ADG) NCC of JK&L Directorate for his outstanding performance and dedication. His recognition is a testament to the high standards of training imparted by the NCC unit of Amar Singh College.

Adding to the college's glory, SUO Musaib Hassan Bhat received an Appreciation Letter from the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, recognizing his remarkable contributions during the RDC 2025. His achievement underscores the talent and potential of youth from the region on national platforms.

During the Republic Day Camp, the cadets under-

went intensive training, drill performances, and leadership activities, demonstrating their unwavering commitment to NCC. Their success not only highlights their personal dedication but also serves as an inspiration for future NCC cadets of the region.

The Principal of Amar Singh College, Prof. Aijaz Ahmad Hakak, along with NCC Officers Lieutenant Showkat Ahmad Teeli and Dr. Helal Ahmad Lone expressed immense pride in their achievements. Their participation and accolades reinforce the significance of NCC in shaping young leaders and fostering national spirit.

Govt. Degree College Vijaypur celebrates World Wildlife Day 2025

JINNEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, MARCH 3

Department of Environmental Sciences and Eco-club of Government Degree College Vijaypur celebrated World Wildlife Day 2025 with a seminar focused on the theme "Wildlife Conservation Finance: Investing in People and Planet." The event aimed to raise awareness about the importance of wildlife conservation and the need to protect our planet's biodiversity.

Poonam Kundan (Head, Department of Environmental Sciences and Convener Eco-club), delivered an insightful presentation elaborating on the significance of the theme for 2025. She emphasized the interconnectedness of all living beings and the vital role that wildlife plays in maintaining ecological balance. Her discussion included various threats faced by wildlife, such as habitat loss, climate change



and poaching and highlighted the importance of collective action in conserving our natural heritage.

Dr. Vandana Verma, Principal of GDC Vijaypur, also shared her views during the seminar. She underscored the role of educational institutions in promoting environmental awareness and encouraged students to engage in sustainable practices that benefit both wildlife and communities.

Students of the college actively participated in the Seminar. First position was achieved by Rupaank Aryan of BA Semester VI, Second

position was attained by Amjad Hussain of B.Sc. Semester IV and third position was secured by Ranjit Kaur of B.Sc. Semester IV. Consolation prizes were awarded to Avijeet Kumar and Vishal Sharma of B.Sc. Semester IV. Principal of the college, Dr. Vandana Verma appreciated the efforts of the students for their active participation. The whole event was coordinated by Poonam Kundan (HOD Environmental Sciences). Prizes and certificates were awarded to winners and all participants.

ADM Ansuya Jamwal cautions students against peer pressure, lure of drugs

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

As part of the ongoing efforts to curb the rising menace of drug abuse, the District Administration Jammu, under the guidance of District Magistrate Sachin Kumar Vaishya, today organised an Information, Education and Communication campaign at Government Boys High School, Bansultan, Miran Sahib. The campaign was presided over by Additional District Magistrate Ansuya Jamwal.

The initiative is part of a three-month-long IEC campaign aimed at spreading awareness and educating the public on the dangers of substance abuse. The event featured expert lectures by psychiatrists, educators and former addicts who shared insights into the psychological, emotional and physical consequences of drug addiction.

Addressing the gathering, ADM Jamwal emphasised the importance of collective action to tackle drug abuse at the grassroots level. She urged parents to remain vigilant and proactive in preventing children from falling into the



trap of addiction. "Society must come together and openly discuss ways to prevent the infiltration of drugs into our society. Any suspicion regarding drug-related activities must be reported immediately to the district administration, such as the Tehsildar or the Sub-Divisional Magistrate. The law ensures protection for whistleblowers," she asserted.

Highlighting peer pressure as a major factor influencing youth towards drug abuse, she stressed the importance of educating children about resisting such influences. "We must act together as a society to stop this gradual descent of our nation into drug abuse. The fight begins at the ground level," she

added. A total of 35 awareness events were organised across multiple panchayats in the district today alone. So far, 118 events have been conducted since the campaign commenced on February 10. Over the next three months, a total of 305 such events have been planned to ensure awareness reaches every corner of the district.

The event saw participation from students and local residents. Among those present were Zonal Education Officer Verthana Sharma, Block Development Officer Sonali Arora, Principal Ashok Chopra, PSI Ajesh Jamwal and other officials.

DIO Poonch holds Interaction-cum-Orientation Session with Media Fraternity of District

JINNEWS SERVICE
POONCH, MARCH 3

The District Information Officer (DIO) of Poonch, Wakeel Ahmed Batt, successfully conducted an interaction-cum-orientation session with the Media Fraternity of Poonch district. The event aimed to foster a direct connection between the government and local journalists, facilitating a collaborative environment for information sharing and mutual understanding.

During the session, DIO Wakeel Batt emphasized the vital role of the media as the fourth pillar of democracy. He underscored the media's significant responsibility in promoting transparency



and accountability within governmental operations. "Media is not just a channel of communication; it is a powerful tool that can drive societal progress," he stated.

DIO further highlighted the importance of maintaining balance and impartiality in journalism. He urged the attending journalists to report responsibly on the developments

occurring within the district, reinforcing the notion that accurate and fair reporting is essential for an informed public.

The session concluded with an interactive Q&A segment, allowing journalists to voice their concerns and suggestions, thus strengthening the relationship between the local media and government officials.

DC Shopian convenes meeting on Mughal road opening

JINNEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, MARCH 3

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta today convened a meeting of officers regarding the opening of Mughal Road for vehicular traffic.

DC enquired about the feasibility of opening of Mughal Road for regular traffic movement. The concerned officers from BRO and Mechanical Engineering Department apprised about the snow clearance operations along the vital road link, across the Pir Panjal.

They intimated that



recent snowfall has delayed the opening of Mughal Road as the snow clearance process had to be started afresh.

DC while emphasising the importance of the road, directed the concerned authorities to speed up the snow clearance work with

deployment of adequate machinery so that it can be made through for traffic soon. ADDC, Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone; ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; ARTO, Tehsildar Shopian and other concerned from Mechanical Engineering and BRO attended the meeting.

GWC Parade organizes entrepreneurship awareness programme

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

Innovation and Incubation cell of GCW Parade Ground, organized one day Entrepreneurship awareness programme under the aegis of Ministry of MSME. The programme comprised of two sessions and was held under the patronship of Principal of the college, Dr. Ravender Kumar Tickoo.

The whole programme was funded by NIT Srinagar, Nodal agency appointed by Ministry of MSME for spreading Entrepreneurship Culture across J&K.

In the inaugurating session, Resource person, Neetu Dhar, Chairperson of "Jammu Pariyatan Vikas cooperative limited", interacted with the students on the theme of "Art of Public Speaking". She engaged students

of various semesters in small activities to aware them of major characteristics of good public speaking like content, Delivery, Body language and Audience Engagement.

In second session, Ulfat briefed the audience about the schemes of MSME through Power point presentation shared by the coordinator of Programme, Dr. Dinesh kumar from NIT Srinagar about the schemes of MSME which focused on tapping the creativity of budding Entrepreneurs. The event was graced by the HODs and faculty members of different departments.

The programme culminated with the vote of Thanks presented by Prof. Anita Sharma, Convener, Innovation and Incubation cell.

Distt Admin Srinagar bids warm farewell to outgoing ADDC Ghulam Hassan Sheikh



JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MARCH 3

The District Administration Srinagar today organized a function at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex, here to honour and bid warm farewell to the outgoing Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Srinagar, Ghulam Hassan Sheikh who has been transferred and posted as Secretary to J&K Board of School Education.

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat presided over the function.

While Chief Planning Officer, SDM East, besides

other senior Officers of District Administration were present in the farewell function.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar extended his best wishes to the outgoing Officer for his future endeavours to serve the public. He lauded the passion and dedication of the Officer in enhancing public services, and promoting sustainable development in Srinagar District.

The outgoing ADDC in his address expressed his gratitude to the Officers and officials of the District Administration Srinagar for their active support and cooperation.

ARTO Rajouri conducts extensive enforcement drive in Sunderbani

JINNEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, MARCH 3

On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma, the Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Rajouri, Rajesh Gupta, conducted an extensive enforcement drive in Sunderbani and adjoining areas. The drive aimed at ensuring strict compliance with the Motor Vehicles Act and promoting road safety.

During the enforcement drive, commercial and non-commercial vehicles were thoroughly checked, and violators were challaned under various provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act.

The details of the challans issued included Without Helmet, Without

Seat Belt, Uninsured Vehicles, Alteration in Goods Vehicles, Overloading in Passenger Vehicles, Without Registration Papers, Absence of Fare Chart, Pollution Under Control (PUC) Certificate, Without Driving License & Without High-Security Registration Plate (HSRP).

A total of 37 challans were issued during the drive, leading to the imposition of fines amounting to Rs 1,03,500 on traffic violators. Additionally, two driving licenses were recommended for suspension, and three vehicles were seized and kept at Sunderbani Police Station.

ARTO Rajouri has urged vehicle owners and drivers to adhere to traffic regulations to avoid penalties and ensure safer roads for all.

FROM THE PAGE 1...

Government committed...

restoration of full statehood. My Government remains steadfast in its commitment to addressing this legitimate desire of the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir," he said, adding that his government recognizes the emotional and political significance of the Statehood for the people and is actively engaging with all stakeholders to facilitate this process in a manner that ensures peace, stability, and progress.

The LG said the Government is committed to preserving the unity in diversity that defines Jammu and Kashmir.

"We take immense pride in our composite culture and centuries-old traditions of amity and brotherhood. My Government is committed to preserving the unity in diversity that defines Jammu and Kashmir. It is firmly committed to maintaining peace and harmony, ensuring that the aspirations of our people are protected from divisive influences and cultivating an inclusive society built on mutual respect and harmony, paving the path to a prosperous and peaceful future," he said.

Sinha said that his Government is committed to strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and urban Local Bodies (ULBs) by ensuring timely elections at all levels.

He said the move will enhance grassroots democracy, promote citizen participation in decision-making and empower local governance for more effective development.

The LG said his government has ensured an adequate resource envelope for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), enabling them to undertake sustainable and inclusive development in their respective areas.

"This commitment empowers local governance, strengthens grassroots democracy, and accelerates holistic regional growth," he said.

Sinha also said that reservation of seats for other Backward Classes in Panchayats, Municipalities and Municipal Corporations have been also granted.

"Reservation of seats in the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir has been granted by the Government to the persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes," he said, adding that persons residing in areas adjoining International Border have been given benefits of reservation by the Government, at par with residents of LoC Areas.

"Paddari tribe', 'Pahari Ethnic Group, 'Gadda Brahmin' and 'Koli' have been included as Scheduled Tribes. Valmiki Community has also been included in SC category," he added.

The LG said the government is committed to the dignified rehabilitation of Kashmiri migrants back into the Valley by ensuring a safe and secure environment.

"Efforts will be intensified to accelerate the construction of transit accommodation projects for migrant employees, providing them with suitable housing at designated locations. These initiatives reflect our dedication to restoring confidence, fostering inclusivity, and ensuring a stable and prosperous future for all communities in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Talking about 2025-26 budget, Sinha said that it is a testament to the aspirations of the masses, reflecting their hopes for a brighter future.

"This budget carries historic significance as it is the first in over seven years to be presented by an elected government in Jammu and Kashmir. It symbolizes the people's power, as it is prepared by the representatives chosen by the people themselves. This budget is not merely a financial document; it is a testament to the aspirations of the masses, reflecting their hopes for a brighter future!" he said.

He said for the first time, the Chief Minister has personally chaired meetings for all twenty districts, separately, engaging directly with elected representatives to understand their aspirations, regional needs, and development priorities in Budget formulation.

"The voices of the people are again shaping the allocation of resources and the prioritization of development goals. This budget is a true celebration of democracy—an expression of the dreams and expectations of every household, every community, and every region of Jammu and Kashmir. It marks a moment of renewal and empowerment, where the collective efforts of the people's representatives are shaping the future of this land," he said.

He said the budget represents a new era of participatory governance, ensuring that the needs and aspirations of the common man remain at the heart of policy making.

The LG said the Government remains fully committed to implementing its promises made to the people, as a representation of the people's aspirations for further political empowerment, and for creating an enabling environment for employment, sustainable development, social inclusiveness and expansion of the economy for enhancing the overall quality of life.

"It will work relentlessly on the three principles of Economy, Ecology and Equity that will shape our future. We commit ourselves to this balance for a better and brighter future for all," he said.

He said good governance remains the cornerstone of a prosperous and harmonious future for Jammu and Kashmir.

"My Government remains firmly committed to transparent and accountable decision making, ensuring the efficient and effective allocation of resources so that the people of Jammu and Kashmir fully benefit from every penny spent," he said.

He added that innovative initiatives such as digital governance, streamlined public service delivery, effective grievance redressal, and the promotion of socio-economic programs are designed to bridge developmental gaps and strengthen public trust.

The LG said his government's interventions will prioritize youth, women, and farmers, striving to make Jammu and Kashmir a progressive and inclusive economy.

"With unity and a shared commitment, it will work towards the welfare of every section of society, especially the poor and marginalized," he said.

The LG said the infrastructure development remains a key driver of progress, with significant advancements in connectivity.

"The recent inauguration of the Sonamarg Tunnel (Z-Morh) by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, along with the completion of two segments of the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (Banihal Bypass and Ramban Bypass), has substantially reduced travel time," he said. He said his government is committed to fast-tracking major connectivity projects by streamlining land acquisition, securing forest clearances, and addressing encroachment issues.

"Ongoing projects, including the Expressway, National Highways, and Ring Roads for Jammu and Srinagar, will be accelerated to ensure their timely completion," he said.

The LG said the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project will integrate J&K more closely with the rest of India.

"The Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project has reached a historic milestone with the completion of its final segment, poised to transform connectivity and development in Jammu and Kashmir, integrating Jammu and Kashmir more closely with the rest of the nation," he said. KNO

Govt transforming...

classrooms, tinkering labs, and digital resources. "A strong emphasis on skill development, particularly for women and youth, is fostering inclusivity and empowerment. Additionally, to enhance teaching standards and improve educational outcomes," he said.

"My government is prioritizing capacity building of 38 programs for educators, ensuring a more dynamic and effective learning environment," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The LG said that Vidhya Samiksha Kendra is being operationalized for data driven decision making and improved educational outcomes. "Real time recording of student's attendance and tracking of teacher attendance have also been introduced," he added.

"The government is committed to strengthening the infrastructure of colleges and universities, ensuring adequate faculty and staff to enhance the quality of higher education. As part of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, special emphasis will be placed on advancing research facilities for both faculty and students," LG Sinha said.

The Lieutenant Governor said that additionally, innovation, incubation, and entrepreneurship will be actively encouraged to foster a start-up culture among students, equipping them with the skills and opportunities to drive economic growth and self-reliance.

"My government is focusing on transforming Jammu and Kashmir into an educational hub with strategic investments in higher education. IIT Jammu and IIM Jammu are now operational," LG Sinha said.

He also said that the Jammu University has attained A++ status, while the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) leads in skill development and innovation. "Faculty from the University of Kashmir are recognized among the top 2 percent of global scientists by Stanford University."

The Lieutenant Governor said, "Institutions like Cluster University of Jammu and IUST are contributing to high impact research and securing patents." KNO

I leave it to history...

said, "I leave it to history to judge my tenure," Omar said, adding "Perhaps now, years later, we realize the significance of his contributions. He served as Prime Minister for 10 years, and there is hardly a world leader who does not respect him, from the United States to the United Kingdom and Japan.

The Chief Minister said, "As a person Dr Singh empathized with the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He was a compassionate leader. I had the opportunity to work closely with him and learned a great deal."

"He (Dr Singh) never raised his voice, and if he ever made a mistake, he was quick to acknowledge it," Omar added.

DR SINGH REMAINED COMMITTED TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES FACED BY J&K PEOPLE

The Chief Minister hailed Dr Singh's commitment to addressing the challenges faced by Jammu and Kashmir. "Regarding Jammu and Kashmir, Dr. Singh worked to address concerns about the region," he said, adding, "Dr Singh carried forward the peace process which had commenced during the tenure of Atal Bihari Vajpayee and General Pervez Musharraf."

"The late Prime Minister didn't halt the process due to change of guard in New Delhi. He could have easily stopped it but he chose to continue the process."

"Despite intermittent challenges, he made every effort to move the process forward," Omar said.

He recalled Dr. Singh's efforts during the turmoil of 2010, when working groups were established to address the grievances of the people. "These groups included representatives from all parties and diverse perspectives. Even today, the recommendations of these working groups remain unmatched, whether in politics or governance," Omar said.

MADE RELENTLESS EFFORTS TO REHABILITATE KASHMIRI PANDITS

Omar also touched upon Dr. Singh's initiatives for the rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits. "During Dr. Singh's tenure, job reservations were created for them, and efforts were made to facilitate their return. The conditions in the camps where they lived were terrible, but the construction of townships provided some relief," he said.

FOUR-LANING OF JAMMU-SRINAGAR HIGHWAY WAS INITIATED DURING DR SINGH'S TENURE

Highlighting Dr. Singh's contributions to infrastructure development in Jammu and Kashmir, the Chief Minister said, "The four-laning of the Jammu-Srinagar highway was initiated during Dr. Singh's tenure. Today, we are waiting for the Prime Minister to inaugurate the rail link, which I hope will happen soon. The foundation for connecting Kashmir with the rest of the country was laid when the Banihal tunnel was completed, and the train passed through it. I was on that train with Dr. Singh. The world's highest railway

bridge was also started during his tenure."

"Unfortunately, he did not live to see the train pass over it, but it is comforting to know that the work he started has now been completed by the current government," he added.

Omar recounted Dr Singh's journey from humble beginnings to becoming one of India's most respected leaders. "Dr. Manmohan Singh was born in undivided India, which was once part of Pakistan, into a very poor family. He studied under streetlights and went on to reach Oxford and Cambridge. He started his career as an officer, became an Economic Advisor, served in the Training Commission, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Finance Minister, and eventually Prime Minister. Wherever he worked, he achieved success," Omar said.

PLAYED PIVOTAL ROLE IN TRANSFORMING INDIA'S ECONOMY

The Chief Minister highlighted Dr. Singh's pivotal role in transforming India's economy during his tenure as Finance Minister and later as Prime Minister. "When Dr. Manmohan Singh became the Finance Minister, the situation was dire. We didn't have enough money to run the government. The country's gold reserves were mortgaged to foreign nations to bring in some funds to keep the government functioning. Those were the days, and today, we are among the top five economies in the world. If Dr. Singh had not initiated the reforms he did, our situation might have been similar to some of the poorer African countries," Omar said.

He praised Dr. Singh for abolishing the license-permit raj, which revolutionized India's economic landscape. "Today, if the private sector has achieved so much success, it is because Dr. Singh eliminated the license-permit system. Before this, the government decided which factory would be established, how big it would be, and where it would be located. These restrictions were gradually removed, and today, our economic position is praised worldwide," Omar added.

The Chief Minister also commended Dr. Singh's social welfare measures, such as the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA). "I still remember when MNREGA was first introduced; people said it was impossible to provide jobs on such a large scale and that it would fail. But even today, years later, the scheme continues to function effectively. Even now, when we speak to MPs, they demand job cards and work under MNREGA," he said.

HE WAS AN EPITOME OF HUMILITY AND INTEGRITY

The Chief Minister shared personal anecdotes about Dr. Singh's humility and integrity. "I recall an incident that I may not have shared before. I had written a letter to him about an issue and later mentioned it in an interview without naming him. Someone in the PMO misunderstood and informed him that I had breached protocol by discussing the letter in the media. Dr. Singh called me and said, 'Omar, you should not have done this? I replied that I haven't done anything that could breach the protocol. He disconnected the phone and fifteen minutes later, he called again and said, 'Omar, you were right. I was misinformed. I apologize.' He was the Prime Minister, yet he had no hesitation in admitting his mistake and apologizing. That was the kind of person he was," Omar recalled. KNO

No possibility about...

are vastly different."

He said, "All the issues, including statehood will be discussed in the House in the ongoing budget session." KNO

Snow blankets...

traffic advisory and asked farmers to suspend irrigation & other farm operations till 4th March. Avoid sloppy & avalanche prone areas, it reads. KNO

CM Omar calls for...

maintained.

Pertinently, the KNO has already reported that in absence of the government regulations, prices of essential commodities have skyrocketed in Kashmir and no quality check has added to the insecurities of the consumers.

The Department of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCSCA) that regulated the prices and checked the quality of essential items like bread, mutton, vegetables, and milk lost its teeth after the markets were decontrolled in the Valley, with one of the officials claiming that the department has no power to regulate the prices of the essential commodities sold in the open market.

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister has also passed strict directions on ensuring adequate electricity and water supply to the people in Ramadan.

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has been asked to distribute aid to underprivileged families and support community welfare programmes. Assistance to widows, and orphans be released on priority, it reads.

The Deputy Commissioners have been asked to maintain strict vigil on individuals and organizations collecting donations to prevent fraud and ensure funds are used for genuine welfare purposes. "Set up helpline numbers where people can report suspicious fundraising activities. Identify and publicize a list of verified NGOs/charitable institutions," the Chief Minister has told all DCs. KNO

DGP chairs meeting...

need for enhanced inter-district collaboration to strengthen law enforcement and security operations.

He also highlighted the importance of a proactive approach and adoption of community-based strategies to build trust and address criminal activities.

The district SSPs presented detailed briefings, outlining the law enforcement and public safety challenges in their respective jurisdictions.

Prabhat also issued directives for the swift investiga-

tion and resolution of long-pending criminal cases.

The IGP Kashmir Zone also urged officers to adopt a proactive stance in addressing serious crimes and to collaborate closely with the judiciary and prosecution to expedite case resolutions.

LG address...

promised, this has been endorsed by the government," he said.

Sharma added that National Conference rule is about to complete six months but the government has "failed to fulfil its promises," adding that the "this dispensation has been doing nothing and instead the ministers have been creating hurdles in the developmental works that were started earlier."

About the constructive opposition, he said that have apprised the Speaker that nobody should be allowed to talk about unconstitutional, anti-national things. "We will not allow such talks and will oppose it tooth and nail," he added.

About MLA Langate Sheikh Khurshid's protest, Sunil condemned the protest and said that the MLA had to send the picture to his village and nothing else. KNO

Mubarak Gul seeks...

routine business. He cannot sit in a shop or anywhere else. Anyone can attack him. This is the reality of the situation. That is why I urge the government to frame a comprehensive mechanism for the former legislators," Gul said.

He added, "We have seen in many states and even in Parliament that former members are provided with free medical treatment and transportation services. We want a similar kind of arrangement for the former legislators of Jammu and Kashmir". KNO

BRO conducts inaugural...

development, the spokesman said.

Building on the momentum of the Naushera Tunnel breakthrough (700 meters) on January 29, 2024, the BRO continues its rapid progress in enhancing infrastructure across the challenging terrain of the Rajouri and Poonch districts, the spokesman said.

Brig Madan reaffirmed the BRO's commitment to spearheading crucial road projects aimed at enhancing connectivity in remote areas and strengthening defence infrastructure in forward areas.

The ongoing developments underscore the organisation's dedication to national security and regional development, the chief engineer said.

He said the Bhimber Gall tunnel once completed will not only facilitate civilian and military movement but also contribute significantly to economic growth and regional accessibility.

The BRO remains steadfast in its mission to build and upgrade strategic road networks across challenging terrains, ensuring seamless connectivity for both defence and civilian purposes, the officer said.

India's R&D spending...

Development Innovations, Successful Harnessing, and Adoption, is a step towards building a knowledge-based economy where research-driven solutions transform industries. The program is designed to support faculty members and students working on disruptive technologies across disciplines, ensuring that India remains at the forefront of global innovation.

Dr. Jitendra Singh emphasized that initiatives like DISHA align with the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), which seeks to create a unified research ecosystem bridging science, humanities, and social sciences. This integrated approach will empower Indian researchers to engage in cross-sectoral collaborations, pushing the boundaries of discovery and implementation.

One of the key highlights of Dr. Jitendra Singh's address was India's policy shift in allowing private sector participation in strategic fields such as space technology and nuclear research. "What was once solely the domain of government institutions is now open to private enterprises, enabling faster technological advancements, higher efficiency, and global competitiveness," he stated.

The space sector, in particular, has witnessed a surge in innovation, with startups actively contributing to satellite development, launch services, and space-based applications. The government's decision to open up the nuclear energy sector to private players is another transformative step aimed at leveraging indigenous expertise to drive energy security and sustainability.

Highlighting the transformative impact of artificial intelligence in healthcare, Dr. Jitendra Singh pointed out the success of AI-driven mobile telemedicine units in providing healthcare access to remote areas. "AI-powered diagnostics and telemedicine solutions are already redefining patient care, making high-quality healthcare services accessible and affordable for all," he noted.

However, he stressed the importance of maintaining a balance between AI and human expertise. "The role of AI is to complement human intelligence, not replace it. A hybrid approach will ensure that technology enhances, rather than diminishes, the role of skilled professionals in healthcare and other critical fields," he added.

With India set to complete 100 years of independence in 2047, Dr. Jitendra Singh urged young innovators to take the lead in shaping the country's technological future. "The responsibility of building a technologically advanced India lies with the next generation. What we invest in today will determine our standing in the global economy decades from now," he said. As the government continues to invest in deep-tech research, skill development, and industry-academia collaboration, programs like DISHA will play a crucial role in making India an innovation powerhouse. The Minister's address reinforced the vision of an India that is not just a consumer of technology but a leading creator and exporter of cutting-edge solutions to the world.

VC, Registrar BGSBU Clarifies Suspension of Employee, Ensures Due Process and Compliance

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, MARCH 3

Vice Chancellor of Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU), Prof. Jawaid Iqbal, today addressed a press conference regarding the recent suspension of an employee. He stated that the decision was taken following due procedure, based on multiple complaints against the individual dating back to 2021.

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma, who is also holding charge as Registrar of BGSBU, accompanied the Vice Chancellor during the press conference.

Prof. Iqbal emphasized that the suspension was not arbitrary but was



necessitated by non-compliance with institutional norms. He assured that a fair inquiry is underway, and the concerned individual will be given an opportunity to present their case once the process is completed.

Clarifying the University's administrative status, he stated that no teaching association currently exists, as their tenure has already ended. He also reassured that classwork is not suspended, and the university is functioning smoothly. Furthermore, he urged employees to

adhere to institutional rules instead of resorting to pressure tactics, stressing that the university's progress remains the priority. "We are not against teachers; we want the university to progress, but compliance with norms is essential," he said.

Prof. Iqbal also announced that the admission process for the new academic session will commence soon, urging all stakeholders to focus on admissions and the smooth conduct of examinations to ensure that students do not suffer.

SBI RSETI Ramban inaugurates 30-Day Women's Tailoring Training Program

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, MARCH 3

SBI Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) Ramban inaugurated a new batch of its 30-day Women's Tailoring Training Program at the RSETI campus. A total of 30 enthusiastic candidates have enrolled in the program, aiming to acquire valuable tailoring skills for self-employment and entrepreneurship.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Khursheed Ahmed Malik, Lead District Manager (LDM), Ramban, who attended as the Chief Guest. He emphasised the importance of skill development in empowering women and encouraged participants to utilize this opportunity for financial independence. Director RSETI Ramban, S. Harvinder Singh, welcomed the participants and provided a comprehensive overview of the training program and RSETI's mission. He highlighted how such skill-based programs align with government initiatives to promote self-employment



and entrepreneurship among women.

During the event, the Director elaborated on the structured 30-day curriculum, which will cover various aspects of tailoring, including cutting, stitching, designing and finishing techniques.

He also spoke about the financial and entrepreneurial support available to trainees post-completion, including linkages with government schemes like PMEGP, Mudra Yojana and NRLM, to help them establish their businesses.

The program concluded with motivational words from Senior Faculty, Amrik

Singh Raju, who encouraged the trainees to stay committed to their learning journey. The event ended on an enthusiastic note with the RSETI claps, symbolising unity and encouragement for the newly enrolled trainees.

SBI RSETI Ramban remains committed to empowering rural youth and women by providing skill-based training programs that foster self-reliance and entrepreneurship. For further details on upcoming training programs, interested candidates can visit the SBI RSETI Ramban campus or contact the institute.

3-Day workshop on Post-Production Techniques inaugurates at Journalism Department, JU



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

The Department of Journalism and Media Studies, University of Jammu, inaugurated a three-day skill training workshop on post-production techniques today.

The event was graced by Anil Gakkhar, Resident Editor, Dainik Jagran Jammu, as the chief guest, while Prof. Durgesh Tripathi, Dean, School of Media, Indraprastha University, New Delhi, delivered the keynote address.

Scheduled from March 3 to March 5, the workshop aims to provide students with hands-on training in post-production, a critical component of the media industry.

The inaugural session began with a welcome address by Prof. Garima Gupta, Head of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies, who emphasized the department's commitment to bridging the gap between academic learning and industry demands.

"Aligning with the vision of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Umesh Rai, this workshop is designed to equip students with essential professional skills in media production," she stated.

Chief Guest, Anil Gakkhar provided insights into post-production techniques in print media, explaining the vital role of

editing and layout design in shaping news delivery.

In his keynote address, Prof. Durgesh Tripathi highlighted the evolving landscape of media and journalism, stating that proficiency in post-production is no longer optional but a necessity in today's digital age.

Prof. Alka Sharma, Chairperson, SIIEDC, JU, underscored the significance of skill-based learning in media studies.

Guest of Honour Dr. Ajay Gupta, former Director, ICSSR, spoke on the role of post-production in research and publication, emphasizing its impact on content quality and presentation.

The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Dushyant Kumar Rai, Professor, Department of Journalism and Media Studies.

Later, during an interaction with the resource persons, Vice Chancellor, Prof Umesh Rai stressed upon the significance of experiential learning in the contemporary world scenario and commitment of the University of Jammu to provide education aligned with the vision of NEP.

Over the next three days, students will participate in practical training sessions covering, Editing techniques, Content refinement and the impact of post-production on research, publication, and print media.

ECI recognises Atal Dulloo as 'Exemplary Leader' for successful holding of Lok Sabha elections

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

The Election Commission of India (ECI) had recognized the services of Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, for successful holding of elections for the 18th Lok Sabha in the UT of J&K.

The Chief Secretary, J&K was presented with a 'Certificate of Exemplary Leadership' signed by Chief Election Commissioner and two of the Election Commissioners for his excellent service towards successful conduct of the 18th Lok Sabha Elections-2024 in J&K.

This appreciation by the Commission was received by the Chief Secretary for holding of trouble free elections in the UT in which a substantial 58.11% polling was recorded for the first time for the general elections held here since 1989 across the districts of the UT. The same was over 14% more than that of the elections of 2019 during which the overall percentage of polling was just around



44% across the districts of the UT.

Pertinent to mention here that these were the first general elections of the J&K after its reorganization in the year 2019. A total of 87,26,281 voters were eligible to exercise their franchise in these elections. For this purpose, 11,629 polling stations had been established and 80,724 polling personnel had been trained and made available to ECI for holding of elections across the villages and towns of J&K.

Moreover, for the first time administration had established 83 women manned, 70 youth

manned, 73 PwD manned, 88 Green Polling Stations, 180 Border Polling Stations, 152 Model Polling Stations and 46 Unique Polling Stations under specific themes in all districts of Jammu & Kashmir. These were aimed to revolutionize the electoral process by ensuring accessibility and representation for all segments of society.

With a special focus on women, youth and Persons with Disabilities these stations were equipped with amenities tailored to meet their unique needs, fostering an environment conducive for their active participation in the democratic process.

DC B'pora reviews execution of CSR works for FY 2024-25, Action Plan for FY 2025-26

JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, MARCH 03

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, on Monday chaired a meeting to review the ongoing works under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) of NHPC for the financial year 2024-25 and Action Plan for FY 2025-26.

The meeting focused on the execution of CSR initiatives of NHPC under the KishanGanga project and the submission of action plans and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the upcoming fiscal year 2025-26.

During the meeting, it was informed that an allocation of Rs. 92.08 lakhs was made for CSR works in FY 2023-24, while Rs. 155.67 lakhs has been allocated for the current financial year, 2024-25.

The DC emphasized the importance of timely submission of utilization certificates of allocated funds by the concerned departments by March 10, 2025, for the



release of the pending 10% funds allocated for CSR activities.

Highlighting the importance of environmental sustainability, the DC instructed the relevant departments to submit a detailed locational plan for proposed environmental management activities, after proper field surveys.

In preparation for the CSR activities of FY 2025-26, Qadri urged the concerned departments to identify activities with focus on com-

munity benefits and impact areas.

He said District Administration is committed to ensure the effective implementation of CSR activities aimed at benefiting and improving the overall socio-economic conditions of the impact areas.

The meeting was attended by Head of Project (HoP) NHPC Bandipora, Lakshmi Chand, PO ICDS Yaar Ali Khan, ACD, CPO and district officers from various departments.

DC Reasi chairs meet to discuss modalities to strengthen Mission YUVA

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, MARCH 3

A key meeting on the Institutional Business Support Mechanism under Mission YUVA was convened in Reasi under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Reasi Ms Nidhi Malik.

The meeting attended by the representatives from the Small Business Development Unit (SBDU) and the business Help Desks (BHD) teams to streamline the implementation process by ensuring a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities among all stakeholders.

During the session, Deputy Commissioner Reasi emphasised on the need for a well-coordinated approach to effectively execute Mission YUVA's objectives. She underscored the importance of each stakeholder having a thorough understanding of their roles to ensure seamless and efficient implementation. A detailed presentation was conducted, outlining the specific responsibilities of



each stakeholder involved in the mission to enhance clarity and accountability.

During the session, Deputy Commissioner underscored the importance of each stakeholder having a thorough understanding of their roles to ensure seamless and efficient implementation of Mission YUVA. She also emphasised on the selection of Yuva Doots who will play a vital role in grassroot outreach and the execution of Mission YUVA.

It was decided that the selection process would adhere to the guidelines outlined in the Yuva Doot Document to ensure transparency and fairness.

DC Reasi stressed the

need for coordinated efforts from all stakeholders as Mission YUVA is a handholding scheme of government of JK UT aimed at empowering the youth by providing them with skill development opportunities, employment support and entrepreneurial guidance. The meeting concluded with a collective resolve to work towards ensuring the initiative reaches its intended beneficiaries and creates meaningful opportunities for the youth of Reasi. ADDC Sukhdev Samyals, CPO Narinder Kumar, SDMs, AD employment Annie Vaid, DSEO, CAO, FM DIC and others attended the meeting.

DC Poonch reviews performance of Banks under Annual Credit Plan

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, MARCH 3

Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal, chaired a meeting today at the DC Office complex to review the performance of banks under the Annual Credit Plan (ACP) for the financial year 2024-25.

The meeting was attended by key officials, including the GM DIC Poonch, Deputy Director Employment, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, LDM Poonch, District Officer KVIB, and Cluster Head of JK Bank Poonch, among others.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the progress of banks under government-sponsored schemes. He expressed concern regard-



ing the low credit dispensation in the renewable energy and agriculture sectors.

Banks were directed to achieve 100 percent credit dispensation in renewable energy and other agriculture schemes within the next 10 days. District officers of agriculture and allied departments were advised to sponsor credit-linked cases under schemes such as the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme and the National Livestock

Mission. Additionally, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for 100% disbursement of the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana Scheme.

The meeting highlighted the importance of collaboration between banks and sponsoring agencies to guide unemployed youth toward livelihood opportunities. Banks were urged to expedite case processing and provide comprehensive support to the youth.

DC Shopian reviews implementation of PM Surya Ghar (Muft Bijli Yojna)



JI NEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, MARCH 3

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta today convened a meeting with concerned officers to review the implementation of PM Surya Ghar (Muft Bijli Yojana) in the district.

The scheme aims to enhance the share of rooftop solar capacity and empower residential households to generate their own electricity, supported by significant financial contributions from the government.

The meeting was informed that a substan-

tial number of applications have been received for installation of rooftops in the district.

Gupta emphasized the need to increase registrations under the scheme and directed Tehsildars and officers and officials of KPDCL for their cooperation to launch massive awareness campaigns at their respective jurisdiction to motivate the people so that they will be benefited. ADDC, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone; ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; Tehsildars, Executive Engineer KPDCCL, Tehsildars and other concerned were present.

EDITORIAL

Safeguarding hearing health in an increasingly noisy world

Hearing loss is no longer just an issue of ageing—it is increasingly linked to environmental and lifestyle factors that demand urgent attention. As highlighted by medical experts, excessive noise exposure, unregulated medication use, and poor cardiovascular health significantly contribute to hearing impairment. A proactive approach to ear care is essential in preserving auditory health and ensuring a better quality of life.

Noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) has become a major public health concern, especially in urban environments where honking traffic, loud music, and industrial sounds create a constant barrage of high-decibel noise. According to Dr. Saima, an ENT specialist at GMC Srinagar, limiting exposure to loud sounds is crucial in reducing NIHL risks. Whether through workplace regulations, personal protective measures such as earplugs, or controlling volume levels on personal audio devices, individuals must take conscious steps to protect their hearing. The growing dependence on earphones and headphones, particularly among the younger generation, exacerbates the issue. Dr. Aamir Yousuf, Head of the ENT Department at GMC Anantnag, warns that prolonged exposure to high-volume audio can cause irreversible damage to the delicate hair cells in the cochlea. The World Health Organization's (WHO) "60/60 rule"—listening at no more than 60% volume for no longer than 60 minutes at a time—should be widely promoted to mitigate risks.

Ototoxicity, or drug-induced hearing loss, is another underrecognized yet significant factor. Dr. Saima emphasizes that hundreds of medications, both prescription and over-the-counter, can impair hearing. Without proper medical consultation, the misuse of these drugs can result in irreversible damage. Public awareness campaigns and stricter regulatory oversight on the sale of ototoxic drugs are necessary to prevent unnecessary cases of hearing impairment.

Recent studies have drawn compelling links between cardiovascular health and hearing ability. Dr. Saima highlights that conditions such as hypertension, heart disease, and high cholesterol can restrict blood flow to the inner ear, leading to auditory complications. Furthermore, diabetics are twice as likely to develop hearing impairments. Maintaining a heart-healthy lifestyle through balanced nutrition, regular exercise, and effective stress management is crucial not only for overall well-being but also for preserving hearing function.

Hearing health is also impacted by smoking and alcohol consumption. Dr. Shabir warns that cigarette smoke and excessive alcohol intake can damage the inner ear. Tobacco restricts blood flow to the auditory system, while alcohol generates harmful free radicals that can impair delicate ear structures. Public health initiatives must reinforce the risks associated with these habits, encouraging healthier lifestyle choices.

Early diagnosis is key in managing hearing loss. Dr. Aamir underscores the importance of neonatal hearing screening, which can detect congenital hearing impairments within days of birth. Without early intervention, children with hearing loss may face developmental delays in speech and communication. Similarly, adults experiencing symptoms such as muffled speech, difficulty understanding conversations in noisy settings, or frequent requests for repetition should seek prompt medical evaluation.

Is Forest Rights Act driving deforestation?

BKSINGH

The law has been enacted to confer rights over the use of forest lands by individual tribal or forest dwellers under their occupation on the prescribed cutoff date. Besides the individual rights, there is also provision for community rights over certain forests for benefits of collection of usufructs like beedi leaves, minor forest products, grazing, fishing etc. and rights can also be conferred to the communities for sustainable management of forest resources.

But the rights can be granted only when they are in actual possession of the forest land or have been enjoying the usufructs or sustainably managing the forest resources on or before 13-12-2005 for tribal and three generations (75 years) before this date for other traditional forest dwellers (OTFDs). Despite opposition from foresters, conservationists and environmentalists the law was enacted by the UPA government supported by left parties in 2005. This was followed by notifying the rules and the implementation from January 1, 2008.

Dipak Sarmah who succeeded me as the head of Karnataka Forest Department on my superannuation has observed on page 154 of his book titled, 'Forests Of Karnataka - Why And How Of Where They Are,' "Most of the benefits that had accrued in the forests since the 1980s by

way of forest consolidation due to implementation of Forest (Conservation) Act appear to have been nullified as a result of the implementation of the Forest Rights Act. The ominous signs of fragmentation and loss of forests are already discernible in a number of states as evident from the biennial India State of Forest Reports published by the Forest Survey of India, Dehradun.

A clearer picture will emerge in about a decade or so, by which time we would come to realise the true impact of the Forest Rights Act on our forests. But it may be then too late to retrieve the losses." Foresters alone cannot prevent the unauthorised removal of trees and the destruction of forests. Villagers set fire to burn the wood and grab the land. Forests are perpetually subjected to encroachments with the support of local leaders. Even if police presence is ensured and the community's resistance is bulldozed while removing encroachments, the problem resurfaces and lands are again grabbed. Political leaders question the removal of cultivation when land is devoid of tree growth. Fresh plantations are damaged and the forest area is re-encroached. Practically all encroachments till 25th October 1980, when the Forest (Conservation) Act came into operation were already regularised by the Union Government.

The Act was operational from 2008 with the new

cutoff date of 13-12-2005. It was only the vote bank; the OTFDs were brought in to benefit from the legislation though their encroachments till 25th October 1980 were regularised. It can be understood that OTFDs cannot have more than a generation-old encroachment on the new cutoff date, yet a floodgate of forest destruction was opened for them. Without having any consideration for the ecological security of the country, OTFDs went on a rampage, cleared the fresh tree growth, occupied lands and claimed rights. Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the nodal agency for implementation took up several reviews to monitor the progress of the states, further diluting the provisions in 2012 to ignore the only scientific evidence of satellite imagery interpretation among the evidence to be relied on in support of the claim. The claims of the tribal community, who had only to prove the occupation as of December 2005 were easily acceptable initially, but that too is now two decades old. Left-leaning forces and NGOs fought for claim cases of individual forest rights (IFR), community forest rights (CFR) and rights to manage the forest resources sustainably.

This has accelerated the deforestation. IFRs have already been granted to 2.2 million tribal and OTFDs, covering nearly 5 million ha of forest land. Several activists have written articles in newspapers and magazines showing a

satisfactory performance over the grant of IFRs and suggesting the states focus their attention on CFRs and grant of forest rights for sustainable management to avail the provisions that have been neglected by the states so far. The estimates of the activists suggest that 30 million hectare forest lands comprising more than 40 per cent of the total forest area can be granted for CFRs and sustainable management.

They further argue that if this is done, it has the potential to secure the rights and livelihood of 200 million people including 90 million tribal. Local press in Hyderabad has recently brought out that seven lakh acres of forests have been occupied in 2022-23 and claims over four lakh acres for tribal were approved in Telangana before the 2023 Assembly election. State machineries have accepted the claims overlooking the reports of the concerned divisional forest officer. J Ramesh, Nature Friends Environmental Development Society, Hyderabad, accused the state of pressurising officials for recognition of rights to ineligible individuals resulting in large-scale deforestation leading to the scam of unprecedented proportion.

There are reports from Rampachodavaram Forests division, Rajamundry (AP) that tribal department officials are granting rights in Papikonda National Park for money. A retired IFS M Padamanaba Reddy has filed a PIL for the scam. In

February 2019, just before the Lok Sabha polls, states moved the Supreme Court to review its order of eviction of rejected IFR claims and allow them to re-verify. The court accepted it, but so far the states have not concluded and continue to accept the fresh claims. What signal does it send down the line?

The Act has provided unlimited time for filing claims and deforestation and bringing the land under plough can continue. No one has any concern about the ecological security of the country.

It is to be understood that all rejected claimants are in occupation of the forest land, where they have already been successful in deforesting and clearing the area. More rejected claims are encouraged, and more deforestation takes place.

The only place where the CFRs and rights to manage the forests sustainably have been granted is the Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra. Section 3-1 (i) of FRA 2006 is relevant here, where rights can be granted to villages of Gram Sabha who have the experience of managing the area sustainably. Further the requirement of Section 4 (3) of the Act is also essential for the grant of rights i.e. they should have the resource as on 13-12-2005 for tribal and 75 years before this date for OTFDs. Management rights have been granted in many Gram Sabhas of Gadchiroli overlooking both the provisions.

Activists are taking this example all over the country and pressing for a repeat of this. This has been frequently quoted example in articles and papers. What these authors have been hiding is the destruction of forests. Forest areas given for the sustainable management of Gram Sabhas have been devastated, degraded and fragmented.

There are patches of bamboo forests in Medha Lekha Gram Sabha where all bamboo clumps were cleared in one stroke in 2012. Forest officers were physically prevented from entering the area. Bamboo has not responded well to the clear feeling. The fresh regeneration is bushy and does not yield any usable bamboo culm. It yielded certain culms every four years when it was managed by the Forest Department.

The management of Medha Lekha Gram Sabha has not been sustainable and the area has not yielded culms in 2016, 2020 and 2024. Taking a cue from Madha Lekha, other Gram Sabhas have also started clear felling and over-exploitation of the resource. Further, the revenue realised from the sale proceeds has not been ploughed back for fresh regeneration activities and the management has become completely unsustainable.

(The writer is Retired Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Head of Forest Force, Karnataka; views are personal)

Dealing with Exam Anxiety

SAKSHI SETHI

Examinations are integral to the educational system and are designed to assess students' knowledge, understanding and skills. However, for many students, exams are a source of significant anxiety, leading to stress, reduced performance, and even physical or emotional distress. Overcoming exam anxiety requires a combination of psychological strategies, effective study techniques, and a supportive environment. By adopting a proactive approach, students can transform their exam experiences from overwhelming to manageable.

There is no denying that exam anxiety is real, but so is one's resilience. The anxiety can stem from various

factors, including fear of failure, high expectations from parents or teachers, past negative experiences, or inadequate preparation. Symptoms of exam anxiety range from nervousness, restlessness and even difficulty concentrating to physical manifestations such as headaches, nausea and rapid heartbeat. Recognising these symptoms is the first step in overcoming exam-related stress. Dealing with exam stress can be a heavy load and can often make an individual feel lonely. A crucial aspect of managing exam anxiety is cultivating a positive attitude toward examinations. Students need to view exams as opportunities to demonstrate their learning rather than threats to their self-worth.

A growth mindset can

improve only through effort and practice and can significantly reduce anxiety. Use of positive affirmations such as "I am prepared" or "I can handle this challenge" can boost confidence. Additionally, normalising mistakes and failures as part of the learning process can help students overcome the fear of underperformance. One of the primary reasons for exam anxiety is inadequate preparation. Implementing effective study strategies can enhance confidence and performance. Creating a well-structured study schedule can help prevent last-minute cramming and ensure thorough coverage of subjects. Active learning techniques, such as summarisation, mind mapping and teaching concepts to

peers can also help retain information better. Practising with past exam papers and taking mock tests can familiarise students with the exam pattern, reducing uncertainty and nervousness. Relaxation techniques can significantly reduce exam-related stress and improve focus.

Deep breathing exercises, mindfulness meditation, and progressive muscle relaxation can help calm the mind before and during exams. Engaging in physical activities such as yoga, stretching, or even a short walk can release tension and improve concentration. Ensuring adequate sleep, maintaining a balanced diet, and staying hydrated contribute to overall well-being, making students more resilient to stress. A

supportive environment at home and school plays a vital role in alleviating exam anxiety. In today's competitive environment, it becomes important for parents to encourage their children rather than pressurise them with unrealistic expectations. Study groups and discussions with peers can provide moral support and motivation, making exam preparation a less isolating experience.

What plays the most vital role is on the day of the exam, where students, by following simple yet effective strategies, can stay calm and focused. Following strategies such as arriving early, taking deep breaths, and engaging in light stretching before entering the examination hall can help reduce ner-

vousness. Managing time effectively by allocating specific minutes to each question can help prevent panic. If anxiety arises during the exam, taking a few moments to pause, taking deep breaths, and refocusing can help prevent stress from escalating. Exam anxiety is a common challenge faced by students, but it can be effectively managed through self-awareness, positive thinking, strategic preparation, relaxation techniques, and a supportive environment. Ultimately, overcoming exam anxiety is not just about securing good grades but also about developing resilience and lifelong learning skills.

(The writer is an educator; views are personal)

A new era for rural revival and inclusive growth

KESHAV PRASAD MAURYA

The Budget presented by the BJP's double-engine government in Uttar Pradesh will go a long way in strengthening infrastructure and further boosting the holistic development of rural areas. The state government's mammoth budget of Rs 8,08,736 crore for the all-round development of the state reflects the inclusive and visionary approach of the government, taking full care of the poor, disadvantaged, youth, women empowerment and Annadatas. This budget is 9.8 per cent higher than last year's, indicating the government's pro-development agenda. Under the Prime Minister's vision of a developed India, special emphasis has been placed on rural areas.

The mainstay of the economy of the state is the rural sector and the government has been continuously working towards ensuring that the ben-

efits of the schemes reach the deprived sections of the society. Believing in the credo of self-reliance, the government has been focusing on fortifying the development arcs of villages to make them self-reliant as they will play an important role in creating a strong Uttar Pradesh. While over 96 lakh rural families have benefitted under the State Rural Livelihood Mission (UPSRLM), on the other hand, financial transactions worth Rs 31,103 crore have been facilitated through 39,556 Banking Correspondent Sakhis. Until now, more than two lakh women have become "Lakhpati Didi," helping them become self-reliant. Uttar Pradesh is also the first state in the country to guarantee concrete houses to the poor.

Fulfilling Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas', the state government has already constructed more than 3.6 million houses in resolution. Providing further impetus to the



cause, a provision of Rs 4,882 crore has been made in the Budget for the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural). Also, an amount of Rs 1,200 crore has been proposed under the Mukhyamantri Awas Yojana (Rural). While the Prime Minister's empathetic leadership has ensured a roof over the heads of the poor, the state's economy has also been flourishing.

The government's efforts have ensured the economic growth rate of the state has been recorded at 11.6 per

cent, which is higher than the national GDP growth of 9.6 per cent. Once considered a 'BIMARU' state, the estimated gross domestic product (GSDP) of the state has now risen to Rs 27.51 lakh crore, doubling from 2017-18. In line with this momentum, Uttar Pradesh's economy is expected to reach Rs 30 lakh crore in the next fiscal, which will significantly contribute towards making the state a \$1 trillion economy.

Along with the ramping up of infrastructure, Uttar Pradesh is now witnessing a

revolution in the transportation sector.

The North-South Corridor Plan will be implemented keeping in view road connectivity and highway expansion. Under this, Rs 200 crore has been provided for the widening and construction of roads. A budget of Rs 2,900 crore has been proposed for the widening of roads. Also, a provision of Rs 1,450 crore has been made for the construction of bridges and railway overbridges to ease traffic congestion. The incredible growth has taken into account the need to further bolster youth empowerment and job creation. A budget of Rs 1,000 crore has been allocated under the Chief Minister's Youth Entrepreneur Development Scheme. Under the Swami Vivekananda Yuva Sashaktikaran Yojana, 49.86 lakh smartphones/tablets have been distributed to promote smart education.

Free coaching is also being provided to the youth through

the Abhyudaya Yojana. Renewable energy and artificial intelligence have been given special emphasis to ensure that youngsters do not fall behind. While the Artificial Intelligence City will be set up in Lucknow, plans are underway to set up a 500 MW solar power plant which will entail a cost of Rs 2,500 crore. Prime Minister Narendra Modi places special emphasis on ensuring the well-being of farmers and wants to ensure they do not fall behind in these changing times. In line with this, Annadatas have been placed at the top of the priority list in the mission of achieving the goal of 'Viksit Bharat'. Under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, Rs 79,500 crore have been distributed to farmers while Rs 496 crore have also been disbursed under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. The state's sugarcane production capacity has also increased from 72 tonnes to 85 tonnes per hectare, boosting

the income levels of farmers.

The recently presented Budget will not only take the development of the state to new heights but will also transform rural India. From roads to digital infrastructure, farmers to industry, and women empowerment to a bright future for the youth, this Budget has been able to ensure that the needs of every section of society are taken care of.

With the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and schemes aimed at boosting the rural economy and infrastructure, Uttar Pradesh is rapidly moving towards fulfilling the dream of a self-reliant India. I am confident that this Budget will realise the vision of 'growth and progress' of UP and propel the state towards the exalted status of the most developed state in the country.

(The writer is Deputy Chief Minister of UP; views are personal)

Novel tech can allow people to taste coffee in virtual reality

AGENCIES
NEW YORK

Scientists have devised a novel technology, which intends to redefine the virtual reality experience by expanding to incorporate a new sensory connection - taste.

The interface, dubbed 'e-Taste', uses a combination of sensors and wireless chemical dispensers to facilitate the remote perception of taste - what scientists call gustation.

These sensors are attuned to recognise molecules like glucose and glutamate - chemicals that represent the five basic tastes of sweet, sour, salty, bitter, and umami.

Once captured via an electrical signal, that data is wirelessly passed to a remote device for replication, according to researchers from Ohio State University in the US.

"The chemical dimension in the current VR and AR realm is relatively underrepresented, espe-



cially when we talk about olfaction and gustation," said Jinghua Li, co-author of the study and an assistant professor of materials science and engineering at Ohio State.

"It's a gap that needs to be filled and we've developed that with this next-generation system," Li added.

The system, whose development was inspired by previous biosensor work of Li's, utilises an actuator with two parts: an interface to the mouth

and a small electromagnetic pump.

This pump connects to a liquid channel of chemicals that vibrates when an electric charge passes through it, pushing the solution through a special gel layer into the mouth of the subject.

Depending on the length of time that the solution interacts with this gel layer, the intensity and strength of any given taste can easily be adjusted, said Li.

"Based on the digital

instruction, you can also choose to release one or several different tastes simultaneously so that they can form different sensations," she said. The study was published in the journal Science Advances.

Further tests assessing e-Taste's ability to immerse players in a virtual food experience also analysed its long-range capabilities, showing that remote tasting could be initiated in Ohio from as far away as California.

Another experiment involved subjects trying to identify five food options they perceived, whether it was lemonade, cake, fried egg, fish soup or coffee.

"While these results open up opportunities to pioneer new VR experiences, this team's findings are especially significant because they could potentially provide scientists with a more intimate understanding of how the brain processes sensory signals from the mouth," said Li.

India's preventive healthcare market doubles in size in last 4 years: Zerodha's Nikhil Kamath

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

India's preventive healthcare market has doubled in size in the past four years, with 'wellness and fitness' alone contributing \$98 billion and occupying a major 51 per cent of the total market size, according to Nikhil Kamath, Co-founder at Zerodha.

Preventive healthcare also has a massive opportunity to make money with the projected size of the market to hit \$197 billion, which is around Rs 8 lakh crore by 2025.

"Everything health-related in the last decade felt like it was too early. This seems to be changing now, with health and longevity becoming mainstream in urban India," Kamath posted on X social media platform.

According to the data shared in the post, live fit-



ness content consumption has increased as much as 1,300 per cent since Covid pandemic times, which, completely transformed the world's view on health.

It is this growing consciousness that India is going to benefit from. The post further substanti-

ated the potential growth of the fitness industry by comparing the under penetration of wearables and gym goes in India with the world.

As per 2021 data, according to Kamath's post, 114 units of fitness wearables is sold per 10,000 people

in India as compared to the global average of 645.

This makes the fitness wearable sale 82 per cent lesser in India against the global number.

Indians on an average spend anywhere between Rs 4,000 to Rs 10,000 annually on preventive healthcare. Preventive healthcare includes exercise, healthy nutrition, health insurance, early diagnosis and health tracking, according to his post.

Another insight from the post revealed that India lags far behind in gym subscriptions, with 0.2 per cent of the world's total tally.

"Moreover, not only do we have the least gym subscriptions in the world but over 50 per cent gym members aren't regular. The data also highlighted that India currently has 96,278 gyms in total," according to the data.

Scientists identify blood metabolites behind early childhood development

AGENCIES
TORONTO

A team of researchers has identified small molecules in the blood that may impact early childhood development.

The McMaster University team shows how dietary exposures, early life experiences, and gut health can influence a child's growth and cognitive milestones.

The team collaborated with Brazilian scientists to conduct an untargeted metabolomic analysis of blood samples taken from more than 5,000 children between the ages of six months and five years as part of the Brazilian National Survey of Child Nutrition study.

They found several metabolites - small molecules that are by-products of human metabolism and microbial fermentation, known as uremic toxins - were inversely



associated with developmental outcomes.

Metabolites play important roles in human health especially at early stages of life.

"Our findings reveal the complex connections between diet, gut health and a child's developmental progress," explained Philip Britz-McKibbin, a professor in the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology.

By identifying specific metabolites related to a child's overall development, we can gain a deeper understanding of how potentially modifiable risk factors might support optimal growth and cognitive development in children, he mentioned in the study published in the journal eLife.

The researchers focused on metabolites

in the bloodstream that were correlated to early stages of cognitive development, using a measure called the Developmental Quotient (DQ).

The World Health Organization uses the measure to determine whether children are meeting age-appropriate milestones in social and cognitive development.

This approach led to the identification of several bioactive metabolites most often associated with chronic kidney disease, suggesting that even a modest increase in their concentrations may contribute to inflammation and developmental delays in early childhood.

"What's interesting is that many of these metabolites are linked to the gut-brain axis, suggesting that a healthy gut microbiome could play a critical role in a child's cognitive and social development," said Britz-McKibbin.

How brain plays central role in development of obesity

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

A new study has offered intriguing new insights into the origins of type 2 diabetes and obesity, as well as the brain's function as a critical control centre.

The hormone insulin plays a key role in the development of obesity. Up until recently, there have been numerous signs indicating insulin causes neurodegenerative and metabolic disorders, especially in the brain.

The latest study by the University Hospital of Tübingen, the German Center for Diabetes Research (DZD), and Helmholtz Munich now offers new insights.

Unhealthy body fat distribution and chronic weight gain are linked to the brain's sensitivity to insulin. What specific functions does insulin perform in the brain, and how does it affect individuals of normal weight?

In their study, published



in the journal Nature Metabolism, Professor Dr. Stephanie Kullmann and her colleagues at the Tübingen University Hospital for Diabetology, Endocrinology, and Nephrology found the answer to this query.

"Our findings demonstrate for the first time that even a brief consump-

tion of highly processed, unhealthy foods (such as chocolate bars and potato chips) causes a significant alteration in the brain of healthy individuals, which may be the initial cause of obesity and type 2 diabetes," Kullmann explained.

In a healthy state, insulin has an appetite-suppressing effect in the

brain.

However, in people with obesity in particular, insulin no longer regulates eating behaviour properly, resulting in insulin resistance.

In the healthy study participants, the brain shows a similar decrease in sensitivity to insulin after a short-term high calorie intake as in people with obesity.

This effect can even be observed one week after returning to a balanced diet, said researchers.

Professor Dr. Andreas Birkenfeld, the study's final author, said, "We assume that the brain's insulin response adapts to short-term changes in diet before any weight gain occurs and thus promotes the development of obesity and other secondary diseases."

He urged more research on how the brain contributes to the development of obesity and other metabolic illnesses in light of the current findings.

Ramadan 2025: The Role of Fasting and Its Significance Explained

As Ramadan fasting began today, March 2, 2025, in India, and in Saudi Arabia on March 1, Muslims around the world enter a month of deep spiritual reflection and devotion. Fasting during Ramadan 2025 is more than just abstaining from food and drink; it is a time to strengthen one's relationship with God, purify the soul, and practice self-discipline.

Why Fasting Matters

Fasting during Ramadan is a way to achieve spiritual growth and control one's desires. For Muslims, fasting is not only a physical act but a means of connecting deeply with their faith. During the month of Ramadan, Muslims fast from dawn to sunset, refraining from food, drink, and other physical needs. This practice helps them reflect on their actions, purify their hearts, and build empathy for those less fortunate by



experiencing hunger and thirst.

A Time for Reflection

The goal of fasting in Ramadan is to grow spiritually and develop a sense of discipline. It is also a reminder to stay away from bad habits and

avoid negative thoughts. Muslims use this time to engage in prayer, worship, and charity, seeking to become better versions of themselves. Fasting is a reminder of the importance of gratitude, self-control, and inner peace.

Revelation of the Quran

Ramadan holds special significance as it marks the time when the Quran was first revealed to Prophet Muhammad. This connection between fasting and the Quran's revelation reinforces the spiritual importance of the month, as Muslims dedicate themselves to worship and reflection.

Sehri and Iftar

The day begins with Sehri, a pre-dawn meal, and ends with Iftar, a meal after sunset to break the fast. These meals not only provide nourishment but also create a sense of community, as families and friends gather to share the experience of fasting together.

Ramadan is a time for spiritual renewal, self-discipline, and gratitude. The act of fasting during this holy month is a powerful tool for deepening one's faith and fostering compassion for others.

Alzheimer's disease: Researchers discover role of key protein

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

Researchers have made a significant breakthrough in understanding the role of the tau protein in Alzheimer's disease.

Using human induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs), a research team at the University of Cologne in Germany has been able to show that a specific form of the tau protein, known as the IN4R isoform, is responsible for mediating the toxic effects of protein clumps in human brain cells.

The study, published in the Alzheimer's & Dementia journal, was led by Dr Hans Zempel from the Institute of Human Genetics, who is also a group leader in the Career Advancement Program (CAP) at the Center for Molecular Medicine Cologne (CMMC) of the University of Cologne



and University Hospital Cologne.

If a person suffers from Alzheimer's disease, certain proteins accumulate in brain cells, forming clumps that restrict normal cell function or even cause the cell to die.

Dr Buchholz and Dr Zempel's team have used state-of-the-art techniques

such as CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing and live-cell imaging in human induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) to demonstrate that the IN4R tau isoform is responsible for the pathological effects on the cell. iPSCs are human stem cells that are generated from other cells.

For example, skin cells

can be reprogrammed into iPSCs and from there transformed into brain cells (neurons).

The researchers tested different forms of the tau protein by expressing them specifically in nerve cells.

In this way, the researchers were able to analyse how each protein isoform affects the cell.

According to Dr Sarah Buchholz, this study represents a significant advance in helping us to understand the mechanisms of Alzheimer's disease.

"By identifying IN4R tau as a key protein, we have discovered a potential new target for future treatments," Buchholz noted.

The study's interdisciplinary approach not only helps to better understand Alzheimer's disease but also demonstrates the importance of human cell models in neurodegenerative research.

Purnima asks Omar Govt to prioritize women-oriented issues in Upcoming Budget Session

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

Adv. Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson BJP J&K and former Deputy Mayor of Jammu, today called upon the Omar Abdullah-led government to focus on women-oriented issues during the upcoming Budget session.

Addressing media persons here, Purnima Sharma highlighted the commitments made by the National Conference (NC) to women during the Assembly polls, urging the government to translate those promises into actionable plans.

She criticized the NC for making tall claims about uplifting women but unfortunately no step has been taken by the Omar Govt in fulfilling the promises made with the

women during the recent polls. She emphasized that the Budget session presents an ideal opportunity for the government to prove its sincerity towards women empowerment.

The senior BJP leader pointed out that the NC, in its poll manifesto, had promised to provide Rs 5,000 per month to female heads of economically weaker section (EWS) households, along with 12 free LPG cylinders per year to alleviate the burden of rising prices. She further reminded the government of its commitment to enhance the old age and widow pension to Rs 3,000 per month, which would significantly support the most vulnerable sections of society.

Purnima Sharma also



stressed the need to fulfill the promise of free public transport for women, describing it as a vital step to ensure their mobility and safety. She urged the government to increase the marriage assistance for EWS women from Rs 50,000 to Rs 75,000, as pledged in the manifesto, to provide much-needed financial relief to struggling families. The BJP leader further highlighted the assurance of raising the medical allowance for pensioners and

family pensioners from the existing Rs 300 to Rs 1,000 per month, which she said must be implemented without delay.

She further called for the establishment of senior citizen homes in both Jammu and Srinagar, equipped with facilities for sports, recreation, reading, and writing, as committed by the NC. Additionally, she demanded that the government prioritize schemes aimed at providing financial assistance to women entrepreneurs and ensuring greater representation of women in governance and decision-making processes.

Expressing concern over the recent changes in qualifications for Anganwadi workers, Purnima Sharma termed them as a step backward and called

for an immediate course correction to protect the interests of these workers. She criticized the government for ignoring the welfare of sanitation workers and their families, urging them to introduce comprehensive welfare schemes, including health insurance and safety training.

Purnima Sharma said that the women of J&K have been waiting for the government to fulfill its promises and that it is time for the NC to go beyond rhetoric and take substantial steps towards women empowerment and welfare. She reiterated BJP's commitment to holding the government accountable for its promises and assured that her party would continue to champion the cause of women's welfare in J&K.

Indian Army organizes Awam Meet at Tota Gali, Poonch

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH: 03 MAR 2025

The Indian Army at Tota Gali organized an Awam Meet with the residents of its Area of Responsibility (AOR) in Tota Gali, Poonch District, on March 3, 2025. The primary objective of this gathering was to foster a stronger relationship between the civilian population and the armed forces. During the meet, various topics were discussed, including the provision of healthcare facilities, development of playgrounds, skill development initiatives, and employment opportunities. The army also distributed medicines to the attendees, demonstrating their commitment to the well-being of the local community.

In return, the civilians



pledged to support the army by reporting any unusual activities in the area, promoting a spirit of mutual cooperation and trust. This initiative is a testament to the Indian Army's efforts to engage with local communities and promote a sense of security and stability in the region. The Awam Meet in

Tota Gali is a significant step towards strengthening civil-military relations and promoting development in the area. By engaging with local residents and addressing their concerns, the Indian Army is demonstrating its commitment to the welfare of the people and its role as a force for good.

Project SAMPARK (BRO) conducts inaugural Blast of 1.1 Km Bhimber Gali Tunnel on NH 144A

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU: 03 MAR 2025

The construction of critical infrastructure project along National Highway 144A achieved a significant milestone today with the inaugural blast for the Bhimber Gali Tunnel. The tunnel, spanning an impressive 1.1 km is a key component of the 16.100 km long project stretching from Kalali, District Rajouri to Bhataduria, District Poonch. This initiative will serve as an alternate axis for the movement of Army troops and general public commuters in the challenging terrain from Rajouri to Poonch.

The inaugural blast was done by Brig Neeraj Madan, Chief Engineer, Project Sampark along with Mr AM Prasad, Regional Officer, Jammu, MORTH. The event was



physically graced by various officials from the Civil Administration highlighting the collaborative effort between the BRO and the various departments of district administrations.

Prior to the blast, a puja ceremony was conducted at the site of tunnel. This project is poised to enhance connectivity in the region by significantly reducing the length of the highway by 10.8 km, facilitating smoother and more efficient transportation between strategic locations.

The Bhimber Gali Tunnel is a continuation of Border Roads Organisation's (BRO) relentless efforts to enhance regional infrastructure development. Building on the momentum of the Naushera Tunnel breakthrough (700 meters) on January 29, 2024, the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) continues its rapid progress in enhancing infrastructure across the challenging terrain of the Rajouri and Poonch districts.

During his address, Brig

Neeraj Madan, Chief Engineer, Project Sampark, reaffirmed BRO's commitment to spearheading crucial road projects aimed at enhancing connectivity in remote areas and strengthening defence infrastructure in forward areas. The ongoing developments underscore the organisation's dedication to national security and regional development.

The Bhimber Gali Tunnel once completed will not only facilitate civilian and military movement but also contribute significantly to economic growth and regional accessibility. The Border Roads Organisation remains steadfast in its mission to build and upgrade strategic road networks across challenging terrains, ensuring seamless connectivity for both defence and civilian purposes.

GCE organizes Five-Day Civil Defence Training Program

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

The Government College of Education, Jammu, successfully inaugurated a five-day Civil Defence Training Program on March 3, 2025. The program aims to equip students with essential disaster preparedness skills and emergency response techniques.

The inaugural session witnessed the esteemed presence of Chief Warden Paramjeet Kumar, Deputy Chief Warden R. Vijay Magotra, Training Incharge SI Ram Dayal Saini, and Training Instructors Rajinder Kumar and Sujeet Singh. Their expert guidance and practical demonstrations provided invaluable insights to the participants.

The event was meticulously organized under the leadership of NSS Programme Officer Professor



Sarita Dogra and Women Development Cell Convener Dr. Shubhra Jamwal. The Principal of the College, Dr. Jyoti Parihar, along with faculty members Dr. Rajinder Kour, Dr. Davinder, Professor Deepali, and Roopa Kumari, also graced the occasion with their presence, encouraging students to actively engage in the training.

More than 100 students participated in this initiative, showcasing their keen interest in learning life-saving techniques. The training covered critical aspects such as first aid, fire safety, disaster management, and emergency evacuation procedures.

Speaking at the event, Principal Dr. Jyoti Parihar emphasized the impor-

tance of Civil Defence training in empowering youth with the skills needed to respond effectively to emergencies. She lauded the efforts of the Civil Defence team and faculty members in making this training a success. The program will continue for five days, fostering a spirit of preparedness and resilience among students.

Yashpal Nirmal gets prestigious "Dr. Gargi Gupta Dwivagish" Award

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 3 MARCH, 2025

Eminent translator and senior Dogri litterateur Yashpal Nirmal has been awarded with the prestigious "Dr. Gargi Gupta Dwivagish" Award for the year 2023-24 by the Bhartiya Anuvad Parishad, New Delhi, for his significant and remarkable contribution in the field of translation literature in Hindi - Dogri - Hindi languages.

The award ceremony held at Bhartiya Vidhya Bhawan Auditorium, New Delhi.

Director South campus, Delhi University, New Delhi Prof. Shree Parkash Singh was the chief guest on the occasion while Prof. Nandini Sahu, Vice chancellor, Hindi University, West Bengal presides over the function and eminent Literateur and Translator Ms. Nasira Sharma was the Special Guest on the occasion while Prof. Puran Chand Tandon, General Secretary Bhartiya Anuvad Parishad and Ms. Santosh Khanna Vice president Bhartiya Anuvad Parishad, Sh. Krishan Gopal Agarwal, Vice president Bhartiya Anuvad Parishad also shared the Dice.

Among the other translators Yashpal Nirmal awarded with the prize money of Rs. 21000/-, shawl, citation, memento

of Goddess Mata Saraswati and unforgettable honour.

The jury members of this award included well-known linguist and translation expert and eminent litterateur Dr. Nasira Sharma, former Vice Chancellor IGNOU and currently Vice Chancellor Central University of Punjab, Bathinda, Prof. Kiran Hazarika and Secretary Sahitya Akademi, Government of India, Shri Srinivas Rao, General Secretary of Indian Translation Council, Prof. Puran Chand Tandon, Vice President Shri Krishna Gopal Agarwal and member of the executive of Bhartiya Anuvad Parishad, Dr. Harish Kumar Sethi.

It is worth mentioning that Yashpal Nirmal was born on 15 April, 1977 in Gadhi Bishna village of Chhamb Jyodriyan, a border area of Jammu and Kashmir, to Mrs. Kanta Devi and Mr. Chaman Lal Sharma. He received his Masters and M.Phil degrees in Dogri language from Jammu University. He cleared SLET in Dogri language from Jammu University in 2005 and UGC NET examination in Dogri language in 2006. He has knowledge of Dogri, Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu and English languages. Nirmal ji is doing translation work in many languages. He started his professional life as a private school teacher in



1996. After that he worked as a correspondent with newspapers like "Dainik Jagran", "Amar Ujala" and "Vidarbha Chandika". In the year 2007, Nirmal ji was appointed as a guest lecturer for teaching Dogri language and linguistics at Northern Regional Language Centre, Punjabi University Campus, Patiala and after teaching for three years, in December 2009, he was appointed as a research assistant in Jammu Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages and in June 2017, he was promoted to the post of Assistant Editor. In 2017 itself, Jammu Kashmir Public Service Commission selected Yashpal Nirmal for Assistant Professor Dogri, but due to the non-cooperative attitude of Jammu Kashmir Higher Education Department,

Yashpal Nirmal could not join the said post. Currently, Yashpal Nirmal is working as Assistant Editor, Office Language in the Government of Jammu Kashmir.

Yashpal Nirmal started writing in the year 1994 and in the year 1995, he translated Shrimad Bhagwat Purana into Dogri language. He started writing children's literature in 1992. So far, 9 of his children's literature books have been published and his work has been translated into languages across the country. Nirmal ji's first Dogri poetry collection Anmol Jindri was published in 1996. So far, more than 85 of his original and translated books on various subjects have been published in Hindi, Dogri and English languages.

Nirmal ji has received

many honors and awards for his translation work, literary creation, social service, journalism and incomparable contribution in cultural fields, including the National Translation Award of Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 2014 for the play Mian Deedo, Patrakarita Bharti Award (2004), Jammu Kashmir Ratna Award (2010), Duggar Pradesh Youth Organization Award (2011), Leela Devi Smriti Award (2012), Maharaja Ranbir Singh Award (2013), National Translation Literature Gaurav (Nirmala Smriti Sahityak Samiti, Charkhi Dadri and Indian Translation Council, Delhi, 2017), Children Literature Award of the year 2018 from Gaganram Educational and Social Welfare Society for the manuscript

Farewell Ceremony organized by Indian Army at Gambhir Mughlan, Rajouri



JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI: 03 MAR 2025

A grand farewell ceremony was organized at Higher Senior Secondary School, Gambhir Mughlan, to honor the retirement of Mr. Shamsheer Ahmed Khan, Principal and Cluster Head, who superannuated after 36 years of dedicated service in the field of education. The event witnessed the presence of prominent personalities from the region, teachers from various schools of the Rajouri zone, and around 200 students who gathered to bid an emotional farewell to their esteemed Principal.

The ceremony featured a series of cultural performances by students, showcasing their deep respect and admiration for Mr. Khan. A special moment of the evening was the exchange of mementos between Mr. Khan and the

Indian Army personals, symbolizing the strong ties between the school and the Indian Army. Additionally, the retiring Principal was presented with gifts as a token of appreciation for his tireless efforts in shaping young minds.

In his heartfelt farewell speech, Mr. Khan expressed his sincere gratitude to the Indian Army for its unwavering support in strengthening the educational institutions of the region. He lauded the collective efforts of teachers, students, and the local administration in fostering a nurturing learning environment. The farewell concluded on a poignant note, with colleagues, students, and dignitaries extending their best wishes to Mr. Khan for his future endeavors. His contributions to education and leadership will be fondly remembered for years to come.

IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu celebrating 38th Convocation function of University on 5th March, 2025

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu will be celebrating the 38th Convocation function of the University on 5th March, 2025. This would be the 29th Convocation ceremony at the Regional Centre ever since its establishment in the year 1998.

The Regional Centre Jammu started its operations in the 1998 for the entire erstwhile State of J&K on the invitation of the then Government of J&K with around 1000 students and an offering of about 40 Programmes linked to one Learner Support Centre in the University of Jammu.

Today IGNOU is the largest Open and Distance Learning platform available to a huge number of masses in India and across the world as well. IGNOU is widely acknowledged as a leader in the ODL system offering a number of academic, vocational, professional and skill based job-oriented programmes through a wide network of Regional Centres which facilitate a huge network of Learner Support Centres across the country and abroad as well.

IGNOU has been working hard for the past 40 years to accomplish its mission of equality, inclusivity, quality, accessibility and affordability in higher education which is also the mandate for National Education Policy 2020. IGNOU offers a huge range of around 400 programmes at the Masters, Bachelors, Diploma and Certificate level through Open and Distance Learning mode. The University offers around 45 programmes through online mode as well.

To realize the goal of reaching 50% Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) by 2035 IGNOU has made concerted efforts to introduce academic programmes offered through ODL and Online modes. In light of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the University has implemented a Four Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUP) in which the learners would have the freedom to select their desired courses providing curriculum's interdisciplinary flexibility. Students in various fields such as sciences, computer sciences, psychology, library science, social work, sustainable development, counselling and family

therapy, food and nutrition, anthropology, education, health sciences, nursing, information security, and more, are expected to actively participate in hands-on learning experiences to enhance their job prospects.

IGNOU has become the First Open University in the Country to have been accredited with the highest A++ Grade by NAAC. The programmes are offered in compliance to NEP 2020 Guidelines.

Today IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu has marked its presence in almost every corner of the Jammu region with a network of 30 Learner Support Centres which include 4 Jail Centres exclusively for Jail inmates. IGNOU caters to the needs of the underprivileged and downtrodden masses of the far flung and remotest corners of the region.

After a wait of more than 26 years, Regional Centre Jammu has now got its own new campus at Rajinder Vihar, Phase-I, Banlatab, Jammu which was inaugurated on 7th of February, 2024 by Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Education, virtually.

Regional Centre Jammu

has a huge databank of around 4000 empanelled Academic Counsellors, Evaluators, Examiners, and Resource Persons in different disciplines who are faculty members in the prestigious Institutions under the conventional higher education system.

The Jammu Regional Centre has consistently shown sustainable growth in enrollment over the years. Regional Centre Jammu has registered more than 75 percent learners from the rural far flung and tribal areas which clearly represents the reach and popularity of IGNOU in far flung remote and tribal areas of the region. From the year 2020 till 2024 in the eight admission cycles, RC Jammu has freshly enrolled and re-registered around 2 lakh 22 thousand learners in the region.

In the 38th Convocation of the University on 5th March, 2025, more than 3 lakh learners will be presented with the degree/diploma/certificate at IGNOU New Delhi Headquarters and 39 Regional Centres across the country.

Under the Jammu region, as many as 11292 learners have been

declared successful and eligible to receive Diplomas and Degree Certificates in the 38th Convocation function at Jammu which includes 4988 learners of Master Degree programmes, 5852 learners of Bachelor Degree programmes, 316 learners of Diploma/Post Graduate Diploma programmes and 137 learners of Certificate/Post Graduate Certificate programmes. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Education will be the Chief Guest on this occasion at the New Delhi HQs. of IGNOU.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Science & Technology, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievance will be the Guest of Honour and deliver Convocation address in the 38th Convocation function of Regional Centre Jammu being organized in the Auditorium of Convention Centre, Near Circuit House, Canal Road, Jammu on 5th March, 2025 at 10AM.

As per the details pro-

vided by New Delhi HQ., 1421 qualified learners have submitted the requisite fee online out of which around 200 learners have consented to receive their respective Degree/Diploma certificates in person in the Convocation function at Regional Centre Jammu.

The participating students need to reach the venue by 9:00AM and register themselves at the registration counter well in time in order to avoid rush and chaos. The male students should wear White / Off white or cream coloured Bharatiya Paridhan (Indian Dress) preferably made of Handloom / Khadi and female students should wear White / Off white or cream coloured Bharatiya Paridhan (Indian Dress) Sari or Salwar Kurta or Salwar Kameez, etc. preferably made of Handloom / Khadi.

"This is the prestigious ceremony for the University as well as the Regional Centre and along with the awardees a number of Alumni and other dignitaries are expected to grace the occasion in Jammu this time around", said Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director.

Drug abuse awareness campaign organized at GBHS Bansultan



J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU

ADC Jammu, Ms Ansuya Jamwal today participated in drug abuse awareness campaign organized by Rural Development Department at GBHS Bansultan. Principal GGHSS Miran Sahib and ZEO Miran Sahib welcomed ADC Jammu. The officials from different departments participated and expressed their views regarding drug abuse. The students of GBHS Bansultan performed spectacular Nukkad Naatak highlighting effects of drugs abuse. Principal GGHSS Miran Sahib Ashok Chopra urged all community members to intensify campaign at community level and contribute to make our society a 'Drug free' society. ZEO Miran Sahib Smt Verthana Sharma, SHO Miran Sahib M Ajesh Jamwal, BDO Miran Sahib Ms. Sonali, Headmaster GBHS Bansultan S Ranjeet Singh, ZICC Ms Sukhjinder Kour, staff members of the School and community members were present on

this occasion and took pledge to make efforts in creating a Drug free society. Ms. Ansuya Jamwal.

The drug abuse awareness campaign aimed to educate students and the community about the dangers of drug abuse and the importance of living a healthy and drug-free life. As ADC Jammu, Ms. Jamwal's participation in the event underscored her commitment to addressing social issues and promoting awareness about critical topics affecting the community. Ms. Ansuya Jamwal, ADC Jammu, emphasized the importance of parental involvement in preventing drug abuse among children. She urged parents to keep a close eye on their activities, friends and behavior, keep track of their children's expenses to prevent suspicious transactions. By taking these steps, parents can help identify early warning signs of drug abuse and take corrective action. Ms. Jamwal's message highlights the crucial role parents play in shaping their children's lives and preventing the menace of drug abuse.

Jagdeep Dhankhar, urged Indian Corporates to invest in building specialised educational institutions

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3:

Marking 75 years of illustrious journey in education, the Hinduja Group reaffirmed its commitment to shaping India's future through its flagship institution, Hinduja College of Commerce, which started as a humble primary school for children of refugees. Today with over 6000 students, Hinduja College is now advancing towards becoming a deemed university.

Today the Group through Hinduja Foundation nurtures over 7,00,000 students across India through initiatives like Road to School and Road to Livelihood. With ambitious plans to empower 1 million students by 2030, the Hinduja Foundation continues to

champion education as a catalyst for change and is a key contributor to India's vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

The celebration witnessed the presence of esteemed dignitaries, including the Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, as the Chief Guest. The Governor of Maharashtra, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan was also present as Guest of Honour. Hon'ble VP Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar felicitated outstanding students for their academic and extracurricular achievements.

Addressing the students & dignitaries at a function to commemorate the 75 years in education through Hinduja College, the Vice President of India Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar stated, "Sanatan must



be a part of the country's culture and education because it stands for inclusivity and stressed the need to remain well grounded or rooted in it. He also urged corporate India to invest in education to create specialised institutions. Philanthropic endeavours should not be driven by the philosophy of commodification and commercialisation. Our healthcare and education systems are being plagued by these. He also

called education the most impactful transformative mechanism that brings about equality." He also expressed his confidence that Hinduja College will not stop at just becoming a deemed university but become an institution of global eminence.

Reflecting on this milestone, Mr. Ashok Hinduja, Chairman, Hinduja Foundation, remarked, "The institution is set to establish a Skill Development Centre, reinforcing its

commitment to bridging industry-academia gaps, with long-term plans to transition into a Deemed University and expand student capacity multi-fold. College plans to introduce new programs in Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, and Wealth Management, along with specialized courses in Climate Finance and Export-Import Management."

Ashok Hinduja also urged the government to consider introducing Sanatan principles in education. Agreeing to this suggestion the Vice President added that "Sanatan promotes inclusivity".

Paul Abraham, President, Hinduja Foundation, said, "Hinduja College is undergoing redevelopment to build a state-of-the-art, multi-storied facility equipped

with cutting-edge infrastructure and modern amenities. This ambitious project is expected to be completed by 2028. We expect the new Facility to triple the physical capacity of the college to create enhanced capabilities for digital outreach and programming across a spectrum of opportunities."

Hinduja College offers more than 30 academic programs and achieved NAAC A+ accreditation in 2023-24. Granted autonomous status in 2022, the college has aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 to equip students with future-ready skills.

The college's vision is clear: "To empower our students not only to excel but to outshine." As part of its commitment to empower students.

Police attaches immovable property of terrorist associate under UAPA in Shopian

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

In a significant step towards combating terrorism, Police in Shopian has attached a double-storied residential property belonging to Ilyas Ahmad Dar son of Mohd Shafi Dar resident of Wandina Mel-houra. The attachment was carried out under Section 25 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA).

The property registered under Khasra No. 115 in Wandina village, is valued at Rs. 24,09,221/. The attachment has been officially recorded in the revenue records, and the necessary legal notices

prohibiting its sale or transfer have been duly issued under the provisions of the UAPA.

This action is linked to Case FIR No. 94/2024 of Police Station Zainapora and was executed in the presence of a duly constituted police team and the Executive Magistrate, ensuring full compliance with legal procedures.

The attachment marks a significant milestone in the ongoing crackdown on unlawful and subversive activities in the region. It underscores the firm commitment of Shopian Police to neutralizing threats to national security and maintaining peace and order.

Indian Army conducts Medical Outreach for Gujjar, Bakarwals at Poonch Rajouri & Reasi

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

As part of its continuous efforts to provide support to remote communities, the Indian Army successfully carried out a comprehensive Medical Patrol in the Sindhra, Chakmain, Kopra, Chaklasala Thala Moh region of Poonch, Rajouri and Reasi focusing on the Gujjar and Bakarwal populations. This initiative brought critical medical assistance to areas otherwise cut off from essential healthcare services. This outreach is an integral part of the Indian Army's broader mission to improve the quality of life for communities in remote and underserved areas. By focusing on the needs of these isolated villages, the Indian Army ensures that even the most marginalized populations have



access to basic healthcare, reinforcing its unwavering commitment to their well-being, irrespective of their geographic location.

The primary goal of the medical patrol was to offer immediate medical care, which included routine health check-ups,

treatment for common ailments, and the distribution of vital medications. Additionally, the Indian Army's team of medical professionals provided crucial preventive healthcare services, including immunizations and awareness programs on hygiene,

nutrition, and disease prevention. The impact of this medical outreach has been profound, as local communities often face substantial challenges in accessing healthcare due to geographic and logistical barriers. This initiative has not only helped alleviate immediate health concerns but has also played a pivotal role in reducing healthcare disparities, contributing to improved health outcomes for the local population. The response from the Gujjar and Bakarwal communities has been overwhelmingly positive. Beyond its medical benefits, the initiative has fostered greater trust and cooperation between the Indian Army and local residents, strengthening the bond between the two and reinforcing a shared sense of solidarity.

Indian Army conducts Lecture on Pre Recruitment Training for Youth at Samote, Rajouri

J I NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI: 03 MAR 2025

The Indian Army at Samote organised a lecture on pre recruitment training for youth at Samote on 03 Mar 2025. The aim of conducting this lecture is to motivate the talented and potential youth to join Armd Forces of our country. In due course, youths were also briefed about the detailed Officers selection procedure (Issue of UPSC Notification, Written Examination, SSB Interview, Medical Test and Final Merit) and Army Soldier selection procedure. It was also informed to them all those who are desirous of getting enrolled in the Indian Army as JCO/OR are required to apply online at www.joinindianarmy.nic.in.

The registration process and the subsequent



steps to apply for different trades were also discussed. The youth were informed that the Indian Army Recruitment Board conducts the recruitment in every state with pre planned scheduled in every year. The lecture provided crucial insights about PFT (Physical Fitness Test), PMT (Physical Measurement Test), Document verification,

MT (Medical Test) and CEE (Common Entrance Exam). The final merit list is determined based on performance in these stages.

This initiative by the Army is a commendable effort to win the hearts and mind of the local people while guiding eligible and aspiring candidates toward a career in the armed forces. Local youth

thanked and expressed their profound gratitude towards the Army for conducting the lecture and taking this noble initiative for youths to motivate the talented and potential students to join pre-recruitment training. This initiative will go a long way in overall development of the students. A total of 25 youths were benefitted by attending the said lecture.

J&K showcases Sustainable Innovations at 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir marked a significant presence at the 12th Regional 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific, held in Rajasthan from March 3 to 5, 2025. The event, a flagship platform for advancing sustainable development and resource efficiency, saw J&K highlighting its pioneering initiatives in waste management and circular economy practices, reinforcing its commitment to environmental stewardship.

The Lakes Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA) showcased Jammu & Kashmir's ground-breaking Dal Lake Weed Processing Unit at the forum, drawing widespread attention from policymakers, technocrats and sustainability experts. The project, which converts invasive aquatic weeds into organic manure and biogas, exemplifies the UT's innovative approach to tackling ecological challenges while promoting



circular economy principles. Dignitaries including Policy Makers, Thinkers, Researchers and Planners from all across the Country visited the J&K stall and applauded the initiative of transforming lake waste into valuable resources adopting sustainable waste management practices.

The J&K delegation, led by senior officials from the Housing and Urban Development Department, engaged in extensive knowledge-sharing sessions with representatives from other states and Self-Help Groups (SHGs). Key focus areas included

“Waste-to-Wonder Technologies”, “Waste-to-Energy Innovations” and “Community-Led Circular Economy Models”. The forum offered a wealth of ideas, particularly in decentralizing waste management and empowering local communities. The visit provided an opportunity to explore best practices and modern technologies for potential replication in Jammu & Kashmir.

In a landmark move, Srinagar Smart City Ltd. signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under the CITIIS 2.0 program (City Investments to

Innovate, Integrate, and Sustain 2.0), a joint initiative of the Government of India, the French Development Agency and the European Union. The MoU focuses on implementing integrated waste management systems, including smart collection networks and AI-driven recycling hubs, to transform Srinagar into a zero-landfill city by 2030.

Additionally, the UT government inked a state-level agreement to establish a Climate Observatory, a first-of-its-kind institution in North India. The observatory will monitor

climate variables, assess risks, and formulate adaptive strategies for vulnerable sectors like agriculture, tourism, and water resources.

The participation of Jammu & Kashmir in the forum highlights its unwavering commitment to sustainable urban development and the promotion of circular economy principles, aligning with the broader vision of environmental conservation and resource efficiency.

CITIIS 2.0 is a flagship initiative driving integrated waste management and climate action. Proposals for integrated waste management in smart cities were invited by the Ministry of Housing Affairs, GoI and 18 proposals worth Rs. 1800 Cr were shortlisted benefiting 18 cities across 14 states of the Country.

The 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum will continue in the coming days, featuring expert discussions, policy dialogues and collaborative initiatives aimed at shaping the future of sustainable urban development and circularity in the country.

Haier launches India's Only Colourful Range of Kinouchi ACs—Revolutionizing Cooling with the Power of Artful Intelligence

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

Haier Appliances India, the No. 1 global major appliances brand for 16 consecutive years, is setting a new benchmark in home cooling with the launch of its exclusive colourful range of Kinouchi Air Conditioners. Aimed at transforming modern homes, this premium series seamlessly blends avant-garde aesthetics with superior performance.

The Kinouchi Limited Edition air conditioners blend cutting-edge technology with premium colourful finish, redefining home aesthetics beyond just cooling. As Indian consumers become more design-conscious, they seek appliances that align with their lifestyle and personal taste. Keeping this in mind, Haier India introduces this exclusive range, offering a perfect combination of functionality and style, ensuring the air conditioners deliver outstanding efficiency while seamlessly enhancing the overall décor of the home.

Available in three sophisticated shades—Black, Morning Mist & Moonstone

Grey—the Kinouchi series seamlessly integrates with diverse interiors, making it an ideal choice for those who prioritize both performance and aesthetics. More than just high-performance cooling solutions, these newly launched Haier ACs serve as statement pieces that reflect modern lifestyle choices. With this launch, Haier India reaffirms its commitment to customer-inspired innovation, ensuring consumers no longer have to choose between efficiency and elegance—they can have both, perfectly complementing their stylish homes.

Commenting on the launch of the Kinouchi Air Conditioner series, Mr. NS Satish, President, Haier Appliances India, said, “At Haier India, prioritizing the evolving needs of consumers has always been fundamental to our ethos. As the only brand in India offering colourful range of Limited-Edition AC series, we continue to set industry benchmarks in premium aesthetics and advanced cooling solutions. The new Kinouchi Limited Edition reflects this commitment,

offering premium design while ensuring efficient and unmatched cooling. Committed to creating customer-inspired innovations, all our air conditioners, including the latest Kinouchi Dark Edition, are manufactured in India and meticulously designed for the Indian market.”

The Kinouchi Limited Edition AC is engineered to transform home cooling with its intelligent technology. Powered by AI-driven Supersonic Cooling, it delivers 20X faster cooling in just 10 seconds, even in extreme temperatures up to 60°C. Frost Self-Clean Technology ensures 99.9% sterilization, circulating clean air within minutes for a healthier indoor environment.

With HEXA Inverter Technology, the AC dynamically offers heavy duty performance based on real-time conditions, optimizing efficiency and ensuring long-term durability. The 20-metre-long air flow with Turbo mode provides uniform and powerful cooling across the room, creating a consistently comfortable environment.

Dire need to promote sports culture to prevent youth from falling prey to drugs: Rattan Lal

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

The cricket tournament organized by Advocate Zeeshan Rana and Additional Spokesperson Jammu concluded today with the Rising Spartans emerging victorious over Legal Star by a margin of 57 runs in the final match.

The event was graced by Advocate Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) Jammu, as the Chief Guest, and Baldev Singh Advocate, Vice President Bar Association Jammu as the Guest of Honour. Other notable attendees included JKNC leaders Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, S. Tejinder Pal Singh Aman Provincial President Jammu, Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone, Mohinder Kumar Rana Joint Secretary Central Zone and Sunil Sharma.

Advocate Gupta congratulated the Rising Spartans on their impressive performance and commended both teams for their sportsmanship. He emphasized the importance of such tournaments



in fostering camaraderie and unity within the legal community. He also lauded the organizers, particularly Advocate Zeeshan Rana, for their initiative in bringing the legal community together through sports. He emphasized that such events play a pivotal role in fostering unity and brotherhood among professionals, echoing his previous sentiments on the importance of sports in promoting community bonding.

The senior NC leader also raised serious con-

cern over the escalating drug menace affecting the youth in the region. He emphasized the urgent need to promote a robust sports culture as a preventive measure against substance abuse. He highlighted that engaging young individuals in sports and other constructive activities can serve as a deterrent to drug use, fostering discipline, teamwork, and a healthy lifestyle. He urged the community and authorities to collaborate in creating more opportunities for youth partici-

pation in sports, thereby steering them away from the dangers of drug addiction.

Rattan Lal Gupta also highlighted the NC's commitment under the dynamic and young leadership of Omar Abdullah Honble Chief Minister Jammu and Kashmir and Young Sports Minister Satish Sharma already organizing sports events Khelo India and other sports activities that encourage fellowship and holistic development within society and the young world.

Adv Zeeshan Rana, organizer of the cricket tournament, expressed his gratitude to all participants and supporters including senior NC leaders for making the event a success. He highlighted the importance of organizing such tournaments to engage the youth constructively, steering them away from negative influences and channeling their energies into positive endeavors. He reaffirmed his commitment to continue organizing similar events in the future, aiming to nurture talent and strengthen communal bonds through sports.

BJP discontented with mistreatment of education by NC govt: GL Raina

Bharatiya Janata Party is discontented with the mistreatment of the education sector by the NC government of Jammu and Kashmir, said Girdhari Lal Raina.

Girdhari Lal Raina, former MLC & BJP Spokesperson, J&K BJP accompanied by Rajni Sethi, Spokesperson and Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge, was addressing a Press Conference at BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Taking the address of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on the first day of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly's budget session in Jammu today as an indication of things to come it seems the government is oblivious to its responsibility under the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 updated recently in 2024. This was expressed by Party spokesperson Girdhari Lal Raina soon after the address of LG Manoj Sinha concluded.

In 2022, the government implemented NEP in Jammu and Kashmir. The policy emphasizes the elimination of rigid boundaries between humanities,



sciences, and other subjects. It aims to nurture important skills while instilling empirical thinking in the new generation. It puts thrust on integrating vocational training and internship from an early age, offering a significant opportunity to blend skills-based learning with the mainstream school curriculum. No word on this process was spoken.

Again NEP 2020 to National Education Policy 2024 has emphasized the development of teaching-learning e-content in regional languages across States. It's important to choose e-content providers who don't rely on quick voice overs or basic translations. Instead, look for curriculum-aligned content with a neutral accent that feels natural and familiar to students. People of Jammu Kashmir

are expecting this government to share a road map for achieving education in regional languages particularly in Dogri in Jammu region and Kashmiri in Kashmir region. Unfortunately, there seems to be no preparedness on this count also, GL Raina added. The National Education Policy 2024 seeks to eliminate the traditional divisions between Arts, Science, and Commerce streams, he recalled. This shift allows students to freely choose subjects across disciplines, fostering an interdisciplinary approach to education. By encouraging a more holistic learning experience, students can develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Jammu Kashmir needs to prepare itself for this shift. BJP hopes that adequate funds will be made available to the

department for this purpose, he added further.

Similarly, The National Education Policy recognizes the vital role that mathematics and mathematical thinking will play in shaping India's future, particularly in fields such as artificial intelligence, data science and machine learning. To prepare students for these emerging professions, there will be a greater emphasis on mathematics and computational thinking throughout their schooling, says NEP. This initiative is supposed to begin at the foundational stage, incorporating innovative methods like puzzles and games to make mathematical concepts more enjoyable and engaging. Additionally, coding activities will have to be introduced for students aged 11 to 14 years in the Middle Stage, following the updated education structure outlined in the National Education Policy 2024 (NEP 2024). We hope to see this policy outline being implemented in Jammu Kashmir with adequate budgetary support from the government in the forthcoming budget, Raina emphasized.

PTTI Vijaypur holds Valediction of “04-Weeks Basic Course for SPOs”

J I NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYPUR, MAR 3

Today on 03.03.2025, (04) weeks “Basic Course for SPOs” concluded at Police Technical Training Institute (PTTI) Vijaypur which was conducted for the first time at the Institute as per the directions of PHQ J&K in which (480) SPOs of various districts of Jammu Province i.e Jammu, Kathua, Samba, Rajouri, Poonch, Udhampur, Reasi, Doda, Kishtwar and Ramban participated. On this occasion a Valedictory function was organized at the Institute which was graced by Shri Dushyant Sharma-SSP, Principal PTTI Vijaypur who while speaking on the occasion congratulated the trainees for successful completion of their training course and stressed upon them to work with more zeal and dedication to make the force more effective and people friendly. He told that the objective of the course was to hone the skills of SPOs and expose them to the physical training, drill (with and without arms), weapon handling and other routine outdoor/Indoor activities as per the prescribed syllabus which would have add substantial value to their existing knowledge and skill base and will definitely help these SPOs in performing their field duties more effectively. He further told that special lectures were deliv-



ered to SPOs on different topics by the Indoor staff of PTTI and the special guests invited on many occasions during their routine indoor classes to facilitate them with effective learning/knowledge. Principal PTTI Vijaypur also applauded staff of the Institute for their dedication in imparting excellent and effective basic training to the trainees in a short period of just one month and also praised the SPOs for showing their dedication, devotion and discipline in acquiring the said training. Among others, Shri Raj Kumar-SPO, Shri Asif Iqbal-SRPO, Shri Davinder Gupta-DySP(Tech), Shri Khushwant Singh DySP(Admn), Shri Bhag-

PM Narendra Modi went on a Safari in Gir, well known as home to majestic Asiatic Lion

J I NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 03 MAR 2025

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today went on a safari in Gir, well known as home to the majestic Asiatic Lion.

In separate posts on X, he wrote: “This morning, on #WorldWildlifeDay, I went on a Safari in Gir, which, as we all know, is home to the majestic Asiatic Lion. Coming to Gir also brings back many memories of the work we collectively did when I was serving

as Gujarat CM. In the last many years, collective efforts have ensured that the population of Asiatic Lions is rising steadily. Equally commendable is the role of tribal communities and women from surrounding areas in preserving the habitat of the Asiatic Lion.”

“Here are some more glimpses from Gir. I urge you all to come and visit Gir in the future.” “Lions and lionesses in Gir! Tried my hand at some photography this morning.”



BJP committed to inclusive development and Nationalism: Advocate Ankur

JINews SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

The Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) strongly condemns the negative role played by certain Jammu-based office bearers of valley-centric political parties, particularly the National Conference (NC) and the People's Democratic Party (PDP) in spreading canards and falsehood about the party's role in last decade. These individuals, acting as agents of these imperialistic entities, are neo-sepoy posing a serious threat to the region's peace, stability, and national integrity said Ankur Sharma; Spokesperson J&K BJP adding further that their role has always been of backstabbing their own people at the asking of their masters in valley.

Ankur Sharma further added that the National Conference, historically complicit in furthering Pakistan-backed narratives, has always sown the seeds of discord within Jammu and Kashmir aided by its institutionalised discrimination with Jammu

region. Their role in destabilizing the region remains undeniable. They are still continuing with their nefarious agenda of discrimination and exploitation towards Jammu Province through their Jammu based office bearers.

For decades, these valley-based political forces have treated Jammu Province as a colony, draining its resources, denying its rightful representation, and stalling its progress. Now, through their Jammu based office bearers, they are attempting to bleed the region yet again by spreading disinformation about the positive role which BJP has played in J&K especially in the last decade.

Sharma stressed that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP's strong governance, this exploitation is being systematically dismantled. BJP remains committed to an inclusive and developmental agenda that prioritizes the upliftment of Jammu province and the entire Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The party has taken historic and



game-changing steps in multiple sectors, ensuring equitable growth, peace, and prosperity. BJP's Developmental Agenda can be termed as a new era of happiness for J&K. BJP's governance has ushered in unprecedented growth and progress like Healthcare through AIIMS Jammu, new medical colleges in different districts, and upgraded district hospitals which are revolutionizing healthcare services, ensuring quality treatment reaches the last mile.

The rapid expansion of road networks, railways, and industrial parks has transformed Jammu into a hub of econom-

ic activity, creating massive employment opportunities catering to the Infrastructure & Industrialization needs of the UT. Through Entrepreneurship initiatives, and skill development programs, BJP has opened new avenues of employment, ending decades of stagnation and neglect. Social sector Schemes such as Ayushman Bharat, Ujjwala Yojana, and direct benefit transfers have uplifted the weaker sections, ensuring dignity and financial security for all.

BJP's unwavering commitment to national security and unity has redefined Jammu and Kashmir's trajectory. The abrogation of Article 370 dismantled the special status that fueled separatism, bringing J&K into the mainstream of national progress. It has also given fundamental rights to women, West Pak Refugees, Valmikis, Gurkhas & other members of the marginalised communities besides crackdowns on terror financing, separatist elements, and cross-border infiltration strengthening internal security. A firm

stance against anti-national elements has ensured that separatist forces do not regain ground. The empowerment of nationalist forces within J&K, particularly in Jammu, has created an environment of patriotism, national unity, and unwavering commitment to the nation.

The BJP categorically states that it will not allow the proxies of valley-centric parties to sabotage the progress and peace of Jammu. The people of Jammu must remain vigilant against these backstabbers and continue to support BJP's mission of development, dignity, and nationalism.

The party remains steadfast in its commitment to empowering Jammu, ending decades of discrimination, and building a strong, secure, and prosperous Union Territory. The days of Jammu being treated as a second-class region are over. Under BJP's leadership, Jammu is reclaiming its rightful place as an integral pillar of a united, strong, and nationalistic India.

Rich Harvest School, Shastri Nagar celebrates Annual Fest-2025 "Ek Shaam Jammu Ke Naam"



JINews SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

Rich Harvest School celebrated its annual fest-2025 "Ek Shaam Jammu Ke Naam" with great fervor and enthusiasm. The event was graced by Chief Guest SSB CHAIRPERSON MRS INDU KANWAL CHIB & Special guest of honour was RETD. DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE MS BALA JYOTI who appreciated the efforts of the students in showcasing the rich cultural heritage of Jammu and applauded the efforts of Team Rich Harvest for making efforts to preserve the culture and heritage of Jammu.

The highlight of the evening was the spectacular showcase of Dogra culture and warriors, which left the audience mesmerized. The students presented a colorful and vibrant display of traditional dances, music, and drama, highlighting the bravery and valor of Dogra warriors.

The event also featured a range of cultural performances, including folk dances, songs, and skits, all of which were meticulously prepared and presented by the students. The uniqueness of the program was the virtual tour of Jammu by Rich Harvest Airlines and the live performances by

the renowned Dogri singers of Jammu Mrs. Asha Kesar (Dogri Paakh Singer) and Jenab Shamsheer Mohd Ji (Dogri Folk Singer)

Founder Rich Harvest Schools and Vice Chairperson S.G Dogra Foundation Mrs. Uma Katal welcomed and thanked the Chief Guest, Presiding Guest and other special Guest for their presence. She also gave a presentation on the performance of the school and said, Rich Harvest shall leave no stone unturned in its efforts to preserve the culture of Jammu by spreading awareness in the students. The Chief Guest MRS INDU KANWAL CHIB (CHAIRPERSON SSB) in her address, encouraged the students to take pride in their cultural heritage and to strive for excellence in all their endeavors she appreciated the unique concept of the school EK SHAAM JAMMU KE NAAM and appreciated the school for the awareness they are spreading amongst the students to save the culture and heritage of Jammu and she said more and more such programs should be held as it is need of the hour.

The event concluded with a grand finale by the students and a vote of thanks by the Principal Raswinder Kaur.

Shiv Sena holds protest, demands special privileges under Section 371

JINews SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

Leaders of Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit held a strong protest today demanding special privileges under Section 371 for Jammu and Kashmir, liquor ban in the "city of temples Jammu", strict laws on drug and cow smuggling.



Shiv Sainiks, under the leadership of party state head Manish Sahni, gathered at Indira Chowk and staged a protest and raised slogans holding placards with demands like "Strict laws should be implemented on drug and cow smuggling", "Privileges under Section 371 should be restored", "Sons of the soil should have the first right on jobs and educational institutions" etc.

Sahni said in his address that in the last decade, narco terror has created terror in Jammu and Kashmir. On the other hand, liquor shops opened in every nook and corner of Jammu city are an attack on religious faith and a tampering with the future

of the youth. The statistics of drug abuse and smuggling are also terrifying. In Jammu and Kashmir, which has a population of about 1.25 crore, every tenth person is addicted to some kind of drug. The number of drug addicts coming to de-addiction centres has increased 100 times in the last 5 years. Every 10-15 minutes, a drug addict is reaching the OPD of government hospitals for treatment. He said that if timely measures are not taken, then in the coming times, the Pakistan-sponsored terror will be replaced by narco-terror, which can wipe out an entire generation.

Along with this, on the lines of the northeastern states of the country, a proposal has been demanded

to be passed to protect the cultural identity of Jammu and Kashmir under Section 371 and to give the local people the first right to get government jobs and admission in educational institutions. He said that recently the BJP-ruled Uttarakhand government has also banned the purchase of land for people from outside the state. Sahni has demanded from the BJP MLAs to bring and support a proposal against privileges under Section 371, prohibition of liquor, drug and cow smugglers. On this occasion, Meenakshi Chhibber, Vikas Bakshi, Bharat Mahajan, Raj Singh, Sukhwinder Kaur, Vicky Sharma, Davinder Kumar, Sunita Kumari, Yashpal Singh etc. were present.

Indian Army conducts CET for Admission to Army Goodwill Public School, Pahalgam at Doda



JINews SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

The Indian Army is conducting a Common Entrance Test for admission to Army Goodwill Public School, Pahalgam for the academic session 2025-26 at Public School, Doda. Army Goodwill Public School, Pahalgam, a premier institution established under the aegis of Operation Sadbhavana, is committed to nurturing young minds by providing a well-rounded education that includes academics,

sports, extracurricular activities, and discipline-driven growth.

The school boasts modern infrastructure, experienced faculty and a conducive learning environment designed to empower students to excel in all spheres of life. This initiative, under Operation Sadbhavana aims to provide quality education and holistic development opportunities to students from the region, fostering academic excellence and character building. A total

of 128 students attended the examination at Doda.

This examination offers special preference to meritorious students from remote and underprivileged backgrounds. This initiative reaffirms the Indian Army's commitment to promoting education and social welfare in the region by providing world-class education. Army Goodwill Public School, Pahalgam continues to shape the future of the youth, equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in life.

Kavinder slams Mehbooba Mufti for anti-national remarks

JINews SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta strongly condemned the statement of PDP President Mehbooba Mufti, accusing her of making remarks against the nation's interest. He criticized Mehbooba for her misleading claims regarding the allocation of land for national highways and security establishments, contrasted with the alleged use of bulldozers on civilians' land.



Reacting sharply to Mehbooba Mufti's comments, Kavinder Gupta stated that her remarks not only lack factual accuracy but also serve to create unnecessary fear and confusion among the public. "The government's actions are aimed at bolstering infrastruc-

ture development and enhancing security measures in Jammu and Kashmir, which is crucial for the region's growth and stability. Making baseless allegations against such initiatives is both irresponsible and detrimental to the peace and progress of the Union Territory," he asserted.

In a press statement issued here today, the senior BJP leader emphasized that the allocation of land for national highways and security establishments is part of a broader vision to transform Jammu and Kashmir into a hub of development and prosperity. He accused Mehbooba Mufti of playing petty

politics and attempting to mislead the people for her vested interests.

"The selective outrage displayed by Mehbooba Mufti only exposes her hypocrisy. She needs to understand that safeguarding national interests and ensuring development cannot be compromised for political gains," he added.

The senior BJP leader reiterated that the government's actions are in accordance with the law and aimed at ensuring equitable development for all sections of society. He urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir to reject such divisive narratives and support the

Sat, Ashok, Jugal others inaugurate Property Fest in Jammu

JINews SERVICE
JAMMU, MAR 3

Sat Sharma, President, J&K BJP accompanied by Ashok Koul, General Secretary (organization), Jugal Kishore, MP Lok Sabha inaugurated "The Great Property Fest" by M3M India at the Radisson Blu, in Jammu. Kavinder Gupta, former Dy CM, BJP Vice-Presidents & MLAs Sham Lal Sharma, Yudhvir Sethi, & Surjeet Singh Salathia, MLA Choudhary Vikram Randhawa, former Minister Priya Sethi, District President Naresh Singh Jasrotia, Arun Gupta President CCI, Indu Lucky Puri, Neeraj Lucky Puri, and others graced the occasion.

Sat Sharma, while inaugurating the event, lauded the efforts of the management team of M3M including the local collaborators and the national team in organizing the event. He



shared the importance of holding business exhibitions, conferences, and festivals in the area to boost socio-economic ties bilaterally between the businesses, and the society. He praised the organizers for bringing a range of world class properties and projects before the visitors and wished them success in their endeavour.

"Property festivals are more than just sales events; they are vital platforms for economic development, homeownership

promotion, and real estate education. They help individuals, businesses, and governments work together towards sustainable and affordable housing solutions," said Sat Sharma.

Ashok Koul said the property fests boost economic growth, encourage homeownership, and improve network and collaboration. He said that such events bring the ongoing development in the area towards Encouraging Sustainable Development by improving collaborations.

Suri advocates for enforcement of generic medicine prescriptions

JINews SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

Raman Suri, Executive Member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), has urged the government to enforce a newly introduced directive from the Health Department requiring doctors to write prescriptions using generic medicine names in capital letters, a move designed to protect patient welfare across Jammu and Kashmir. In line with the Indian Medical Council guidelines, this new drug policy mandates that generic names appear on prescriptions to ensure clarity and accuracy in healthcare documentation.

Suri lauded this holistic approach, emphasizing that legibility and precision are essential in every medical document, whether it's a prescription or a medico-legal report. Suri called on the government to monitor the implementation of this policy rigorously and take strict action against any non-compliance. "It is essential that every doctor follows these guidelines without exception. Regular audits and awareness campaigns will ensure its success, and the BJP remains committed to supporting policies that prioritize the health and well-being of the people," he stated.

The BJP leader further stressed the need for this policy to be enforced uniformly across all hospitals and healthcare facilities in Jammu and Kashmir, not just in the Jammu division.



"This is about accountability. Every doctor, whether in the public or private sector, must comply," Suri emphasized.

"This decision is a major step forward for patients' rights," said Raman Suri. "By writing the generic names in bold, capital letters, doctors will make it easier for patients to understand what has been prescribed, helping to prevent errors and confusion. This will also give patients the ability to purchase medicines at more affordable prices." The directive aligns with both the Indian Medical Council's guidelines and the new drug policy, fostering greater transparency and accessibility in healthcare.

Issued by Dr. Rakesh Mangotra, Director of Health Services Jammu, the circular mandates all doctors to write prescriptions using generic names in capital letters. Suri also highlighted that the directive is a significant measure to enhance patient safety and awareness. "This change ensures that patients of all literacy levels can read and comprehend their prescriptions."

GWC Parade organizes seminar on 'New Career Avenues'

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

The Social activity Club of GCW, Parade Ground, Jammu organized a seminar on 'New Career Avenues' on 3rd March, 2025. The seminar was organized with a vision to enlighten the students about new alluring career opportunities.

At the onset, Dr. Shally Chadha, Convenor Social activity club address the gathering. Atul Vinod Duggal, Film Maker - AVD Motion Pictures, Founder Crown City Academy of Film & Television is the resource person for the event. He highlighted the importance of graphic designing, video editing, acting and social media influencing in modern era. He interacted with the students with an oppor-



tunity to enroll them in the J&K's first Govt. Certified film school in the said courses. Dr. Ravendra Kumar Tickoo, Principal of the college graced the occasion and appreciated the talks by the resource person. The event was attended by Dr. Sushma Chib, (Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics) Dr. Surinder Singh Parihar (Convener IQAC), Dr. Anjali Abrol (Associ-

ate Professor, Department of Chemistry), Dr. Nitu Sharma (Assistant Professor, Department of Home Science), Dr. Sushma Sharma (Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry) and Dr. Atiya Syed (Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry). The vote of thanks was formally presented by Dr. Manjulla Gupta (Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry).

21-days residential training of Yuva Aapda Mitra volunteers commences at CTI, Kot Bhalwal

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

A 21-days residential training programme of Yuva Aapda Mitra volunteers as "Master Trainers" (ToT) commenced at CTI Kot Bhalwal Jammu in which 100 volunteers from Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Ladakh, Chandigarh and the UT of J&K are participating.

While inaugurating the programme, S.J.M. Gilani, (DGP) Commandant General HG/CD & SDRF J&K underscored the objectivity of the training course, which is being conducted under the aegis of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) New Delhi at 07 different locations in the country including Central Training Institute (CTI), Kot Bhalwal. He informed the participants that the train-



ing programme is being imparted to the previously best trained volunteers under the Up-Scaling of Aapda Mitra scheme. These volunteers can assist in saving lives using the basic techniques of disaster response.

On the occasion, Commandant General held an interaction session with the trainees, who shared their experience while rendering their services to the administration and the society in their respective States/UTs during various

contingencies. Commending their selfless spirit and commitment in reaching out for relief and rescue, the Commandant General lauded role of these young minds in pursuit of their voluntary service to the nation. He asserted that all preparations for smooth conduct of the programme have been done in consultation with Department of DMRRR UT of J&K and assured the participants of best kind of services both in capacity building and during their stay in the

training campus.

Later, the Commandant General HG/CD & SDRF J&K took stock of the facilities being provided to Volunteers at campus.

Atul Sharma, SSP Staff officer to Commandant General HG/CD & SDRF J&K [Nodal Officer], Zahid Naseem Manhas, SSP, Commandant SDRF 2nd Bn Jammu, Ms. Snober Jameel, Deputy Secretary to Govt, DMRR&R J&K, Dr. Amir Hussain, CEO, Emergency Relief Organisation DMRRR J&K, along with other officers of SDRF and other allied departments also attended the inaugural function.

In the end, Principal CTI Kot Bhalwal Jammu gave a brief about the 21 days training which was followed by a lunch served to the trainees.

DC Poonch distributes compensation to road accident victims' families

J1 NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, MARCH 3

Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kunal today distributed cheques to the legal heirs of road accident victims under the J&K Road Safety Accident Victim Fund. The distribution took place in his office chamber, emphasizing the commitment to assist those affected by road tragedies.

During the event, cheques amounting to Rs 1 lakh each were given to the families of deceased victims, while Rs 50,000 was provided to a grievously injured individual.

The deceased victims recognized included Abdullah Rehman (S/o Abdul Rehman, Noona Bandi), Zareena Begum (W/o Mumtaz Hussain, Arai Mandi), and Yassar Mehmood (S/o Manzoor Hussain, Village Marhote Surankote).

Distt Admin. Kupwara airlifts critical patients from Karnah

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, MARCH 3

After closure of different border roads in the district due to recent heavy snowfall, District Administration Kupwara successfully airlifted critically ill patients from snow bound border area Karnah, ensuring they receive urgent medical care.

On the directions of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan, an evacuation operation was undertaken by the officers and field staff during which Rohail Mir, a 15-year-old from Kharwara, and 18-month-old Bibi Sana from Kona Gabra, both of whom required immediate medical intervention were airlifted from Karnah. After their safe evacuation to Kupwara, both the patients were boarded in the Ambu-



lance to reach Srinagar for advanced medical care. After recent snowfall across the district which resulted in the closure of various border roads of Karnah, Machhill and Keran, District Administration Kupwara had made adequate arrangement of helicopter service for these snow bound border areas to carry any medical emergency and evacuation operation.

To ensure seamless helicopter service to dif-

ferent border areas from the district headquarter, Assistant Labour Commissioner (ALC) has been designated as Nodal Officer of the service.

Meanwhile, the local people of Karnah area have expressed gratitude to the Deputy Commissioner Kupwara for her proactive approach of administration. They also appreciated the efforts of SDM Karnah and other Officers for their swift and coordinated response.

GCE organizes Five-Day Civil Defence Training Program

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

The Government College of Education, Jammu, successfully inaugurated a five-day Civil Defence Training Program. The program aims to equip students with essential disaster preparedness skills and emergency response techniques.

The inaugural session witnessed the esteemed presence of Chief Warden Paramjeet Kumar, Deputy Chief Warden R. Vijay Magotra, Training Incharge SI Ram Dayal Saini, and Training Instructors Rajinder Kumar and Sujeet Singh. Their expert guidance and practical demonstrations provided invaluable insights to the participants.

The event was meticulously organized under the leadership of NSS Pro-



gramme Officer Professor Sarita Dogra and Women Development Cell Convenor Dr. Shubhra Jamwal. The Principal of the College, Dr. Jyoti Parihar, along with faculty members Dr. Rajinder Kour, Dr. Davinder, Professor Deepali, and Roopa Kumari, also graced the occasion with their presence, encouraging students to actively engage in the training.

More than 100 students participated in this initiative, showcasing their keen interest in learning life-saving techniques. The training covered critical aspects

such as first aid, fire safety, disaster management, and emergency evacuation procedures.

Speaking at the event, Principal Dr. Jyoti Parihar emphasized the importance of Civil Defence training in empowering youth with the skills needed to respond effectively to emergencies. She lauded the efforts of the Civil Defence team and faculty members in making this training a success.

The program will continue for five days, fostering a spirit of preparedness and resilience among students.

DC inspects car parking slots at Shopian

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, MARCH 3



Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta today conducted a comprehensive assessment of traffic flow and parking facilities in the town.

He visited and inspected key locations, including the District Hospital (DH) Shopian, Old Bus Stand, Old JK Bank, Town Hall Park and other parking sites.

During these inspections, DC evaluated existing parking facilities and pinpointed areas experiencing traffic congestion.

Gupta emphasized the need for effective traffic management, improved parking arrangements, and minimal inconvenience to commuters and visitors.

Directions were issued to the concerned to enhance parking capacities within the hospital premises and transport hubs. He underscored the importance of maintaining proper sanitation and cleanliness in and around the town. The DC was accompanied by ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; ACR, Tehsildar Shopian, ARTO, Xen R&B, Secretary MC and others.

DC Budgam reviews arrangements for holy month of Ramadan

J1 NEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, MARCH 3

In order to ensure a smooth and hassle-free month of Ramadan, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo today convened a meeting with district officers here in the Conference Hall DC Office Complex.

During the meeting, threadbare discussions were held on various arrangements including availability of safe drinking water, uninterrupted power supply, first aid, sanitation, garbage collection, deployment of fire tenders, traffic management and security etc.

Necessary directions were issued to the heads of various departments to ensure foolproof arrangements during the month of Ramadan.

To ensure uninterrupted power supply during Ramadan, the DC instructed the Executive Engineer of the Power Development Department (PDD) to sensitize their field staff and ensure hassle-free electricity supply to consumers, especially during critical times such as Sehri and Iftar.



The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Budgam and Chadoora were tasked with ensuring a regular supply of drinking water.

Emphasising the importance of consumer protection, the DC directed the formation of special market checking squads which includes revenue, police and food safety officers to monitor quality check and prevent profiteering, hoarding, and overcharging by shopkeepers during the month.

ARTO was directed to ensure sufficient availability of vehicles during the month, while AD food and Animal husbandry department were directed for ensuring adequate quantity of food grains, poultry and other essential commodities during the month.

To uphold cleanliness in the town and panchayats, the DC directed the ACP

and EOs to take proactive measures of sanitation drive and urged public cooperation in maintaining hygiene.

The CMO was directed to ensure health teams along with ambulance availability 24x7 during the whole month in all health and medical institutions to provide medical assistance.

Additionally, the Traffic Police have been instructed to deploy sufficient personnel in high-traffic areas to ensure smooth vehicular movement.

During the meeting, SDMs were directed to regularly monitor market prices and ensure the availability of essential commodities and services within their respective areas. They were directed to conduct routine checks to maintain fair pricing and quality standards in local markets.

DM Sachin Kumar Vaishya urges drives against MVA violations, number plate tampering

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MARCH 3

District Magistrate Sachin Kumar Vaishya today chaired a meeting of the District Road Safety Committee to review ongoing road safety measures and strategise future actions.

The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police Joginder Singh, SSP Traffic Faisal Qureshi, Additional District Magistrate Ansuya Jamwal, Regional Transport Officer Jasmeet Singh, Superintendent Engineers from PWD, GM NHIDCL, PD NHAI Jammu-Udhampur, besides others. During the meeting, the DM directed the RTO to conduct special enforcement drives to ensure strict compliance with the Motor Vehicles Act, particularly in rural areas. He also called for a focussed crackdown on vehicles with obscured or tampered number plates.

Ensuring road cleanliness and maintenance was another key agenda. The DM instructed officers from Irrigation & Flood Control Department to promptly clear desilting refuse to prevent



accumulation on roads, which increases the risk of accidents. Additionally, he stressed the need to maintain functional street lights in all key areas to improve nighttime visibility and safety.

The DM directed that awareness drives be conducted in schools and colleges to educate students about traffic rules and safe driving practices. Further, the Chief Medical Officer was instructed to organise block-level eye check-up camps for drivers, ensuring they meet the required vision standards.

Officers were also directed to immediately remove hazardous hoardings and obstructions that could contribute to road accidents. The Power Development Department Executive Engineers were asked to ensure the swift removal of fallen poles, if any, to prevent

traffic disruptions and potential mishaps.

To improve road safety infrastructure, the DM ordered the installation of signages and reflectors near dividers and the continued deployment of traffic marshals at diversions

along National Highway projects. The National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited officer was also instructed to install CCTV cameras along the Jammu-Akhnoor National Highway.

GREEN MODEL HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, DODA

(Recognised By J&K Govt. & Affiliated to JKBOSE)
DODA CITY (J&K) 182202

List of Managing Committee for approval beyond November 2023

S. No.	Name of the Committee Member	Residence	Qualification	Occupation	Designation
1	Bharat Bhushan S/o Sh. Vishwa Mitter	Doda	B.P.Ed.	Rtd. Teacher	President
2	Gh. Mohd Bandy S/o Lt. Mohd Abdullah Bandy	Doda	B.E.	Rtd AEE	V. President
3	Om Parkash S/o Lt. Jodh Ram	Doda	B.Sc., M.Ed.	Principal	Secretary
4	Pran Kumari D/o Lt. Makhhan Lal	Doda	EE	Teacher	Staff Member
5	Irshad Ahmed S/o Sh. Mohd Yousaf	Doda	BA	Teacher	Staff Member
6	Jagdev Singh S/o Lt. Jodh Singh	Doda	BA	Business	Parent Member
7	Mohinder Singh S/o Sh. Tirath Ram	Doda	MA, M.Ed.	Pvt. Job.	Parent Member
8	Anuj Wazir S/o Lt. Yougal Wazir	Doda	BBA	Business	Member
9	Principal Govt. Higher Secondary School (Boys) Doda, Deptt. Representative				

Objection if any may be submitted to the Director School Education Jammu within seven days.

Sd/-
Principal
GREEN MODEL HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, DODA