

The Kashmir Talk

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People's Enthusiasm, Excellent Work To Make India Developed Nation Our Biggest Strength: PM Modi

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
NEW DELHI:

Excellent work of Indians across various fields and enthusiasm to make India a developed nation is the country's biggest strength, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said.

In a written message to the Jain International Trade Organisation (JITO) on the seventh foundation day of its incubation innovation fund, Modi said that the kind of optimism and trust being seen worldwide for India is a reflection of the country's strength.

"India is a nation of immense possibilities.



The participation of our countrymen doing excellent work in various fields and their enthusiasm to develop the country is our biggest strength," Modi said.

The Prime Minister has set a target to make India a developed nation by 2047 with a focus on the use of technology.

According to the letter shared by organisers

of the 7th foundation day of JITO Incubation and Innovation Fund (JIIF), the Prime Minister lauded the values of the Jain community for their work and efforts made in the field of education, health and other areas through JITO.

He said that reducing dependence on foreign products and promoting local products is one of their notable achievements.

"Today's optimism and unwavering belief in our capabilities extend to all areas, including space science, defence, and business. Organisations like JITO have played a significant role in these

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"AIIMS Jammu Has Become One Of The Best Institutions In India": JP Nadda



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Union Health Minister JP Nadda on Sunday visited All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Jammu and said that AIIMS Jammu has become one of the best institutions in India.

Earlier today, the Union Health Minister along with Union Minister Jitendra Singh

and J-K BJP President Ravinder Raina visited AIIMS Jammu.

Meanwhile, Union Health Minister JP Nadda announced that the Outpatient Department (OPD) services would start soon at All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) in Vijaypur, Jammu and that efforts are underway to recruit more

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Lt Governor releases book "The Swinging 70s: The Stars, Style and Substance in Hindi Cinema"



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR:

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha released the book titled "The Swinging 70s: The Stars, Style and Substance in Hindi Cinema" edited by Ms Nirupama Kotru and Sh Shantanu Ray

Chaudhuri, in Srinagar, today.

The Lt Governor, in his address, congratulated the editors- Ms Nirupama Kotru and Sh Shantanu Ray Chaudhuri- and publisher, Om Books for bringing out the excellent book.

"Cinema is not just

about entertainment and business. It is a powerful tool for social change. Through path-breaking commercial films and famous works of parallel cinema, our filmmakers have tried to strike a balance between entertainment and social responsibility. It reflects cultural ethos and have always played an important role in nation-building," the Lt Governor said.

He said the book will act as a gateway for the readers to revisit the 70s era of Hindi Cinema. Speaking on the special bond Jammu Kashmir

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Political Start-Ups In J&K: A Growing Trend With Limited Impact

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR:

In a growing trend over the past decade, Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing a proliferation of "political start-ups" in the Valley but these outfits have failed to make a significant impact during elections, politicians and analysts said on Sunday.

The decades-long unrest in Kashmir has witnessed the rise of several political parties and fronts, including the Jammu and Kashmir Nationalist People's Front, Bharat Jodo Yatra, JK Peoples Movement, Jammu and Kashmir All Alliance Democratic Party, Jammu and Kashmir Workers Party, Jammu and Kashmir Peace Party and the Awami Awaaz Party.

Many of these have either refrained from contesting elections or have faced defeat in the recently held Lok Sabha polls. Veteran politician and CPI(M) leader Mohammed Yusuf Tarigami said

the leaders of these political start-ups often begin with a bang, enjoy patronage like security and other things, and then disappear like "lost planets when elections are held".

Instead of floating political start-ups, "we should concentrate on strengthening democratic institutions in the entire Jammu and Kashmir," he asserted.

Echoing similar views, PDP leader Waheed Para said these start-ups have a "negative impact" on the democratic space and highlighted their lack of popular support and legitimacy.

Para said these political start-ups only demolish and discredit the democratic space. "The recent Lok Sabha election has shown them the mirror clearly," he added.

In a veiled reference to businessman-turned-politician Altaf Bukhari's JK Apni Party and the veteran politician Ghulam Nabi Azad-led DPAP, Para said almost three parties were created

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Six Terrorists Killed, Two Soldiers Martyred In Twin Encounters In Kulgam

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR:

Six terrorists were killed and two soldiers laid down their lives in twin encounters in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district, officials said on Sunday.

"The bodies of two terrorists were recovered from the Modergam encounter site while four bodies were recovered from the Chinnigam site on Sunday," they said. The twin encounters in the two villages of Kulgam district began on Saturday. Two army

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Thousands Of Fish Found Dead In Srinagar Stream, Officials Cite Lack Of Oxygen, Pollution

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR:

Thousands of fish have been found dead in a local stream Tsoont Koel near Barbar Shah area of Srinagar with officials citing lack of oxygen and pollution as the reason.

An official said that the primary cause is the depletion of oxygen in

the water bodies. "This is a common occurrence during the summer months," an official from the fisheries department said.

He said that the high temperatures and humidity lead to reduced oxygen levels in the water, which is fatal for the fish.

"Pollution also plays a significant role in exacerbating the situa-

tion. Waste disposal and contaminants from surrounding areas further degrade water quality, intensifying the depletion of oxygen," he added.

Meanwhile, local residents have expressed anguish over the incident and stated that it will impact the livelihood of those dependent

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CONTD FROM PAGE 1...

People's Enthusiasm...

achievements over the past decade, contributing to the vision of a self-reliant India," Modi said.

The JITO Incubation and Innovation Foundation (JIIF) hosted its annual Innovation Conclave on July 6-7 with the theme 'Ideas to Impact: Cultivating Innovation and Entrepreneurship'.

The two-day event featured leading minds from various sectors, including Vijay Shekhar Sharma (Paytm), Aadit Palicha (Zepto), and Sanjeev Bikhchandani (Infoedge).

It brought together over 300 angel investors, 100 startups, 30 unicorns, and numerous international investors, providing unparalleled networking opportunities.

JIIF, a subsidiary of Jain International Trade Organization (JITO) has invested over Rs 200 crore in 80 companies and incubated over 25 Jain entrepreneurs.

"AIIMS Jammu....

distinguished faculties.

Addressing at the AIIMS Jammu, Nadda said that he would not compromise on the quality of AIIMS.

"Today we have 22 AIIMS in the country. I will do everything for the development of AIIMS. OPD will be opened within a fortnight shortly. We are working on the recruitment of staff.

Medical institutions do not develop in a day, it needs at least a decade... We will not compromise on the quality of AIIMS."

Nadda, Union Minister Jitendra Singh and BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh visited state of the art digital library and lecture hall at AIIMS Jammu.

He further said that AIIMS facilities, infrastructure, equipment, appliances and logistics are of world standard.

"We are trying to get more faculties here. The faculties who have come here so far are India's best faculties. Providing professional education is our privilege. Witnessing world-class medical facilities here is gratifying," Nadda added.

Lt Governor releases....

shares with the majestic world of cinema, the Lt Governor said the films and theatre have always played a key role in socio-economic transformation.

He also highlighted the efforts of the UT Administration to revive the film ecosystem in J&K.

"The filmmakers are returning to the valley.

The rich culture, breathtaking landscapes, world class facilities and augmented film-related infrastruc-

ture have positioned Jammu Kashmir as the most favourite film shooting destination," the Lt Governor said.

He said that J&K Film Policy has created a vibrant film ecosystem in the UT and administrative assistance to ease film making in Jammu Kashmir by setting up Single Window Cell to grant permission for shooting films, preferably within 2 to 4 weeks.

The revival of film shooting and return of cinema halls have created entrepreneurial opportunities for the talented youth of Jammu Kashmir. We are hopeful of attracting investment in Jammu Kashmir through the film industry to generate greater job creation and it will also play a major role in promoting tourism, he added.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor called upon the people to support the government in its efforts to build a peaceful and prosperous Jammu Kashmir.

"The Swinging 70s" brings together a collection of essays that celebrate the myriad dimensions of the era of 70's- the fashion, the music, the different genres of films, the iconic stars and the unheard stories of behind the scenes.

Sh Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Sh RR Swain DGP; Sh Shaleen Kabra, Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti Department; Sh Suresh Kumar Gupta, Principal Secretary Culture Department; senior officials, editors and publishers of the Book, eminent literary personalities, and a large gathering of Art and film lovers were present on the occasion.

Political Start-Ups...

by breaking up the PDP which only led to demolishing the democratic space in Kashmir and discrediting those left behind.

"Results reflect that only people should be given the right to choose and elect. Parties created in hybrid form don't enjoy the popular support or legitimacy," he added.

Noted Kashmiri Pandit leader and lawyer Titoo Ganjoo said the aftermath of the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019 saw the emergence of top-down political start-ups in Jammu and Kashmir that lack organic growth and fail to resonate with the local populace.

"These new entities were predominantly composed of disenchanted politicians engaging in exploratory efforts, ultimately doomed to fail in gaining significant political traction," he said, adding that these start-ups never pose a challenge to the established political order. The leadership of these political start-ups, conceived to be driven by some government agencies, failed to reflect the genuine aspirations of the local populace, Ganjoo added.

These leaders exhibit a significant disconnect from the region's realities, focusing more on reclaiming their political relevance rather than addressing the

core issues faced by the people, according to prominent social activist Firdous.

Ganjoo argued that the behaviour and conduct of these leaders highlight their opportunistic tendencies and lack of substantial commitment to the region's long-term stability and development.

"Their efforts were perceived as superficial and self-serving, failing to foster genuine political engagement or meaningful change," he said, adding that the lack of inspirational leadership and substantive direction has left the region in a state of disillusionment with no coherent or compelling vision for the future emerging from these political start-ups.

Dr Touseef Bhatt, a socio-environmental activist, said that despite representing a new wave of political innovation in a conflict-ridden region, political start-ups in Kashmir face challenges in making a meaningful impact due to their limited experience and resources.

Their dependence on external funding raises concerns about their autonomy and long-term sustainability in a volatile political environment, he said.

While these start-ups aim to engage young Kashmiris in the political process and address local concerns, questions remain about their potential influence on the existing political dynamics and the peace process in the region.

As Kashmir grapples with ongoing challenges and aspirations for change, the fate of political start-ups in the region remains uncertain, raising questions about their ability to effect meaningful political change.

Thousands Of Fish...

on fishing.

"This is not just about the death of fish, it's about the entire ecological balance and our means of sustenance being threatened," said a local resident.

Six Terrorists Killed...

soldiers, including an elite para commando, laid down their lives while battling the terrorists, the officials said.

Speaking about the operations, Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police RR Swain said the neutralisation of such a big number of terrorists was a major achievement.

"Undoubtedly, this is a big milestone in the efforts towards strengthening the security environment. These successes are very meaningful both substantively as well as in terms of messaging," he said.

The success of the operations is an indication that the fight for elimination of terror in Jammu and Kashmir will reach its end, Swain said.

"This is an indication that the security architecture and involvement of people is leading to the flow of human intelligence and this fight (against terror) will be taken to its logical conclusion," he added.

Northern Command Motorcycle Expedition Commemorates Kargil Vijay Diwas at Rajouri

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
RAJOURI:

In a grand ceremony held today at the 'Ace Of Spades Division,' the Indian Army organized the flag-off event for the Northern Command Motorcycle Expedition to commemorate Kargil Vijay Diwas. This day marks the victory of India's unwavering courage and determination during the Kargil War. The General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the Ace of Spades Division interacted with the bikers' team, which comprised 14 members, including nine officers. The GOC praised their vigor and resilience, especially considering the challenging terrain and inclement weather they would face during their long-distance journey.

The expedition is significant not only for its commemoration of Kargil Vijay Diwas but also for its symbolic representation of the sac-



rifices made by Indian soldiers and their families. The team was accompanied by ladies and children, highlighting the often-overlooked contributions and steadfast support of military families. This gesture aimed to honor the families who stand resolute and stoic, supporting their brave hearts through all adversities. The GOC's interaction and encouragement boosted the team's morale, motivating them

to embark on their adventurous journey with high spirits. The expedition will cover over 500 kilometers, passing through some of the most challenging terrains before finally reaching the Kargil War Memorial. This journey is not just a tribute to the brave soldiers who fought for India's pride but also an effort to spread awareness about their sacrifices and the importance of national unity.

Innovative 'Poney Ambulance' Service revolutionizes Healthcare Support for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatris

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR:

The Directorate of Health Services Kashmir has introduced a 'Poney Ambulance' service for the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2024, providing critical healthcare support to pilgrims during their journey.

Conceived by Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Rathar under the guidance of Secretary Health and Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rashid Shah, this innovative initiative has been widely appreciated by yatris. The Poney Ambulance, a horse-mounted emergency response system equipped with medical kits and oxygen cylinders, accompanies pilgrims along both the Baltal and Pahalgam axis.

Trained personnel handle the Poney Ambulance, which swiftly responds to any health issues faced by yatris during the yatra. This timely intervention has significantly reduced morbidity and mortality rates.

Dr. Syed Abid Rashid Shah, Secretary Health and Medical Education, commended the health department for this innovative approach, stating, "We are committed to ensuring the well-being of Shri Amarnath Ji yatris. The Poney Ambulance service has boosted pilgrims' confidence and comfort during the yatra."



DC Jammu initiates urgent flood protection measures in Khour Sub Division



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

In anticipation of the monsoon season and to address public concerns, Deputy Commissioner Sachin Kumar Vaishya conducted

a field visit to Indri and Bakore villages to assess the current ground situation. He was accompanied by SSP Dr. Vinod Kumar and ADDC Sher Singh.

The villages are facing significant risk of soil ero-

sion and potential water ingress. To address these issues promptly, the DC ordered immediate execution of works worth Rs 10 lakh by the Flood Control Department.

In addition, further pre-

ventive measures will be implemented under MGNREGA by the Rural Development Department, focusing on creating protective bunds and crate work. Sub-Divisional Magistrate Satish Sharma has also taken the initiative to assemble emergency relief and evacuation teams.

Four emergency shelters have been established to facilitate a prompt response in the event of any unforeseen circumstances. Commencing today, the groundwork for implementing flood protection measures has been initiated in accordance with the directions issued by the Deputy Commissioner.

DDC Bandipora chairs Task Force Committee meeting under DAY-NULM



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
BANDIPORA:

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman today chaired a meeting at Mini Secretariat, here to review the progress of the Task Force Committee under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana, National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM). The meeting focused on assessing the ongoing initiatives and approving new cases proposed under the programme.

Project Officer DUDA briefed the DDC about the role of District Urban Development Agency in promotion of livelihood for urban poor.

It was given out that during this financial year, 50 applications have been received against the target of 75 cases.

The Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana aims to uplift urban poor and create sustainable livelihood opportunities for vulnerable sections of society. The Task Force Committee plays a crucial role in ensuring effective implementation and monitoring of these initiatives at the district level.

The DDC said that the administration is committed to enhancing the impact of DAY-NULM in Bandipora by closely monitoring the progress and ensuring timely approvals for proposed cases.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Maqbool, Executive Officer MC Bandipora Ajaz Ahmad, Project Officer DUDA, Lead District Manager and other concerned officers and stakeholders involved in the implementation of DAY-NULM in Bandipora district.

District Level Workshop on formulation of Panchayat Dev Plans held in Udhampur

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
UDHAMPUR:

The Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj organized a one-day District Level Consultation Workshop here today in the Conference Hall, DC Office Complex Udhampur.

The Workshop engaged with the stakeholders associated with the formulation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP). Another focus of the workshop was on devising effective strategies for MGNREGA convergence.

"The event aimed to enhance the effectiveness of rural development through the strategic integration of Panchayat Development Plans with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)" said the RD department.

Additional District Development Commissioner Rajinder Singh chaired the workshop and delivered the keynote address. He underscored the importance of convergence in rural development schemes and prioritizing the participation of women and marginalized sections of the community in the Gram Sabhas. Assistant Commissioner Development Ranjit Singh Kotwal highlighted the critical need for convergence between Panchayat Development Plans and MGNREGA to foster holistic development and achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in rural areas. He emphasized that such integration would lead to more efficient resource utilization and the creation of tangible assets for the welfare of the people.

BJP is new promise in J&K with an impressive mandate of people: Chugh

**Dynastic rule Mufti, Abdullah, Gandhi families is close to decimation
"VHP J&K Prez Rajesh Gupta bereaved"**

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh said today that people of Jammu & Kashmir have decisively turned their back on the dynastic politics of the National Conference (NC), the People's Democratic Party (PDP), and the Congress.

By securing the highest percentage of votes in J & K in the recent Lok Sabha elections the BJP has emerged as a new sunshine in J&K

Chugh pointed out that the PDP managed a mere 8.4% vote share in the recent Lok Sabha elections, illustrating a broader rejection of their leadership and policies.

He noted that while the PDP garnered only 8.4% of the vote, the BJP

secured the highest share at 24.4%, translating to a substantial 12.58 lakh votes. "The overwhelming support for the BJP testifies the people's desire for genuine progress and development, as opposed to the self-serving agendas that have characterized the regimes of the NC, PDP, and Congress," Chugh asserted.

Chugh highlighted that during their tenures, the NC and PDP were primarily focused on fulfilling their own party demands rather than addressing the needs of the people. "The governance under the NC and PDP was marked by a blatant neglect of public welfare. Their leadership was more concerned with consolidating their own power rather than initiating meaningful development," Chugh remarked.

He further accused the Congress of perpetuating this cycle of stagnation, stating that their alliance politics only added to the region's woes without contributing to any substantive progress. Highlighting the transformative changes since the abrogation of Article 370, Tarun Chugh underscored the surge in development projects that have revitalized Jammu & Kashmir.

"The abrogation of Article 370 has paved the way for unprecedented development in the region. We are witnessing a remarkable increase in tourism, with a record influx of tourists that is boosting the local economy. Educational institutions are flourishing, healthcare facilities are being upgraded, and new infrastructure projects are

underway," he said.

Furthermore Chugh pointed to specific initiatives such as the development of new highways, the expansion of rail networks, and the establishment of educational hubs as tangible evidence of the BJP's commitment to progress.

The BJP leader also took the opportunity to directly appeal to the electorate, urging them to continue supporting the party's vision for a prosperous Jammu & Kashmir. "The BJP is dedicated to bringing about real change, not just empty promises. Our focus is on ensuring that every citizen benefits from the region's development. We are working tirelessly to create a future where opportunities are abundant, and prosperity is shared by all," Chugh affirmed.

Rahman Police solves theft case, arrest Two thieves, recovers stolen Gold items worth Rs 3 Lakh and cash

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Ramban, July 01: Jammu and Kashmir Police in Ramban District have successfully solved a theft case registered at Police Station Ramban, arresting the culprits and recovering the stolen items from their possession.

On June 10, 2024, a written complaint was lodged at Police Station

Ramban by Mr. Khan, son of Khurshed Ahmed, resident of Kahowbag, Tehsil and District Ramban. He reported the theft of gold ornaments such as 02 bangles, 02 earrings, 02 rings, 01 chain, and 01 haar (necklace), as well as silver ornaments including 02 necklaces, 08 silver earrings, 02 silver rings, all stolen Jewellery amounting to Rs 3 lakh approx and cash from his house located in Kowbag, Ramban.

Acting on the complaint, a case (FIR No. 138/2024) under Sections 457 and 380 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) was registered at Police Station Ramban, and an investigation was initiated.

During the course of the investigation, police rounded up several suspects based on technical analysis. Upon sustained interrogation, the accused persons disclosed their involvement in the case.



CS reviews functioning of skilling institutions of JK



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU SRINAGAR:

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today convened a meeting with Skill Development Department (SDD) to review functioning of skill imparting institutions like Polytechnic colleges and Industrial Training institutions (ITIs) of the UT. The meeting was attended by Secretary, SDD, Director, SDD, Special Secretary, SDD, Secretary, Board of Technical Education and other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary took stock of the courses being offered by these technical institutions of the UT besides students response towards these subjects. He also enquired about the percentage of skillful candidates getting placement after leaving such institutions and those finding gainful employment after adopting self employment of their choice. Dulloo reviewed the progress made in imparting training to different artisans under PM Vishwakarma scheme. He also took appraisal of present status in implementation of CSS like STRIVE, SANKALP and PMKVY.

He also assessed the action taken regarding implementation of several directives given by him from time to time in identification of futuristic skill trades, short term trainings and other skill mapping initiatives after taking cognizance of actual market requirements. Secretary, SDD, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, made the presentation depicting progress recorded in each area of work and the novel initiatives taken by the department for making skill education more popular and market-driven.

He threw light on popular courses and trades being offered in the ITIs of the UT. He also highlighted the manpower and infrastructure available in such institutions to train these candidates. Regarding implementation of short term training (STT) programmes in the UT under PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), it was revealed that 94 institutions had been identified for the purpose. It was informed that these institutions are contemplated to impart training in 4 batches to an average of 30 candidates for nearly 4 months taking the number to more than 20000 candidates in a year in offline and online mode to some 31000 candidates.

The meeting was also apprised of 60 futuristic trades identified by the Department in Automotive, Agriculture, Electronics, Telecom, IT-ITES, Green Jobs, Logistics sectors besides others. It also deliberated upon the regular trades and those identified in Tourism & Hospitality sectors and in Food Processing, Media/ Entertainment, Handicrafts besides Handloom sectors in different districts of J&K. Based upon the analysis of feedback from Industrial sector here, it was disclosed that the Diploma programmes like Mechanical/ Electrical/ Electronics/ Computers-IT/ Automobile are in high demand. For ITIs the trades like Turner/ Fitter/ Welder/ Electrician/ Refrigeration and AC/ Computer Hardware & Networking/ COPA/ Data Entry were ascertained to be of greater utility in the market. The other skill sets favoured by the industry included Auto CAD, Supply chain, Retail and Logistics, CNC Operator, Food Manufacturing/ Processing, Packaging, Cold Storage Technician/ Plant Machinery Operator/ Hygiene Coordinator, Sales Assistant, Consignment Booking Assistant, Courier Delivery Executive, Inventory Clerk, Supply Chain Executive, Warehouse Manager, Land Transportation Executive, Construction Painter & Decorator, Construction Electrician, False Ceiling & Dry Wall Installer, Fabricator, Surveyor etc, as was apprised in this meeting.

Commissioner Secy GAD convenes Public Darbar at Ganderbal

Distributes authority letters among beneficiaries under govt schemes



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU GANDERBAL:

As part ambitious public outreach programme launched by the J&K Government, Commissioner Secretary, General Administrative Department (GAD), Sanjeev Verma, today convened a mega public darbar at Mini Secretariat, Ganderbal.

The event witnessed overwhelming participation from the public and other stakeholders, who raised various issues concerning welfare and development of their respective areas.

Delegations apprised the Commissioner Secretary of several issues and demands which inter alia included the dearth of staff at Trauma Hospital Kangan, playground at Safapora, power supply to newly constructed Water supply Scheme Wakura, additional infrastructure for Government High School Hayan, lift irrigation facility in Lar area, CT Scan facility at DH, completion of Guzhama bridge, relocation of several utilities from footpaths of town, fencing of power canal in Kangan area, among other public concerns.

Present in the programme were Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Gulzar Ahmad; DDC members, ACD, Chief Planning Officer, SE PDD, GM DIC, Assistant Labour Commissioner Ganderbal, Executive Engineers of various engineering wings and other senior officers from various line departments.

Addressing the gathering, the Commissioner Secretary underscored the importance of continued collaboration between the public and the government to achieve exemplary governance.

He affirmed that these public interaction initiatives are crucial for understanding and addressing the developmental needs and issues of the public.

DC discusses formulation of plan for construction of Revenue buildings in Udhampur

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU UDHAMPUR:

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai chaired a meeting with officers and field functionaries of the Revenue Department to discuss plans for the construction of proposed Revenue buildings across various sub-divisions in the district.

The meeting was attended by ACR Dr. Umesh Shan, ACD Dr. Ranjit Singh Kotwal, CPO Mohammad Iqbal, SDMs, Tehsildars and XEN PWD from Chenani, Ramnagar and Udhampur.

At the onset, ACR Udhampur apprised the chair about the plan formulated for the construction of Revenue buildings in various sub-divisions. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for maximum utilization of resources and directed the XENs to coordinate closely with the SDMs to understand their specific requirements. XENs were instructed to prepare and submit Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) and estimates for the proposed buildings at the earliest.

She stressed the importance of having ready land parcels and directed the SDMs to ensure that the necessary land is available for the construction of the projects.

SANJY-2024: A comprehensive overview of Shri Amarnathji Yatra

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU SRINAGAR:

Traditionally the Holy Cave of Shri Amarnathji has been mobilizing devotees from all the corners of the country as well as from around the world. This annual spiritual journey of believers of Hindu faith to the Holy Cave besides having a religious and historical importance also testifies to the flourishing cultural ecosystem of the country which fosters the relations between people of diverse cultures. The confluence of people of different regions, languages & cultures during the yatra is enriching social fabric through mutual interaction and exchange of values, ideas and thoughts. Apart from social impact, this two month-long journey of Shri Amarnathji Yatra has been pivotal in leveraging the economic growth and prosperity of the region and generates income for lakhs of service providers including transporters, poniwalas, pithuwalas, dandiwalas, traders, shopkeepers, hoteliers, artisans, vendors and many other unorganized workers. Underlining the religious and economic importance of Yatra, the Administration of UT of J&K has orchestrated well knitted and efficient facilities at each station or camp where pilgrims stay put during their journey to the Holy Cave. The Administration consistently upgraded the facilities over the years to ensure

comfortable experience and convenience for yatri by manifesting qualitative accommodation, health facilities, deputation of expert medical staff, glitch-less telecommunication service, langar facilities, sanitation services besides trained NDRF & SDRF staff to extend assistance to weak, elderly and female pilgrims while trekking the mountainous terrain. Starting from the registration, the Administration has created an online facility for advance registration while also establishing registration counters at base camps for those pilgrims who had not previously registered. The pilgrims are being provided RFID cards to keep track of them for their security and safety besides proper management of the influx of pilgrims from place to place.

To monitor all the logistics, weather conditions, activities along both axis of Holy Cave, a surveillance system has been set up at ICCC, HMT where over fifty officials from all departments have been deputed for round the clock duty for real time assistance to the yatri and staff on the ground. Besides, a Hunting Line number 01942740003 has been created at ICCC for help during the exigency of any disaster. In addition to this, two more landlines 01942496240 & 01942496247 are also functional at the centre. The accommodation capacity of various transit camps/base camps have also been

upgraded to host more visitors thereby raising the cumulative capacity of all camps in view of expectations of influx of huge numbers of pilgrims who would pay obeisance at Cave as the previous year's successful yatra created an overwhelming sentiment across the country and abroad. Augmentation of accommodation also led to the up-gradation of allied infrastructure including toilet complexes, bathing stations, roads, treks etc. Like every other important convenience, sanitation plays a vital role in ensuring cleanliness for maintaining a healthy environment at all places of yatra. In five districts which lie along the yatra axis including Anantnag, Ganderbal, Srinagar, Bandipora and Kulgam, this year more sanitation workers have been detailed with the responsibility of regular cleanliness and sanitation.

Similarly, services of thousands of Poniwalas, Palkiwalas, Pithuwalas and others have been procured by the Labour department & Animal Husbandry department for smooth conduct of Shri Amarnathji Yatra.

To ensure quality health facilities, Health officers and officials including Specialists, Medical Officers and Paramedics have been deployed by the government besides establishing a network of health infrastructure through base hospitals, MACs, EACs, Oxygen Booths, clinical beds and critical ambulances.

Agriculture Department kick starts Kisan Sampark Abhiyan 3.0 in Udhampur

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
UDHAMPUR:

To ensure the outreach of Govt. initiatives for the welfare of the farming community, Department of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare District Udhampur has started Kisan Sampark Abhiyan (KSA) 3.0 under Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) in the District. During the campaign, one day Panchayat Level events would be held across all 236 Panchayats spreading awareness among the farmers about the intervention schemes available under HADP.

“The extension agency of agriculture and allied departments will inform the farmers about different schemes/ interventions through which farmers/ young entrepreneurs can opt for new agri-enterprises/ business ventures for income and employment generation,” the department stated.



Major thrust would be laid on promotion of Credit and Credit linked schemes.

The KSA 3.0 is in continuity to Phase I & Phase II Kisan Sampark Abhiyans conducted in the past two years by the Department of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare. During the F.Y. 2023-24 (1st year of HADP) an amount of Rs 4.42 crore stands disbursed among farmers, young entrepreneurs, SHGs, Cooperatives, FPOs, woman farmers under interventions like promotion of farm machinery, protective cultivation, area

expansion of high value & niche crops, round the year mushroom cultivation, bee keeping, etc. Through these awareness programs, farmers and young entrepreneurs, who want to venture upon agriculture and allied sectors related activities can apply online through Kisan Sathi and Kisan daksh applications for availing incentives and acquiring skills, respectively. However, in case of any difficulty farmers or any eligible stakeholder can directly approach the Agriculture Production Department through Zonal, Sub-division & District

Offices. The Chief Agriculture Officer Udhampur is Nodal Officer at district level under HADP.

As per the department an allocation of Rs 12.54 crore has been earmarked for F.Y. 2024-25 for Udhampur District. District administration Udhampur said that there was no dearth of resources and the scheme provides ample opportunity to farmers/entrepreneurs to avail benefits through credit linked schemes under the ambit of agriculture and allied sectors to create income, employment and boosting of rural economy.

Indian Army organised Medical And Veterinary Camp In Village Swid of Dachhan Region, Kishtwar



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
KISHTWAR :

Indian Army Dul organised a medical and veterinary camp at Swid village, Dachhan region of Kishtwar district to address the growing healthcare needs of the locals in the village of Swid in Dachhan region and its surrounding areas. The camp aimed to provide essential medical services to the residents of the region, who often need to travel to Kishtwar for both minor and major health issues concerning people and livestock.

The Regimental Medical Officer of Indian Army, Dul alongwith the district medical staff, conducted a medical and veterinary camp at Swid village in Dachhan region, which saw a large turnout of residents. A total of 295 patients benefited from the camp (Including 140 males, 108 females, 47 children and 82 Cattles). Additionally, a lecture on health-related issues was delivered by the Regimental Medical Officer. The medical and veterinary camp was highly appreciated by the residents of Swid and the Dachhan region. Locals expressed their desire for more such camps in future. The initiative was instrumental in enhancing the overall health state of the local populace and their livestock. The continued and relentless efforts of the Indian Army in conducting such camps have been greatly appreciated and praised by the public. This camp has also served as a hub for broad-based interaction between the Indian Army and the villagers.

DC Reasi reviews arrangements for Kounsar Nag Yatra-2024



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
REASI:

Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, chaired a meeting to review the preparations for the Kounsar Nag Yatra, scheduled from August 7th to August 10th, 2024. The meeting focused on ensuring seamless arrangements for security, medical care, transportation, power and water supply for the convenience of

the devotees.

The President of the Kounsar Nag Yatra Management Committee shared insights with the Deputy Commissioner regarding the facilities and challenges faced during last year's Yatra.

The Deputy Commissioner asked the SDM Mahore and BDO Mahore to ensure all necessary preparations are in place. The XEN Jal Shakti Dharmari was tasked with ensuring

uninterrupted water supply at specified locations during the Yatra, while XEN PDD Reasi was instructed to secure reliable power arrangements.

In the meeting, it was decided that robust medical facilities would be established. A dedicated team of doctors will be stationed at designated locations, equipped with sufficient stock of medicines and oxygen cylinders to cater to the Yatri's needs. Additionally, medical teams will accompany the Yatra to provide continuous support. The DC also stressed the need for proper registration and medical testing of all Yatri, Tehsildar Reasi designated as the Registration Officer. He added that Pithuwalas and Ponywalas would also undergo registration.

The Deputy Commissioner assured that the District Administration will take every possible measure to ensure the success of the Yatra, making it a safe and pleasant experience for all participants.

Samsung opens pre-reserve for next Galaxy Z series foldable smartphones

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Samsung, India's largest electronics brand, in a press release issued here, said consumers can now pre-reserve its next Galaxy Z series foldable smartphones to become eligible for early access and special offers.

Customers can pre-reserve the next Galaxy Z series foldable smartphones by paying a token amount of INR 2000 on Samsung.com, Samsung Exclusive Stores, Amazon.in, Flipkart.com and leading retail outlets across India. Consumers who pre-reserve the next Galaxy Z series smartphones will get benefits worth up to INR 7000 on purchase of these products. Samsung had recently announced that it would launch the next generation of Galaxy Z series smartphones and ecosystem devices at its global event on July 10. The Galaxy Unpacked event will be hosted in Paris — where the iconic cultural nexus and trend epicentre becomes the perfect backdrop for the rollout of our latest cutting-edge innovations, Samsung said in a statement.

“The next frontier of Galaxy AI is coming. Prepare to discover the power of Galaxy AI, now infused into the latest Galaxy Z series and the entire Galaxy ecosystem. Get ready for a world of possibilities as we enter a new phase of mobile AI,” the company added in the press release.

Samsung India also announced pre-reserve for the next Samsung Galaxy wearable and hearable devices.

Anantnag Police extends compassionate support to Amarnath Yatra pilgrims

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
ANANTNAG:

In an ongoing endeavor to support Pilgrims in need, Anantnag Police extended a helping hand to yatri who were feeling uncomfortable on their way to the Holy Cave. With utmost care and compassion, the Anantnag Police team assisted the distressed

yatri, providing them with the necessary support and guidance to complete their journey. In a thoughtful gesture, a Police party from Police Post Holy Cave distributed refreshments and drinking water to the exhausted yatri who had walked 32 kilometers on foot along the hilly track to reach the Holy Cave. The Police team's timely intervention provided much-needed relief

to the tired pilgrims, quenching their thirst and reinvigorating their spirits. This kind act is a testament to the Police's commitment to serving the pilgrim community and ensuring their well-being. Anantnag Police's dedication to the safety and comfort of yatri continues to earn appreciation from the pilgrims, who are grateful for the police's selfless service.

DC Ramban assesses arrangements for pilgrims at Yatri Niwas Chanderkote

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU RAMBAN:

Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary visited Yatri Niwas Chanderkote here today and interacted with the Yatries staying there. The DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Varunjeet Singh Charak; ACD, Shrinath Suman and other concerned officers.

The Deputy Commissioner also took stock of facilities from Camp Director, S. J P Singh available for the Yatries. The Camp Director apprised the DC about facilities being provided to the Yatries staying



in the well equipped Yatri Niwas including Health services, drinking water, sanitation, langer management and security arrangements.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Commissioner also

inspected the Health camp set up by the Health department to facilitate the Yatries. He passed directives to the Doctors to provide quality and timely health services to the patients. Interacting with

the Yatries, the Deputy Commissioner enquired about the facilities available and service delivery at Yatri Niwas in all aspects. Appreciating the Government for making unprecedented arrangements for devotees of Shri Amaranth Ji Yatra, 2024, the Yatries thanked the Deputy Commissioner for making extraordinary arrangements and services provided by the District Administration.

Later, the Deputy Commission also reviewed the security arrangements put in place by the JKP and other security agencies. He also wished the Yatries a safe and smooth spiritual journey.

Director Agriculture Jammu concludes extensive 2-day tour of Ramban District



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU RAMBAN:

Director Agriculture Jammu Arvinder Singh Reen concluded a two-day tour of Ramban district during which he reviewed agricultural development initiatives and inspected key projects under the Holistic Agriculture Development

Programme (HADP).

On the first day, the Director held a detailed review meeting with the Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) Ramban along with Sub Divisional Officers from Ramban, Gool, and other senior officials of the Agriculture Department. Discussions focused on the progress and challenges in the implementation of flag-

ship HADP schemes in the district.

Following the meeting, the Director Agriculture visited the establishment of the Kissan Khidmat Ghar (KKG) at.

Later, the Director conducted a field visit to inspect the organic vegetable crop at the Organic Cluster under PKVY, located in the village Ladhwal. The initiative aligns with the Department's efforts to promote organic farming and sustainable agricultural practices in the region.

On the second day of the tour, Mr. Reen visited the Potato Seed Development Farm at Natha Top. The primary focus of the visit was to assess and implement corrective measures for the control of nematodes, as well as strategize measures to increase seed production at the farm.

Principal Secretary APD reviews functioning of Agriculture department



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU SRINAGAR:

Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department (APD), Shailendra Kumar, today chaired a meeting of concerned officers to review functioning of Enforcement Wing of Agriculture department.

While addressing the meeting, the Principal

Secretary said that the department is committed to safeguard the interests of farming community of the region.

He exhorted upon the concerned officers to work in close coordination with officers of the extension wing to achieve effective results in overall working of the department.

Shailendra highlighted the importance of trans-

parency and accountability in the system to ensure smooth distribution of quality pesticides, fertilizers and other inputs among the growers and farmers. He said that the primary objective of law enforcement wing of the department is to ensure availability of quality inputs to farming community of the region, through proper sale outlets.

The Principal Secretary said that 133 fertiliser samples have been drawn, as on date, for 2024-25 while 835 samples had been drawn for 2023-24. He asked the concerned officers to ensure that all the provisions of insecticides Act, fertilizer control order are implemented in letter and spirit.

Among others the meeting was attended by Director Agriculture Kashmir, Director Law Enforcement, Deputy Director Law Enforcement, Plant Protection Officer Kashmir, District Law Enforcement officers and other concerned officers of the department.

NISD Beauty & Designing Institute Udhampur hosts first BRIDAL Fashion Show



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU UDHAMPUR:

NISD Beauty & Designing Institute Udhampur Hosted Historic First BRIDAL Fashion Show in Udhampur.

DC Udhampur Saloni Roy was the Chief Guest of the landmark event titled "NISD GLAM GALA - 2024: an Evening for Bridal's" which was held at the prestigious Neelam Orchid Hall in Udhampur.

Event glamorous evening featured 33 local models and 33 talented makeup artists to showcase their skills and creativity in bridal fashion and makeup artistry.

The NISD GLAM GALA - 2024 promised to be an enchanting event, celebrating the beauty and elegance of bridal wear, while providing a platform for local talent to shine. Around 33 Local Models and 33 Makeup artist were participated in the event.

"We are thrilled to bring Udhampur's first-ever bridal fashion show to life," said Manju Bala (Founder & Director, NISD Beauty and Designing Institute) Mentor. "NISD GLAM GALA - 2024 is more than just a fashion show; it's a celebration of the artistry and talent present in our community. We are proud to provide a platform for local models and makeup artists to showcase their incredible skills," she said.

DDC reviews saturation of Farmers Producer Organizations in Reasi District

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU REASI:

District Development Commissioner Reasi Vishesh Mahajan chaired a meeting of the District Monitoring Committee on 10000 FPO Central Sector scheme here in the DC Office complex to review the saturation and formulation of FPOs in the District.

The scheme envisages to organize small and marginal farmers into business organizations by pooling their efforts on input supply and production management so that they can reap the benefits of collaboration. The DC reviewed the present status of the formation of FPOs in the twelve blocks of the District, of which FPOs have been formed and registered in 10 blocks. He instructed the JCC Bank, one of the cluster based business organizations, to speed up the formation of FPOs in the remaining two blocks viz; Chassana and Gulabgarh.

The DDC also gave go-ahead to the three-month campaign initiated by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare under MoA&FW, which aims to equip the FPOs with farming related business licenses viz; fertilizer, seeds, pesticides, e-NAM registration, GST registration, FSSAI, ONDC onboarding, etc. He instructed the department of agriculture, nodal department for the campaign to initiate the campaign in coordination with other departments & FPOs.

He guided the FPOs to promote specific crops like Ginger, Turmeric, Garlic, Lemon Grass, etc, in cluster mode so as to develop crop specific villages wherein the supply side as well as the processing cum value addition by FPOs could be done with better economies. He instructed the FPOs to put in efforts to achieve the sales target of up to ₹25.00 lakh set for the FY 2024-25, while asking the concerned departments to appoint one officer for coordinating with FPOs at Block level.

BSS Panjgrain starts Langar for Amarnath Pilgrims

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
NAGROTA:

Former Minister Sham Lal Sharma and former Mayor Jammu Municipal Corporation, Chander Mohan Gupta, on Tuesday inaugurated a Bhandara, being organized by Bharat Sevashram Sangha at Panjgrain, Nagrota.

Bhandara has been organized by the devotees of the Sangha under the banner of Baba Amarnath Charitable Trust and it will continue till the end of the Yatra.

The pilgrims will be served breakfast, lunch and dinner at the Langar during the Yatra period.

While speaking on the occasion, Sham Lal Sharma appreciated the social work done by the organization by reaching to the affected community members at the time of the natural calamities in J&K. He said that BSS is engaged in hosting social welfare activities all over



the country.

It contributes towards development of the people at large, and in particular the financially-weak and neglected sections, he said, adding that BSS is contributing in the spheres of health, education and self-employment.

Chander Mohan Gupta said that people of Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and Christian have been living in J&K and expressed his hope that the great ideals of sacrifice, service and universal unification of the Sangha-Founder, Acharya Srimat Swami

Pranavanandaji Maharaj will surely inspire the people of the J&K to live in peace and harmony. He promised to help the Sangha, which is rendering its services to the nation.

Earlier on their arrival, the Sham Lal Sharma and Chander Mohan Gupta performed Puja in traditional style of BSS, followed by unfurling of the Sansthan flag in the presence of Swami Satyamitrananda Ji, prominent members of Sangha and civil society.

Swami Saryamitr-anan-

da Ji threw light on the life of the founder of BSS Yogacharya Srimat Swami Pranvananda Ji Maharaj and the activities of Sangha in J&K.

He mentioned about the distribution of relief material and establishment of Langars for the uprooted people in the State especially in Jammu division during the last year's natural calamity in the State.

Swami Satyamitrananda Ji informed that BSS also play a substantial role by supplementing efforts in arranging medical camps and other facilities for the visiting devotees Srinagar too. He said thousands of devotees and Sadhus have been availing the facilities made available by the BSS at In the programme, clothes were distributed to the Amarnath pilgrims. Later, Sham Lal Sharma and Chander Mohan Gupta served Prasad of the Bhandara to all the participants.

Indian Army Pays Tribute to Kargil Heroes

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
UDHAMPUR:

In commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Kargil victory, the Indian Army has organized the Delta 5 Motorcycle Expedition to honor the valor and sacrifice of Indian soldiers. This grand expedition features three teams of eight motorcyclists each, starting their journey on 12 Jun 2024 from three different locations: Dinjan in the North East, Dwarka in the West, and Dhanushkodi in the South. These teams embarked on an epic journey, converging at Delhi, where they were joined by an additional team, uniting their efforts to pay tribute to the Kargil heroes. From Delhi, the unified team split into two groups, taking different routes towards Gun Hill in Dras. The first team traveled through the Zojila Pass, while the second team navigated the Rohtang Pass, both routes offering a challenging yet symbolic path to their destination.

The first team arrived at Udhampur on 3 Jul 2024. During their stay from 3 Jul to 6 Jul, the team engaged in various activities to honor the local community and veterans. They felicitated Veer Naris (war widows) and Veterans of the Udhampur station, recognizing their contributions and sacrifices. Additionally, the team interacted with NCC Cadets and students of the Army Public School Udhampur, sharing inspiring stories of bravery and the importance of service to the nation. On 6 Jul 2024, the Motorcycle Expedition was ceremoniously flagged off from Udhampur by Lt Gen Vijay B Nair, SM, Chief of Staff, Headquarters Northern Command. This event marked the continuation of their journey towards Gun Hill in Dras, carrying the spirit of the Kargil heroes with them. During the occasion, a separate Northern Command Motorcycle rally, comprising nine riders from the Dhruva Command, was also flagged off by the Chief of Staff. This rally will travel to Dras via the historic Mughal Route, joining the Delta 5 Indian Army Motorcycle Expedition at Srinagar for the final leg of the journey to Dras.

NGO, Anti Crime Bureau Facilitate BMO Bishnah, Doctor, on "Happy Doctor's Day"



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
BISHNAH:

NGO, Anti Crime Bureau today under the Supervision of its Chairman Sham Lal Gupta Honored Block Medical Officer Bishnah and their Doctors on a Special Ceremony today to Mark Doctor's Day.

ACB (NGO) Chairman Sham Lal Gupta along with DDC Member Bishnah Dharminder Kumar, BDC Chairman Surjeet Kumar, ASI Naresh Digra(JKP), BJP Sr Leader Prem Pal Sharma and Corporator Sahil Gupta Honored the Doctors by Presenting them Mata ki Chunri and

Momento as a Mark of Respect.

Chairman Gupta appreciated Role of Doctors in Hospital and told that they are Serving their Best in Bishnah Hospital. DDC Member Dharminder Kumar hailed Step of NGO Anti Crime Bureau for Appreciating the Good works of Doctors.

BMO Dr. Shameem, a dedicated and exemplary officer, has been serving the community with distinction and commitment.

Dr. Shameem expressed his gratitude for the recognition and reiterated his commitment to continue serving the community with the same passion and dedication and appreciation. Many Doctors including Dr Rajeev, Dr Sattaf, Surjeet Kumar and others were Honored in the Program. Gupta along with Principal Prem Nath, Panch Sidhu NGO Members Rakesh Kumar, Vijay Kumar, Abishek Sharma, Rohit Kumar, Tushar Digra, Ayan, Akshay Rajput and others were Present in the Program.

Joint Director Information releases music album "Gaadee Chalee Kashmeera"



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Joint Director Information Jammu, Atul Gupta released a music album "Gaadee Chalee Kashmeera", here today.

Deputy Director Information PR, Ankush Hans, DIO Udhampur Rajinder Digra, Singer Bishan Dass, Actress Sonia Verma, Neeraj Sharma, Sanjay Budkulia were also present on the occasion.

The music video is directed By ARJ Productions, while the song is written by Ganesh Singh Salal.

The team associated with the music album apprised the Joint Director that it is the first music album in which all the artists, technicians and supporting staff are locals.

They also informed that the shooting of the album was done in scenic and beautiful locations like Dudu Valley and Daggan Top in Udhampur, Chenab river and Baradari Bridge in Reasi District. The album showcases the unexplored culture and beauty of Jammu division.

It is available on YouTube and other social media platforms.

The Joint Director congratulated the entire team and commended the tireless efforts put in to promote the culture, language, scenic views, and potential of Jammu Division through songs and videos. He emphasized the importance of encouraging local artists dedicated to preserving and promoting the rich folk-lore of the region.

Indian Army Celebrated Kargil Vijay Diwas at Doda

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
DODA:

The celebration of 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' is not merely a commemoration, but also an opportunity to express our gratitude to the armed forces and to educate the younger generation about the sacrifices made for our freedom. It aims to foster a strong sense of patriotism and respect for the armed forces in the hearts and minds of 'Awam'.



Indian Army celebrated 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' at Doda to commemorate the valor and sacrifices of our brave soldiers during the

Kargil War of 1999 and to instill a sense of patriotism and pride among our citizens. The esteemed presence of Kargil Veterans

further enhanced the significance of this event and provided encouragement to the participants and attendees.

THE KASHMIR TALK

EDITORIAL

New Era Justice

The expectation of the new India is to remove the shortcomings of the Indian judicial system and make it more agile, quick and easily accessible. This means ensuring that justice is easily accessible to all citizens, legal provisions are just and a means of crime control, it is easily available, free from complex procedures and cheap. Certainly, the purpose of any law is to protect the life, liberty, property and rights of the citizens. So that the concept of justice can be strengthened in a civilized society. A new era of criminal justice is going to begin in India from July 1, 2024. A new sun of justice is rising, when it should be expected that the Indian Judicial Code, Indian Civil Protection Code and Indian Evidence Code implemented across the country will stand the test of justice. From this point of view, this opportunity full of unimaginable achievements related to law will prove to give a new power, new freshness and new environment to the Indian judicial process. It is noteworthy that these three bills related to legal changes were passed in Parliament last year. Whether the laws made by the British should continue to be applicable in independent India even after seven and a half decades has been a matter of debate for a long time. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his government have taken a bold and relevant step to make the judicial system effective, modern, technological, change the irrelevant laws and make new laws as per modern expectations, and have taken a big step to bring new laws and implement them, which is pleasant and welcome. The opposition parties may have expressed the expectation that the laws made for a country with cultural, religious and geographical diversity should be implemented only after extensive public debate, but the central government is saying that while the purpose of the laws made during the British period was to punish, the purpose of the new laws is to give justice to the citizens. The laws have been made according to the current challenges and needs. The main purpose of making these laws is to create a crime-free society. That is why a provision has been made to give severe punishment to the criminals. It is noteworthy that the Indian Judicial Code provides for a sentence of ten years in the case of cheating by luring someone into marriage, life imprisonment in the case of mob lynching on any basis, and three years in the case of robbery and gangism. There is also a law to control terrorism. In case of any crime, an FIR will be registered within three days and a time limit of 45 days has been set to give the verdict after the hearing. The FIR will be registered through the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network System. Arrangements have been made so that people can register an FIR online without even going to the police station. There is no harm in saying that through these laws, police reforms in the country will also be strengthened. The police will be compelled or obliged to work under the law. Finally, the country has now taken steps towards making the police disciplined as well as effective. The success of the police administration lies in the fact that all the people feel that the law is being implemented in a just manner. Another aspect is that the lack of resources should not come in the way of making the police administration efficient and capable. To provide the level of service that people expect from the police, governments will have to increase expenditure on the police. Competent and cooperative police will be effective in our rapid development. Mechanisms for training and making the police competent will also have to be developed in a new way. In a way, efforts have been made to make these legal provisions easy and simple. Keep in mind, the biggest shortcoming of the previous laws was that they were indicative of inequality in providing justice to the poor. Those laws were used against the poor with much more difficulty than filing cases against the rich. Even in the case of conviction or punishment, the poor had to suffer more. There was a long standing demand for abolishing the cruel or anti-poor laws of the colonial era. Now that these three new laws have replaced the three laws of the British era, it has to be realized that the laws made according to the British are no longer being followed in the country.

ECONOMICS IS NOT JUST ABOUT FINANCIAL COMINGS AND GOINGS WITHIN MARKETS: THE 'UNPRICED' OR NON-MARKET SERVICES THAT THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PROVIDES US WITH ARE EQUALLY ITS CONCERN.

JAYDEV JANA

Economics is not just about financial comings and goings within markets: the 'unpriced' or non-market services that the natural environment provides us with are equally its concern. The value of protecting wetlands for their biodiversity, flood defense, and pollution treatments is as much an economic value as the cost of production of oil from oil-fields. Moreover, it is now strongly believed that an environmental policy that does not address the economic behavior of consumers and firms is likely to get things badly wrong.

Often, economic actors can be induced to take into account the impact of their activities on the environment by getting prices of environmental goods and services right. Economic and environmental systems are closely interlinked. Mrs. Wangari Maathai, the Nobel Peace Laureate, aptly said: "The environment and the economy are really both two sides of the same coin. If we cannot sustain the environment, we cannot sustain ourselves." People are now increasingly paying attention to the environmental consequences of their economic activities, and to the economic value of the environment. Partly, this is due to the increasing interest of policymakers in understanding the benefits and costs of environmental regulations. But predominantly this is due to the greater public awareness of environmental issues such as climate change or the irreversible loss of natural resources vis-à-vis loss of treasured local landscapes. People have started to understand environmental degradation and the benefits of ecosystem services. Undoubtedly, we have a systematic problem in the way we measure the success or impacts of our economic activities. Sustainable development and green growth have become key concepts with many public policy pronouncements, yet the usefulness of these concepts is unclear, while predictions of impending doom due to world population increases and unpredictable climate change continue to prevail. The economy operates from inside the environmental system, with conditions in the two systems being simultaneously determined in an evolving, dynamic way. By 'the economic', we mean all the firms that make up industry; the households (people) that play twin role as consumers and suppliers of labour; governments; the institutions such as markets that govern interaction between these groups; the state of technology; and our produced capital (such as, roads etc.).

By 'the environment', we mean all the natural resources found in the biosphere, including land, flora and fauna, resource deposits under land surface, the world's oceans and atmosphere, natural climate and nutrient cycles. First, the environment provides the economic system with inputs of raw materials and energy resources, including minerals, metals, food, fuels, fibers etc. These materials may either be nonrenewable (such as coal, ores etc.) or renewable (such as fisheries and forests etc.).

These inputs are transformed by the economic systems into outputs that consumers demand. Moreover, the economy uses the environment as a waste sink. Waste originates from either production processes, such as CO₂ and other pollutants from electricity generation; or from consumption activities, for instance when households put out the garbage for collection and disposal. The environment also provides the economic system with basic lifesupport services. An important feature of the interdependent economic-environmental system is coevolution. This means that the way in which the economic subsystem evolves over time depends on the changing conditions of the environmental subsystems, and vice versa. Economists champion the marketplace as the most useful way to organize economic activity. Markets rise spontaneously because people can create value in trade. Markets are powerful for reasons other than just trade. But markets fail too. Indeed, failure is a reality that we must confront. Sometimes market failure could hardly be avoided.

There are several reasons for market failure. Market failure exists when resources do not attain their highest social value. Economists use taxonomy to help identify and categorize different types of market failures. Externalities are the classic types of market failure for environmental problems. Pollution is an externality when a person or firm does not bear all the costs or receives all the benefits from his or her actions. Hence, an externality can arise when the market price or cost of production excludes its social impacts, cost, or benefit. More precisely, externalities constitute the difference between social effects of an action and the private effects. For example, the private costs of driving a car include the payments the driver makes for fuel, repairs, insurance and the depreciation of the vehicle. Cost external to the driver includes the air pollution generated by exhaust fumes, traffic jams to which the car may contribute, and any special inconvenience caused to other drivers that may be caused by reckless driving etc. The social costs include both the private costs that the driver must bear and the external costs that the market permits him to ignore. If we look around, we can see externalities everywhere. A matter of huge concern is how our actions affect others' well-being, for better or worse, and how we do not pay or receive compensation for the extra costs and benefits. The most important distinction must be made in dealing with externalities. They can be either positive (benefits) or negative (costs). The way we are accounting for the outcomes of our economic activities is systematically neglecting positive and negative externalities.

The most important example is how we have ignored the cost of CO₂ emissions from the fossil fuel industry over the last 120 years. We also have a systematic problem in the way we measure the success or the impacts of agricultural economic activities. At present, we are standing at the critical juncture of escalating global challenges ~ lack of availability, accessibility and also affordability of food due to climate crisis; biodiversity loss; economic slowdowns and downturns; worsening poverty, and other overlapping crises. People, businesses and governments do not always know the impact of their decisions on the sustainability of agrifood systems. The agrifood systems undoubtedly generate vital benefits to society, not least because they produce food that nourishes us and provide jobs and livelihoods to over a billion people. Hence, the value of agrifood systems to society is probably well beyond what is measured in GDP terms. On the other hand, market, policy, and institutional failures underpinning agrifood systems contribute to hidden costs, such as climate change, natural resources degradation and the unaffordability of healthy diets. Our endeavor should be to mitigate hidden costs of agrifood systems and enhance their hidden benefits.

In November 2023, FAO released its annual flagship report entitled The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA). For the first time since the flagship publication was launched in 1947, FAO has tried to create a model to look at externalities, country by country and not just on a global scale. The purpose: how to make our agriculture systems sustainable, how to decrease the negative externalities and how to increase positives. The report acknowledges that 154 nations of the UN have neglected important impacts and associated 'hidden costs' of the food systems in their accounting. The 'hidden costs' of food systems encompass: (1) environmental hidden costs from greenhouse gas emissions, water use and land-use change; (2) health hidden costs related to dietary patterns, undernourishment; and (3) social hidden costs associated with poverty among agrifood workers and labour productivity.

Globally, the quantified hidden costs are equivalent, on average, to almost 10 per cent of 2020 GDP in PPP terms. Hidden costs of agrifood systems vary substantially in magnitude and composition across country income levels. According to the report, most hidden costs are generated in upper-middle-income countries (39 per cent total quantified hidden costs) and high-income countries (36 per cent of total costs). Lower-middle-income countries account for 22 per cent, while low-income countries make up 3 per cent. Hidden costs differ not only in their magnitude, but also in their composition by income level. In all country groups apart from low income, productivity losses from dietary patterns that lead to non-communicable diseases (NCD) are the most significant contributor to agrifood system damages, followed by environmental costs.

Ravinder Raina felicitates Surya Bhanu Pratap, BRICS medalist



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU JAMMU:

J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina felicitated Surya Bhanu Pratap Singh (silver medal in BRICS Games held in Russia in June 2024), at BJP head-

quarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Sat Sharma, Former BJP President and former Minister, Ashwani Sharma, former MLA, Prof Gharu Ram Bhagat, DDC, Girdhari Lal Raina, former MLC and Jeet Angral, former Chairman JMC were also

present on the occasion. Ravinder Raina, while felicitating the medalist, praised him for bringing laurels to the state and the nation. He said that being a Wushu player, his success will serve as a consistent inspiration to millions of youth to pursue active sports to be fit and be ready to face the challenges of life ahead. Ravinder Raina further said that his achievement has brought happiness on the faces of all his near and dear ones and also congratulated his parents for the same, while giving him best wishes for his bright and successful career as a sportsperson and in life ahead. Surya Bhanu Pratap Singh, appreciated the gesture shown by the BJP President and all other senior leaders. He said that this felicitation will further inspire him to do better in the future games.

Rahul Gandhi's LS speech: Congress should apologise for insulting crores of Hindus, says Kavinder

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU JAMMU:

Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, today strongly condemned the Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for his derogatory remarks labeling Hindus as violent. He demanded an immediate and unconditional apology from the entire Congress leadership for disparaging comments made by Leader of the Opposition, in the Lok Sabha.



inherently violent during his parliamentary address, Rahul Gandhi has insulted millions of Hindus across the nation. He emphasized that such irresponsible statements reflect a complete lack of understanding of Indian traditions and Hindu culture.

Kavinder highlighted that the nation has been deeply hurt by Rahul Gandhi's remarks, and called upon the Congress leader to retract his statements and offer a public apology. He emphasized that perpetuating such negative stereotypes only fuels discord and goes against the principles of harmony and mutual respect that India stands for.

The senior BJP leader also pointed out that since independence, the Congress party has often supported anti-national elements, which has significantly weakened the country. He cited various instances where the Congress leadership has been accused of appeasing separatist movements and failing to take a firm stand against terrorism.

Police continues crackdown on bovine smugglers; suspends documents of 25 vehicles in Kishtwar

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU KISHTWAR:

In a significant effort to curb bovine smuggling, the District Police of Kishtwar have recommended the suspension of registration certificates and route permits for 25 vehicles implicated in the illegal trade of bovine smuggling. Following these recommendations, ARTO Kishtwar suspended the documents for these vehicles involved in illegal trade. District Police's unwavering commitment to combating bovine smuggling and dismantling the networks that facilitate it.

District Police Kishtwar have made these recommendations based on evidence gathered through multiple FIRs lodged across various



police stations in Kishtwar throughout the year. This action is aimed at disrupting the logistics of smuggling operations and making it increasingly difficult for smugglers to transport livestock illegally. The following vehicles have had their documents suspended by the Regional Transport Offices (RTOs): JK17A4251, JK178554, JK17A6774, JK179374,

JK177675, JK179259, JK17A1685, JK179340, JK176054, JK17A3721, JK17A3136, JK17A1451, JK171082, JK17A2214, JK177150, JK178326, JK179330, JK17A2290, JK17A1360, JK17A0318, JK17A1068, JK174471, JK17A0960, JK170373, JK178919.

The Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kishtwar issued a

stern warning to bovine smugglers and vehicle owners whose vehicles are used for such illegal activities: "Our commitment to eradicating bovine smuggling is unwavering. This is a clear message to anyone involved in this illegal activity: we will identify you, and you will face the full force of the law. Vehicle owners must ensure their vehicles are not used for such purposes, as we will take strict actions, including the suspension of vehicle permits and registration certificates, without any leniency."*

The SSP Kishtwar also cautioned other vehicle owners in the district, stating that if their vehicles are found involved in bovine smuggling, they too will face similar consequences.

IIM Jammu's Management Development Programme for Life Insurance Professionals of PNB MetLife Second Batch Off to a Grand Start



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU JAMMU:

Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu inaugurated the Life Insurance Professionals Program for the second batch (Module-1) for PNB MetLife India Insurance Company Limited on 04th July 2024 at its state-of-the-art campus at Jagti. The Module-1 of this program will continue till 05th July 2024. Present on the occasion were Rajesh Verma, Senior Regional Head, Bancassurance Sales, PNB MetLife, Dr. Kriti Khurana Manager L&D, PNB MetLife, Dr. Ateeque Shaikh, and Dr. Baljeet Singh, Program Director, IIM Jammu. The objective and scope of the programme is designed to help Life Insurance Professionals develop managerial acumen with broad objectives, such as developing expertise, improving sales acumen, enhancing product knowledge, fostering customer service excellence, and promoting regulatory compliance.

The program commenced with a symbolic lamp lighting ceremony, followed by the welcome address and overview of the programme by Dr. Baljeet Singh, Program Director, IIM Jammu.

Dr. Ateeque Shaikh, Program Director and Chairperson, Executive Education and Consultancy (EE & C), IIM Jammu, gave an overview of Executive Education at IIM Jammu and its activities. He shared that the programme is meticulously crafted to equip participants with the essential skills and knowledge required to excel in the dynamic field of life insurance. He emphasized that their goal is to foster a learning environment that enhances professional growth and industry readiness.

DDC Reasi reviews implementation of Self-Employment Schemes, approves new cases

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU REASI:

District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, convened a comprehensive meeting today to review and expedite the sanctioning of cases under various self-employment schemes. The meeting aimed to bolster the local economy by empowering unemployed youth and aspiring entrepreneurs through financial and logistical support.

DDC emphasized the critical role of self-employment in promoting economic growth and reducing unemployment in the district. He urged the concerned departments to ensure the timely processing and disbursement of funds to beneficiaries under schemes such as the Mumkin, Tejaswini, HADP, PMFME and other self-employment oriented initiatives. During the meeting, the DDC reviewed the progress of previously sanctioned cases and directed officials to address any bottlenecks hindering the timely approval and disbursement of new cases. He stressed the importance of efficiency in these processes to maximize the benefits to the local community. Significantly, the DDC approved 22 cases under the Mumkin scheme and 17 cases under the Tejaswini scheme during the meeting.

He instructed the bankers to expedite the processing of pending cases and to share detailed updates on their progress.

Highest cycling expedition ice & steel flagged off by

The Indian Army from Daulat Beg Oldie



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

The year 2024 will mark the completion of 25 years of the spectacular victory of the Indian Army in the Kargil War. To commemorate the Rajat Jayanti of Kargil Vijay Diwas and pay rich tribute to the Heroes of Kargil War, Indian Army is conducting the World's Highest Cycling Expedition, aptly named as 'ICE &

STEEL CYCLING EXPEDITION'. The expedition will cover a distance of approx 753 kilometres and also cross the World's Highest Motorable Pass at 19,024 feet.

Prior to flag-off, the Expedition Team paid homage at the DBO War Memorial, honouring the memory of the brave soldiers of the 1962 Sino-India War. The expedition was flagged off on 01 Jul 2024 by Brig Vishal Ranjan, SM, Cdr 33 Mtn Bde

from Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO). Over the next 15 days, a team of 15 Indian Army personnel will cycle through the challenging and unforgiving terrain of Ladakh to conquer some of the world's toughest mountain passes. The team will also brave few of the coldest places in Ladakh and champion Indian Army's values of selfless service, devotion to duty, sacrifice and courage. The cyclists will also pay homage at Galwan and Rezang La War Memorials and carry out interaction with locals and school children in several villages enroute.

This expedition attempts to establish a World Record by being the Highest Cycling Expedition at an average altitude of approx 15000 feet. The expedition intends to spread the message of grit, sacrifice and the ethos of 'Nation First', which is the hallmark of the Indian Army.

BJP bridging gap between Admin & general public: Yudhvir Sethi

Listens grievances of general public at Pt Prem Nath Bhawan



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

In a bid to foster closer ties between local administration and citizens, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has been actively organizing grievances camps, aiming to address public concerns promptly.

This was stated by Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President after holding a grievances camp at Pt Prem Nath Bhawan Kacchi Chawni Jammu.

Yudhvir Sethi emphasized the role of grievances camps in bridging the gap between administration and citizens, ensuring that people's grievances are heard and resolved effectively. He underscored the BJP's commitment to the welfare of the needy, reaffirming the party's dedication to serving the community. "These grievances camps are a sincere effort on our part to strengthen the bond between the administration and our citizens," he said, adding that BJP leadership remains steadfast in its mission to prioritize the welfare of all sections of society, striving to create an environment where every voice is heard and every issue is addressed with utmost priority.

Earlier, Yudhvir Sethi along with his team including Parveen Kerni, East Mandal President and others listened attentively to the grievances raised by the attendees and assured them that their concerns would be addressed with utmost priority.

The camp witnessed a huge rush of people from across Jammu city who came to the party office to discuss their issues with senior BJP leaders.

Zorawar releases Pahari Dogri album "Jinde Meriye", appeals Jammuites to promote Dogri language, culture

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Chairman, Team Jammu and BJP leader Zorawar Singh Jamwal today released Pahari Dogri album "Jinde Meriye" during a program organized at Team Jammu's head office at Shakti Nagar here today.

The duet song, sung by famous Dogri singers Sonali Dogra and Ashok Kumar Hans showcase the scenic beauty of hilly belts of Jammu region besides enriched culture and simple living of Dogras living in mountainous regions. The song features Ashok Hans, Sonali Dogra, Rupali Sharma in the album. The music composition has been made by Sahil Nath, lyrics by Ashok Kumar Hans and the videography has been directed by K K Malhotra and assisted by Harsh Meenia. Famous singers Ashok Kumar Hans and Sonali Dogra while speaking on the occasion gave a brief resume account of the Pahari Dogri video song. They informed that a new concept has been brought to promote Dogri language through the song and were confident that the song would hit the stands in neighbouring states of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Delhi as well.

While speaking on the occasion, Team Jammu Chief Zorawar Singh Jamwal appreciated the tireless working of young artists of Jammu, which is acting as a great boon in promoting Dogri language and culture not just in Jammu and Kashmir but in neighboring states like Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Harayana and New Delhi.

Amarnath Ji Yatra 2024: Cleanliness drive takes center stage at Ganta Ghar Lal Chowk

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR:

The second day of the cleanliness awareness campaign for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Ganta Ghar (Clock Tower) Lal Chowk, here.

Pilgrims were welcomed with a grand reception marked by cultural performances and a strong commitment to cleanliness.

The event was graced by the chief guest Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur. Among others present were Keshav Verma, Advisor to J&K Government on Smart Cities besides senior officials from SMC, LCMA, ULB, CTP and line departments. The celebration beautifully blended tradition and

modernity to promote a clean pilgrimage experience.

The Housing and Urban Development Department has mobilized a dedicated Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) team in collaboration with 'Swaaha,' an IIT Indore startup, and the artists' group Hanuman Dhvaj Pathk. Their one-hour performance, "Swachhta ka Shiv Naad," used drums, cymbals and tambourines to convey a message of environmental responsibility to thousands of pilgrims. Mandeep Kaur highlighted the significance of the awareness campaign, aiming to encourage pilgrims to minimize plastic usage and maintain cleanliness.

The efforts of Srinagar Municipal Corporation and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in SANJY-2024 have been

pivotal in achieving this goal.

Speaking on behalf of Swaha, Shri Sameer Sharma highlighted the comprehensive cleanliness campaign led by the Housing and Urban Development Department, Jammu and Kashmir.

Cleanliness camps have been established along the yatra route, complemented by educational programs promoting a litter-free pilgrimage.

The inclusion of Nukkad Natak performances has further bolstered enthusiasm among pilgrims, fostering a collective commitment to uphold cleanliness standards and reduce plastic waste. These street plays will continue to engage pilgrims across various ULBs along the entire yatra route throughout the pilgrimage period.

J&K Bank and KCCI Host Groundbreaking Interactive Session with Local Exporters

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
NEW DELHI:

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank in collaboration with The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) organised an Interactive Session with Local Exporters at SKICC on Tuesday, 2nd of July, 2024. The interaction the first of its kind besides Jammu & Kashmir Bank, senior Customs and ECGC attended it. The Interaction was presided over by the Managing Director J & K Bank, Shri Baldev Prakash. The President KCCI Javed Tenga in his address said that tireless efforts were made to make it possible to organise today's event. He thanked the MD J&K Bank, the Addl. Commissioner Customs, Mr. Joginder Singh and a senior ECGC officer Mr. Rahul Sharma for personally attending the Interaction. The president commended the role

J&K Bank had played in the economic development of the State with its customer friendly approach. He referred to Prime Minister Shri Natendra Modi's speech during his recent visit to Kashmir in which he had lauded the performance of the JK Bank Management and staff for having brought down NPA from 11 to 4.75%. In this context Javed Tenga called upon the MD J&K Bank to announce an OTS Scheme without cap and a longer time frame. He raised the problems faced by exporters with J&K Bank, Customs Department, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) and ECGC. The MD -JK Bank in his address spoke about the efforts being made for extending better services and enhanced facilities to account holders. He spoke at length about the importance of the role the exports are destined to play in helping the Country to achieve 5 Trillion

Dollar Economy.

The Addl. Commissioner Customs, Joginder Singh expressed happiness to find a large number of exporters attending the event to discuss the crucial issues. He frankly admitted that many problems faced by exporters were due to systemic glitches which needed to be addressed sooner than later to ensure hassle free and smooth export process. He assured that the issues raised by stakeholders would be resolved shortly. The representative of ECGC Rahul Sharma gave presentation about various ECGC Schemes. The highlight of the Interaction was that the exporters participating in the interaction raised the issues faced by them with the Bank and export process. The MD/ CEO J&K Bank issued on the spot orders for addressing most of the problems raised by exporters vis a vis J&K Bank.

J&K Police seizes property worth 50 lakhs of notorious drug peddlers under NDPS act



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU SAMBA:

Acting sternly against narcotics smuggling and suppliers, J&K Police today under Operation Sanjeevani seized 2 properties of drug peddler under Section 68F (Chapter 5A) of Narcotics & Psychotropic Substances Act.

This strong action today was taken by Police Station Bari Brahmana, where Pakka houses of 02 drug peddlers namely Farman Ali alias Munna s/o Bhag Hussain r/o Karel Manhansan Bishnah A/P Balol Khad, Bari Brahmana and his

associate Farman Din alias Fama s/o Gashu Din r/o Laswara, Bishnah A/P Balol Khad, Bari Brahmana worth approximately 19 lakhs and 31 lakhs respectively were seized under 68F(1) of NDPS Act via a freezing order issued in this regard.

It is informed that Police Station Bari Brahmana had lodged a FIR 06/2024 under NDPS Act, in which accused Farman Ali @ Munna S/O Bhag Hussain r/o Balol Khad was booked for illicitly transferring money amounting to about Rs 4.50 lakh to Punjab and having in possession chitta and cash currency of Rs 1.29 lakhs. On further investigation

one of his associate namely Farman Din @ Fama was also booked under the same case as part of backward linkage, backed by technical evidence and accused disclosure.

Further given the highly notorious nature of drug peddler and his involvement in multiple FIRs, accused Farman Ali @ Munna was booked under Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic substances Act (PIT-NDPS).

However his associate is currently absconding. Now in coordination with PS Bishnah, civil administration of Bari Brahmana & Bishnah, Police Station Bari Brahmana has seized properties of both accused and his associate.

While police is putting continuous effort to apprehend drug peddlers, this action aims to seize illegal proceeds of crime, thus creating deterrence for illegal narcotics trade in region.

Samba Police remains committed to take all steps necessary to counter drug menace, police requests citizen to come out and help police in this endeavour.

Under Modi Govt J&K on cusp of transformation with peace becoming its new hallmark: Kavinder



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU JAMMU:

Senior BJP leader and former deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta on Thursday lauded the remarkable strides made by the Narendra Modi government in combating terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP stalwart leader said that after the progression of befitting moves against terrorism by the Modi Government the Jammu and Kashmir is on the cusp of transformation with peace becoming its new hallmark.

Reflecting on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent statement in the Rajya Sabha, the senior BJP functionary highlighted the effectiveness of the government's policies in bringing an end to violence in the Union Territory. It is pertinent to mention that Prime Minister Modi has emphasized that the government's multi-pronged strategy has not only curtailed terrorism but is also on the verge of eradicating the remaining vestiges of insurgency.

Echoing the Prime Minister's sentiments, Kavinder underscored the transformative impact of these policies on the ground. He noted that the comprehensive approach, which included robust security measures, socio-economic development, and community engagement, has significantly reduced terrorist activities, restoring normalcy and safety in the region. "Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Modi, J&K is witnessing unprecedented progress in eliminating terrorism.

The government's unwavering commitment to peace and security is evident in the substantial decline in violence and the restoration of law and order", he said, adding that the UT has now embarked on the journey towards peace and prosperity.

Meanwhile, Mahant Jwala Soni from Ayodhya along with Narotam Sharma, former Corporator and Mahant Keshav Shukla from Ram Ashram Peer Kho Mandir felicitated Kavinder Gupta by presenting a picture of Bhagwan Ram and Prasad recognizing his outstanding work in the field of social service.

Expressing gratitude to the aforesaid political and religious personalities, Kavinder said that his main objective to join politics was to dedicate life for the welfare of people and that is the reason behind keeping himself busy in accomplishing social causes and providing succor to the people confronting dearth and despair.

Indian Army organised Motivational lecture on 'How to Join Indian Armed Forces' at Parat, Poonch

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU POONCH:

The Indian Army in its drive to guide the youth to 'Join the Indian Armed Forces' organised a lecture at Govt Higher Senior Secondary School, Parat Poonch, District.

The Indian Armed Forces aspirants were educated about various provisions available to join the Armed Forces through different entry schemes. Emphasis was also laid on the importance of academic performance, personality development, communication skills, co-curricular activities and sports as an essential part of the life in the Armed Forces. An interactive session further clarified all doubts and queries of the audience, who have exhibited great enthusiasm towards joining the Armed Forces.

Sat Sharma, others listen public grievances

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU JAMMU:

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is committed to the welfare of the people and has earned a special place in heart of people, stated Sat Sharma, former BJP president and former Minister while listening to the public grievances at BJP Headquarter, along with Ashwani Sharma, former MLA, Prof Gharu Ram Bhagat, DDC, and Jeet Angral, former Chairman JMC.

Sat Sharma said that a BJP activist never takes rest and works for the welfare of the people every single second of life. He said that nationalism and love for the society run in the blood vessels of BJP activists, which forces him or her to be dedicated completely.

Sat Sharma further added that BJP under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken strong steps to boost the development in the nation and removed hurdles in the development of Jammu



& Kashmir with the abrogation of draconian Article 370. He said that on the one hand where BJP is taking big decisions to boost the economic development in the state, BJP is equally concerned to redress the needs of common masses, for which the BJP has again moved ahead with these public grievances camps in the party headquarters.

Ashwani Sharma said that in order to augment the service to the masses, the party is putting constant efforts in providing solutions to the

problems faced by the public in the grievances camps.

He said that every issue presented is being highlighted with the concerned department for their early disposal and to provide prompt relief to the people.

Prof Gharu Ram said that the people from different parts of Jammu & Kashmir visited the party office in the form of deputations to represent the issues like installation of electric poles, street lights, repair of lanes/ roads, job issues etc.

Police arrests 4 Inter-district gang of burglars; recovers stolen property worth 12.5 lakhs

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU SAMBA:

Police has solved four theft cases registered at Police Station Ghagwal and has affected the arrest of four persons and recovered stolen items including cash worth Rs 12.5 lakhs approximately. A number of written complaints were lodged at Police Post Rajpura (PS Ghagwal) by the various complainants regarding the house thefts occurring in the JD of Rajpura area of PS Ghagwal.

Acting over the complaints, four FIRs vide FIR No. 76/2024 u/s 454/380 IPC, FIR No.77/2024 u/s 454/380 IPC, FIR no.94/2024 u/s 454/380 IPC, FIR no. 95/2024 u/s 454/380/511/427 IPC got registered at Police Station Ghagwal through PP Rajpura.

Police team headed by SHO Police Station Ghagwal and Incharge PP Rajpura led by DySP Hqrs Samba under the overall supervision of SSP Samba was constituted and investigation got started.

Police team raided various places and zeroed in many suspects for questioning.

While using physical and technical aid and after strenuous efforts, Police apprehended persons namely Rohit Chouhan @ Labbu S/o Anchal Singh R/o Chack Haria tehsil Marheen Distt Kathua, Sahil Kumar S/o Janak Raj R/o Chack Wazir Chand Tehsil Marheen Distt Kathua, Akash Kumar S/o Khem Raj R/o Chack Haria Tehsil Marheen Distt Kathua.

Chairman DDMA/DC Srinagar reviews flood mitigation preparations in District

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR :

In wake of inclement weather forecast of heavy rainfall, the Deputy Commissioner(DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, who is also the Chairman District Disaster Management Authority(DDMA) today chaired a meeting here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex to review the preparation regarding flood control and mitigation in the District.

At the outset, the chairman DDMA/DC stressed on utmost coordination among line Departments and formulating an efficient plan to ensure prompt response to any flood like situation in the District. He directed the Officers to remain in state of readiness by mobilising all men and machinery on ground particularly at vulnerable spots to avoid any loss of human lives or property damages.

The chairman DDMA/DC laid emphasis on round the clock monitoring of vulnerable flood prone spots and ensuring timely dissemination of information among the

people viz flood alerts, evacuation points/centres, transportation plans etc so that people are updated about the evacuation/rescue plans well in time.

He directed the concerned Officers to focus on the identified vulnerable spots so that rapid action is ensured in case of need or to arrest embankment breach, if any.

The chairman DDMA/DC further directed the concerned departments to formulate rescue plans, identify safe control room locations and also prepare a back up plan. He asked for strengthening communication with the ground level staff and people during any emergency so that people do not panic and get actual information about rescue measures and places available for the public.

The Chairman DDMA/DC instructed the Officers of Health, FCS&C and other Departments to evolve proper SoPs to deal with the floods like situation, if any in the District.

Likewise, SMC, Mechanical Engineering, Mechanical Irrigation, SRTC, State Motor Garages and other line Departments were direct-

ed to ensure all flood mitigation plan well in advance.

During the meeting, the chairman DDMA asked officers to work-out Stock of Boats and other equipments available in District sl there location and contact person, Preparedness for weak spots from both sides of River Jhelum, Flood response duty charts, Gauge level and declaration of Emergency. He also asked for establishment of EOC on priority basis with complete contact directory of relevant departments like SDRF, NDRF, Police Control Room, for better Coordination.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Syed Ahmad Kataria, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Dr Khalid Hussain Malik, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad, Superintending Engineers of Hydraulic, Mechanical Irrigation, R&B, Chief Medical Officer, Deputy Directors of Tourism, FCS&CA, SRTC, State Motor Garages, Officers from Irrigation & Flood Control and other concerned departments were present in meeting.

J&K Govt's 'From Waste to Wonder' initiatives marks shift towards environmentally sustainable Amarnathji Yatra

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR:

Spiritually blissful Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra is witnessing a remarkable shift towards a cleaner and more sustainable pilgrimage with implementation of 'From Waste to Wonder' initiatives by the Jammu and Kashmir government. This reflects the administration's commitment to maintain ecology and environment. The Directorate of Rural Sanitation, Department of Rural Department and Panchayati Raj, J&K is executing a comprehensive program for collection, segregation, transportation and disposal of waste stuff, aiming reduction in plastic waste generation and encouraging a positive behavioral shift among the pilgrims regarding their role in maintaining the ecosystem.

To create awareness among the pilgrims about the importance of recycling, the Directorate organized an exhibition at Baltal which not only encouraged responsible waste disposal but showcased its potential for transformation towards a sustainable environment. The display of everyday items crafted from recycled materials like paper bags, furniture made from Tetra packs and creative uses of plastic waste served as a powerful reminder of the 'From waste to Wonder' concept.

The enthusiastic pilgrims explored all the exhibits showcasing the potential of upcycling and innovative design with each piece telling a story of transformation, turning waste material into objects of wonder.

During the exhibition, Dhoopbatti, Agarbatti and other usable products like jute bags, flowerpots, waste glass bottles and many other such products prepared by Self Help Groups (SHG) are being displayed which have been prepared by using the flowers collected from the Mandir. At the base camp, composting methods like Bucket Composting, Home Composting and Aaga Drum Composting are being displayed to encourage the pilgrims to implement sustainable waste management practices beyond the Yatra. Besides, a counter for awareness generation among the pilgrims for avoiding the use of single use plastic has also been set up where they are receiving free cotton bags as alternatives for plastic bags. Also, the mascots of Lord Ganesha and Lord Hanuman at the camp added a cultural relevance and made the message of sustainability more relatable. The sustainable waste management initiatives are being hugely appreciated by the Yatri. The success of these initiatives, prioritizing sustainable waste management practices, has set a commendable example for the future pilgrimages.

DC reviews progress of Jal Jeevan Mission schemes in Udhampur

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
UDHAMPUR:

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai reviewed the progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission schemes here at a meeting held in the Mini Conference Hall, DC Office Complex.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Rajinder Singh; Chief Planning Officer, Mohd Iqbal; Superintending Engineer Jal Shakti, R.K. Mahajan and Assistant Executive Engineers (AEEs), besides Contractors.



During the meeting, DC addressed the bottlenecks faced in the execution of the schemes and asked contractors to coordinate closely with the AEEs for effective execution. She directed the contractors to expedite the current pace of work by deploying additional machinery and initiating pending

schemes simultaneously. She highlighted the urgency of setting up a pump station on a priority basis to accommodate mechanical machinery.

DC sought a timeline commitment from the contractors regarding the completion of their respective schemes as per the given timeline.

Modi Govt advances criminal justice reforms: Nitish Mahajan

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

The Modi government continues to prioritize the enhancement of India's criminal justice system with the implementation of three crucial laws aimed at ensuring a safer environment for all citizens. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, these legislative reforms signify a significant step towards strengthening law and order across the nation.

This was stated by Nitish Mahajan, Co-Incharge of the Social Media Department, BJP, J&K, in a statement issued here today.

The senior BJP leader said that the implementation of these laws marks a pivotal moment in India's

legal landscape, addressing critical aspects of criminal justice reform. He said that the first law focuses on enhancing penalties for crimes against women, underscoring the government's unwavering commitment to safeguarding the rights and dignity of women in society. This legislative measure is set to act as a deterrent against heinous crimes and ensure swift justice for victims.

"In addition, the second law targets the expedited disposal of cases related to crimes against children. Recognizing the vulnerability of children and the need for timely justice, this reform aims to streamline judicial processes and prioritize the well-being and safety of young citizens," he added.

"Furthermore, the third law intro-

duces comprehensive measures to combat financial frauds and economic offenses.

By strengthening regulatory frameworks and enforcement mechanisms, this legislation aims to curb fraudulent activities, protect financial institutions, and bolster investor confidence in India's economy," he said.

Nitish said that the implementation of these three critical laws underscores the Modi government's steadfast commitment to reforming the criminal justice system. These legislative measures are designed not only to enhance deterrence against crimes but also to ensure that justice is swift, accessible, and equitable for all sections of society, he added.

Sarpanch Sammelan at Buzla, Ramban

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
RAMBAN :

Indian Army organised a Sarpanch Sammelan on 03 Jul 24 at a remote location of Buzla in Ramban district of J&K. The attendees were briefed on the prevailing security situation & the growing threat of use of drugs amongst the youth of the region. The event saw the participation of over forty (40) members including the Sarpanches, Panches and Maulvis who were engaged in discussions on topics such as Healthcare, Social Media Awareness, Drug Awareness, recently launched government policies on rural development such as NRLM (National Rural Livelihood Mission). The event also spread awareness upon various initiatives taken by the Indian Army for the welfare of the rural community. The Army officials also sought suggestion & feedback to enhance the welfare of local populace & alleviate issues concerning them. The AWAM appreciated the initiative taken by the Indian Army and expressed their gratitude for providing them with a platform to voice their concerns and seek solutions. They also praised the Army's efforts in rural development and expressed their willingness to work closely with the Army in the future.

Sealing of commercial units in Waqf properties will begin soon if rental liabilities are not cleared: Darakhshan

Impressed with the courage & determination of an elderly woman Shopkeeper, Dr Andrabi orders waiver of rentals in her favour

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board, Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi today led the Clearance Drive for rental liabilities of Waqf Board tenants at Waqf Complex in Hazratbal and received cash in cheques on the spot operating from the shop keepers in Waqf property there.

Dr Andrabi made this sudden tour after the Board's repeated notices didn't yield any results. Waqf Board Tehsildar and the Board Magistrate Ishtiyah Mohiuddin along with the Waqf Officials accompanied Dr Andrabi.

She issued orders for fixing of minimal rent in favour of very old lady selling local pottery in Waqf Shop and also talked to the tenants with huge rental liabilities and asked them to pay the balance without any further delay to avoid the sealing of their shops.



Many shopkeepers cleared the liabilities in cash or by cheque on the spot. Later speaking to media, Dr Andrabi said that the Board will not waive any balance liabilities to anybody using the Waqf properties. "Sealing of commercial units in Waqf properties will begin soon if rental liabilities are not cleared without any delay", said Darakhshan.

Rahul got 'Gandhi' surname in adoption and he doesn't know the Sacrifices of Hindus for Mother Land India : Braham Jyot Satti

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Braham Jyot Satti, Senior leader BJP and Incharge BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir issued a press statement and lashes out at Rahul Gandhi (Opposition leader) for his anti hindu statement in Parliament.

He said Rahul Gandhi got 'Gandhi' surname in adoption because his grand mother and former prime minister of India Indhira Gandhi was daughter of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and She got 'Gandhi' surname in adoption by Mahatma Gandhi.

He said In parliament Rahul Gandhi while leading the opposition said that Hindus are Violent, Liar etc which is non acceptable and non tolerable at all and it is not the first time when congress party disrespected Hindus and their always issued unnecessary statements to target hindus. They did the same for



many times in the past also even 1975 Rahul's grandmother imposed unnecessary emergency throughout nation for the sake of her chair.

He said Hindus are very much tolerant than any other. They were hindus who sacrificed their lives while fighting against mughals. They were hindus who sacrificed their lands, emotions and made another nation (Pakistan) 1947. They were hindus who lost their

provinces and rights during the emergency in 1975. They were hindus who were forced to migrate from Kashmir overnight 1989.

He said Rahul Gandhi is immature frustrated person because the congress party is being rejected by the public of India for the 3rd consecutive time. Rahul thinks 99 out of 543 is a big number this shows his immaturity.

He said people gave a mandate to the BJP for the 3rd consecutive time because of its successful public schemes and for making our Nation strong. He said PM Narendra Modi led government is working for segments of society and there is huge number of highly beneficial schemes which are running by Government just for needy people.

He said Nation's first ideology of BJP is best and it works in the nation's interest and prominent citizens are joining hands with BJP which is highly appreciable.

District level Committee reviews implementation of Road Safety measures in Doda District

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
DODA:

Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh, who is also the chairman of the District Road Safety Committee (DRSC), today reviewed the road safety measures and issues here at a meeting of the Committee. The meeting was held in the mini-conference hall of the DC office complex and attended by SSP Javid Iqbal; ADC Sudershan Kumar; CPO Manesh Kumar Manhas; Chief Education Officer PL Thapa; Chief Medical Officer Om Parkash; ARTO Rajesh Kumar Gupta, SE PWD Circle Doda, DFO Doda and representatives from NHIDCL, Traffic, SDRF, IRAD, along with other officers and officials of the District Road Safety Committee.

A thorough discussion on safety parameters for the national highway from Doda to Batote was held with the NHIDCL officer. He was directed to install traffic signs and safety measures, particularly in the Assar area. The emphasis was laid on the speed limit signs.

The DC directed the district police and traffic officers to keep check on idle parking on the highway and take action against unauthorized vehicles. He instructed the DySP Traffic to set up checkpoints to control vehicle speed in public areas and to challenge overloaded vehicles. He asked to register FIRs against habitual offenders. The NHIDCL officers were directed to ensure proper road markings to prevent overtaking. Additional directives included the installation of mile stones along the highway, adherence to all action points discussed in the meeting, widening of hairpin curves to prevent accidents, blacktopping of rough areas, and ensuring a well-maintained drainage system. Other road safety measures discussed included the installation of crash barriers, speed breakers, rumble strips, and traffic signs near markets, schools, and other sensitive areas. The meeting also covered roadside amenities and the issue of roadside dumping. The DC also interacted with the SDMs virtually to review road safety measures across the district.

CU Jammu organizes Awareness Programme with Civil Defence Samba



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

A one-day awareness-cum-demonstration programme was organized at Central University Jammu by Civil Defence, Samba. The programme aimed at enhancing emergency preparedness and community resilience. The event was held under the patronage of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain.

The organizer of the event was Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar, CUJ and was coordinated by Mr. Balwan Singh, Security Officer.

The awareness camp was held under the supervision of Ms. Naseem Akhter (Deputy SP), Civil Defence, Samba. The program included practical training sessions in which more than 70 faculty, non-teaching staff, security and housekeeping staff of the university were educated on various aspects of civil defence, including disaster preparedness, response strategies, first aid techniques, and fire safety protocols. Practical demonstrations and interactive sessions allowed attendees to engage actively and gain hands-on experience in emergency procedures. While speaking on the occasion, Ms. Naseem Akhter (Deputy SP) Civil Defence, Samba highlighted the role of Civil Defence Wardens/Volunteers and importance of Civil Defence Organization during disaster to help the people as a first responder.

DDC reviews launch of Sampoorna Abhiyan in Kishtwar district

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
KISHTWAR:

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kishtwar Dr Devansh Yadav today convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the launch of Sampoorna Abhiyan in Aspirational Block (AB) Marwah and at District headquarter Kishtwar. The meeting focused on the formulation of the Action Plan for saturation of 06 identified Key Performance Indicators.

It was informed in the meeting that NITI Aayog has launched the

Sampoorna Abhiyan to achieve saturation of 6 identified Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) at District level and Aspiration Block level under the thematic areas of Health, Nutrition, Education, Agriculture and Social Development.

It was also given out that the aim of Sampoorna Abhiyan is to saturate the identified KPIs within a span of three months starting from 4th July and ending on 30th September 2024.

Action Plan will be formulated for working towards saturation of the benign principle of Sampoorната”

the meeting was told.

Speaking at the meeting, the DDC stressed upon the concerned officers to work with coordination and added dedication and ensure that all the identified key performance indicators are achieved within the stipulated time frame.

The meeting was attended by PO ICDS Dr Rishi Kumar Sharma; CPO Shahnawaz Bali; SDM Marwah Mohammad Ashraf; ACD Phulail Singh; AD Food/DIO Shafqat Keen; DSWO Zubair Ahmed, CEO, CMO, XENs, DYSSO and other concerned officials.

Labour Department launches special drive for truck drivers to register on e-Shram Portal

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR:

Labour Department, J&K Wednesday launched a special drive across the UT to facilitate the registration of truck drivers on the e-shram Portal.

The initiative was taken on the directions of Labour Commissioner, J&K Charandeep Singh, and aims at safeguarding the rights and promoting welfare of the truck drivers. The registration cum awareness camps were set up along the National Highway, Railway Stations, Transport Yards, Mandies, Union offices and other locations and CSCs across each district.

The truck drivers are an important component of the country's labour force. Majority of them, however, do not get social security benefits and face many challenges. In order to protect their rights, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) had issued an advisory to protect Human Rights of Truck drivers. The advisory underscored the critical role of truck drivers in the logistics and transportation sector and the steps to be taken by the Government for their overall wellbeing including their registration on the e-shram Portal.

The e-Shram portal is the nation-

Over 21,000 Truck drivers already registered, drive to continue across the UT: Charandeep Singh



al database of unorganised workers. A unique Twelve (12) digit Universal Account Number (UAN) is uniquely assigned to each unorganized worker after registration on e-Shram portal. UAN number is a permanent number i.e. once assigned, it will remain unchanged for the worker's lifetime.

The registration on the e-Shram Portal will facilitate the Government in ensuring that unorganized worker including truck drivers can avail benefits of social security schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PM-JJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PM-

SBY), Old age Protection under Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Mann Dhan (PM-SYM) and other welfare measures meant for the workers including during any emergency or pandemic like situations.

Till date, over 21,000 truck drivers belonging to J&K have registered on the e-shram Portal and the registration cum awareness drive shall continue to facilitate registration of the remaining truck drivers.

Labour Commissioner, J&K has urged the Truck drivers to proactively register themselves on the e-shram Portal along with their co-drivers and helpers.

Govt. Degree College Thannamandi Organizes Essay Competition on Cyber Security

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
THANNAMANDI:

The Department of Computer Science, Government Degree College Thannamandi organized an online essay competition on the topic "Cyber Security and its Importance" on Wednesday: rd 2024 under the patron ship of the Principal of the college, Prof. Dr. Farooq Ahmed. The competition was one of the series of monthly events organized in the Institution under the programme "Cyber Jagrukta Awareness Diwas" a program by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Higher Education Department J&K for implementing the scheme called "Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)".

10 Students participated in the competition in which the students expressed their views on Cyber related crimes and security. Umar Farooq and Mohd Rafiq students of Govt. Degree College Thannamandi bagged the first position, Nidaa Qaisar adjudged as second and Zulfikar Ali student of Govt. P. G. College Rajouri got the third position. Prof Supriya Gupta, HOD Computer Science and Nodal officer Cyber Jagrukta awareness programme of the college organized the programme.

JKTPO, district admin organize onboarding drive at Poonch, Pulwama

Initiative to integrate local entrepreneurs with e-commerce platforms, enhance their global market presence

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR:

The Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO), in collaboration with respective district administrations, is organizing e-commerce onboarding drives across all districts of the Union Territory with emphasis on One District One Product (ODOP) and District Export Hubs (DEH) initiatives.

The primary objective of these drives is to enhance the digital presence and market reach of local artisans, manufacturing units, weavers, farmers, entrepreneurs, self-help groups (SHGs) and small businesses. By facilitating their onboarding onto prominent e-commerce platforms, JKTPO aims to provide these stakeholders with broader market opportunities and increased visibility. The onboarding drives are being organised by the JKTPO on the directions of Chief Secretary, Atal Duloo and under the guidance of Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department, Vikramjit Singh, aimed at integrating local entrepreneurs into digital commerce platforms to enhance their global market presence.

The ODOP and DEH initiatives have demonstrated significant potential in promoting unique and high-quality products from each district, thereby boosting local economies. The e-commerce onboarding drives are a crucial step towards achieving these goals, enhancing visibility, recognition, and the global presence of Jammu and Kashmir's unique offerings.

These drives include training and workshops, platform registration, product listing, marketing, and sales. JKTPO has scheduled these e-commerce onboarding drives throughout July in each district of the Union Territory, with simultaneous events planned in both the divisions of Jammu and Kashmir.

Recently, JKTPO conducted successful e-commerce onboarding drives at Pulwama's Circuit House and Poonch's Government Dak Bungalow.

Earlier, the JKTPO organised E-Commerce onboarding drives at Anantnag and Jammu for benefit of the artisans, entrepreneurs, farmers.

At Pulwama, the drive witnessed enthusiastic participation of leading e-commerce players' besides over 150 entrepreneurs including women entrepreneurs, exporters, growers and government officials. The initiative included insightful sessions highlighting the benefits of e-commerce platforms and facilitated the immediate onboarding of over 35 participants onto platforms like Government e-Marketplace (GeM).

Sunil Prajapati raised Issues of Ration Cards' Bifurcation and OBC Reservation before Union MoS B L Verma

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Sunil Prajapati, President BJP OBC Morcha J&K UT, called on the Hon'ble Minister of States (MoS) for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and Social Justice and Empowerment, B L Verma and apprised him the public issues relating to bifurcation/revision of Ration Cards and certain discriminations/discrepancies in the Reservation to OBCs in J&K UT.

Prajapati in a memorandum submitted to the Hon'ble MoS BL Verma has stated that the People of J&K UT are suffering great difficulties and feel embarrassed due to non bifurcation/revision of Ration Cards for 8-10 years.

The Ration cards were last reviewed/bifurcated in J&K some time during 2015-16 as per the Census 2011.

Thereafter, a number of families have been separated from Head of the Families and many chil-



dren born to the existing families but the Ration Cards have not been reviewed, updated or bifurcated, as such many people are suffering adversely due to non revision of Ration Cards. Prajapati accordingly requested the Honble MOS for favourable action to resolve the issue of revision/bifurcation of Ration Cards so that difficulties of affected people are removed.

Further the, Prajapati also apprised the Hon'ble MoS relating to the issues of Reservation to OBC

category which includes the issue of updation of newly added 15 OBC castes in the Centre OBC List as considered by the J&K Govt vide SO 176 of 15 March 2024.

Another issue of OBCs, he raised that J&K Govt has not adopted the Centre Creamy Layer policy for issuance of OBC certificate for the UT, but the Rules formed by the Article 370 time Govts for Social Caste (OSC) category are being applied, which are against the spirit of Centre Govt orders for Creamy layer since the

income from salaries and Agriculture land is not calculated towards Annual Income, but the J&K UT Govt include income from every source including Salary and Agriculture income. Due to which many eligible people are denied OBC certificates.

The another issue of OBC raised by Sunil Prajapati is that the OBC category in J&K has been provided 8% reservation, while the population of OBCs is above 27%.

The large portion of OBC reservation quota has been diverted to RBA and ALC, the area based Reserve Categories created by previous Govts to provide reservation to the people of certain villages as per choice of MPs/MLAs of the ruling parties for vote bank, which is unconstitutional and do not exist anywhere in the Country. As such he requested the MoS that Area based Reservations RBA and ALC in J&K should be abolished so that OBC get its due share of reservation as per population.

Public Dabar at Srinagar

Shaleen Kabra advocates greater coordination among departments to address public issues on priority

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR:

Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Jal Shakti Department, Shaleen Kabra, today emphasized the critical need for enhanced inter-departmental coordination to address public grievances promptly and effectively.

Speaking during a Public Darbar held in Srinagar, Shaleen Kabra highlighted the importance of meeting the high expectations of citizens by resolving their issues with priority.

The Public Darbar was convened to assess and address various demands and concerns raised by the local populace.

The event saw a significant turnout of residents, civil society members, District Development Council members and Block Development Council members from Srinagar district.

The participants raised a wide range of issues related to civic amenities, infrastructure, and other local concerns.

Delegations from various areas such as Padshahi Bagh, Harwan Dara, Onta Bhawan Soura, Shalteng HMT, Balhama, Shivpora, Jeelanabad, Peerbagh, Khonmoh,



and other city locations raised their concerns regarding availability of drinking water. Specific grievances included inadequate water supply in Padshahi Bagh and Shivpora, where residents highlighted the need for improved drainage and completion of water pipe installations.

Similarly, residents from Noorbagh, Palpora, Khanyar Nowpora and HMT Omarabad requested for road widening in their areas to alleviate traffic congestion and improve road safety.

A delegation from Central Shalteng brought to attention the need for effective dewatering solutions in their area.

Likewise, civil society members raised issues related to environ-

ment, progress on Smart City initiative and the need for identifying and addressing gaps in various developmental projects.

During the darbar, ACS listened to the concerns raised by the people.

He gave on-the-spot instructions to the officers for ensuring speedy redressal of grievances projected by the participants.

Shaleen Kabra expressed gratitude to all participants for their active involvement and reiterated his commitment towards resolving all the genuine issues on priority.

The event was attended by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, along with various HoDs and other officers.

India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise NOMADIC ELEPHANT Commences in Meghalaya



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
NEW DELHI:

The 16th edition of the India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise NOMADIC ELEPHANT commenced today at the Foreign Training Node in Umroi, Meghalaya. Scheduled from July 3rd to 16th, 2024, this exercise marks a significant annual training event, conducted alternately in India and Mongolia. Last year's edition took place in Mongolia in July 2023.

The Indian contingent, represented by 45 personnel from a Battalion of SIKKIM SCOUTS and other arms and services, is collaborating with the Mongolian contingent, which includes personnel from the 150 Quick Reaction Force Battalion of the Mongolian Army.

The opening ceremony was graced by His Excellency Mr.

Dambajavyn Ganbold, Ambassador of Mongolia to India, and Major General Prasanna Joshi, General Officer Commanding 51 Sub Area of the Indian Army. The primary objective of Exercise NOMADIC ELEPHANT is to enhance the joint military capability of both nations to undertake counter-insurgency operations in a sub-conventional scenario under Chapter VII of the United Nations Mandate. The exercise will focus on operations in semi-urban and mountainous terrains.

The tactical drills planned for this exercise include a wide array of operations such as response to a terrorist action, establishment of a joint command post, setting up of an intelligence and surveillance centre, securing a helipad or landing site, small team insertion and extraction, special heliborne operations, cordon and search operations,

and the employment of drones and counter-drone systems, among others. These drills aim to simulate real-life scenarios to better prepare the forces for potential threats.

Major General Gyanbyamba Sunrev, Chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces of Mongolia, is scheduled to attend the closing ceremony on July 16th, 2024, along with Lieutenant General Zubin A Minwalla, General Officer Commanding 33 Corps of the Indian Army. Their presence underscores the importance of this exercise in fostering military cooperation and mutual understanding between the two nations.

Exercise NOMADIC ELEPHANT serves as a platform for both armies to share best practices in tactics, techniques, and procedures for conducting joint operations. This annual exercise not only enhances interoperability between the two forces but also fosters bonhomie and camaraderie, further strengthening the defence cooperation and bilateral relations between India and Mongolia.

Through such collaborative efforts, both nations aim to augment their strategic partnership and develop a robust framework for addressing common security challenges. The continued success of Exercise NOMADIC ELEPHANT is a testament to the enduring friendship and cooperation between India and Mongolia.

myITreturn launches India's first-of-its-kind Mobile App

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Skorydov, the innovative force behind myITreturn, is excited to announce the launch of their groundbreaking new mobile app designed to simplify and revolutionize how Indians file their Income-tax returns. This innovative app is the first of its kind in India, allowing users to file their taxes directly from their smartphones without needing to upload any physical documents, streamlining the entire process, and making it quicker and more efficient than before.

Saakar Yadav, Founder of Skorydov, shared his excitement about the new app, saying, "We are thrilled to introduce this game-changing app to India. At myITreturn, our mission has always been to make tax filing easy, secure, and efficient. This app is a testament to that mission, providing a unique solution that simplifies the entire process while ensuring the safety of user's data and providing them with maximum possible refund. We believe this app will fundamentally change how Indians approach their tax filing in the coming days."

A Game-Changer in Tax Filing

The myITreturn app is transforming the way one handles tax return filing. The myITreturn app is designed with the consumer in mind, eliminating the hassle of paperwork and making tax filing accessible for everyone. With just a few taps on a smartphone, one can complete the tax return from the comfort of one's home or office. This ease of use is what makes the myITreturn app a real game-changer in the field.

Affordable Tax Filing at Just Rs.99!

Skorydov, the makers of the app, said that they are committed to making quality tax services affordable for everyone. That's why they are offering tax filing through our app at just Rs.99. This initiative aims to lift any unnecessary financial burden on taxpayers while ensuring they receive top-notch service.

Samba admin plans to launch Saturation drive for FPOs to enhance business activities

District Level Monitoring Committee discusses modalities

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SAMBA:

District Development Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma chaired District Level Monitoring Committee (DMC) to plan the launch of a campaign and to sensitise the stakeholders regarding 3 month Saturation drive to facilitate FPOs to enhance their business activities with emphasis on assisting them in obtaining various licenses like Inputs, Seeds, Mandi, GST, FSSAI and On-boarding on platforms like ONDC and other E-retailing platforms for sale of their produce. It was also suggested to encourage banks to provide loans to FPOs for their credit requirements.

The move would provide a supplementary supportive ecosystem to farmers for sustainable income oriented farming, hassle free inputs, enhance productivity through efficient & cost effective resources & realise higher returns through better processing & market linkages. The DC advised the stakeholders to organise camps for FPOs during the month of July 2024 and invite CEOs & all FPO Board members to share the activity plan. The Directors of FPO may also be invited in all the Public Darbars & Block Divas meetings held in the district or block to hear their perspectives and issues. They should also be informed & sensitised about the various schemes & programmes of departments, bank linkage schemes etc. The concerned departments should assist FPOs not only in filling of applications but till issuance of licenses. DC Samba also advised to complete the issuance of licenses within the stipulated time so that they are handed over to FPOs before 14 August 2024.

Jugal led delegation meets Nitin Gadkari

Union Minister Gadkari agrees to no RE blind wall between Kunjwani to Narwal Expressway: Jugal



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
NEW DELHI:

Senior BJP leader and Member Parliament Mr Jugal Kishore Sharma today expressed gratitude to Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Mr Nitin Gadkari for conceding to the most vociferously projected demand of the people of Jammu for not having RE blind wall between Kunjwani and Narwal, as part of Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway. In a statement, after meeting the Union Minister, along with senior BJP leaders from Jammu including Mr Devender Singh Rana, Mr Vikram Randhawa and Mr Sham Lal Langar, Chairman of the party's Traders Cell, Mr Jugal Sharma expressed satisfaction over the issue resolved at the high level meeting of the National Highway Authority of India, presided over by Mr Gadkari.

Mr Sharma described the decision taken at the meeting with regard to preserving the commercial grandeur of the highway between Kunjwani and Narwal as fulfillment

of the aspirations of the people of the Temple City, who had been peacefully highlighting this demand under the aegis of the BJP.

"Today's decision has brought cheer to the people in general and respite to the stakeholders of the business hub in the Jammu outskirts", Mr Sharma said while lauding the pragmatic stewardship of the Union Road Transport and Highways Minister.

He said the stakeholders have been seeking vehemently demanding construction of flyover between Kunjwani, Sainik Colony, Channi Himmat and Narwal Sector as the RE wall would have meant choking of business hub, impacting the sustenance of thousands of stakeholders directly or indirectly. They had always welcomed the Expressway to have seamless journey of spiritual bliss seekers to Shri Mata Vaishno Deviji but were seeking flyover instead of RE wall.

BJP National General Secretary Mr Tarun Chugh had also taken up the issue with Mr Gadkari, keeping

in view the concerns of the stakeholders, as the thickly populated city area, comprised schools, hospitals, local markets, shops, malls, banquet halls, main-fruit Mandi, Main-Vegetable Mandi, Transport Nagar, ISBT bus stand and new railway station platforms with entrance and exit axis. Therefore, the blind wall would have spoiled all the establishments and also created obstacles in free movement of people.

It may be recalled that a deputation of the prominent citizens of the affected areas besides those engaged in trade and commerce, led by senior BJP leader Mr Devender Singh Rana and comprising Mr Sham Lal Langer BJP Traders Cell and Arun Gupta President Chamber of Commerce Jammu had called on the Union Minister Mr Nitin Gadkari a couple of weeks ago with this demand of immense public importance. The Union Minister had assured the delegation that necessary instructions would be issued to the National Highway Authority of India, keeping in view the public sensitivity over the issue.

"Finally, after several rounds of meetings, the Union Minister has been kind enough to communicate the decision to the National Highway Authority of India that there will be no RE wall between Kunjwani and Narwal sector of the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway", Mr Jugal Sharma and congratulated the people in general and the stakeholders in particular for fulfillment of their urges and aspirations.

BJP holds Janata Darbar at party headquarters



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir held Janata Darbar at its headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Er. Dil Bahadur Jamwal, Incharge Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Puneet Mahajan, Convenor Health & Medical Cell and Prerna Nanda, Mahila Morcha attended to the grievances of the people, who visited party headquarters with their issues.

People from various areas of the UT presented their issues related to the frequent interruptions and heavy fluctuations in electricity supply despite metering, absent and non-functional street lights, and high mast lights. People complained about sanitation issues and choked drains and nallahs which are getting flooded in the rains and causing water logging in the streets. People also presented the other issues related to the Ayushman Bharat Card, ration card, old age pension, repair of drains, revenue-related matters etc.

Er. Dil Bahadur Singh Jamwal, while talking to the media on the occasion, pressed that more than 20 deputations have visited the BJP office with a lot of confidence that their issues would be resolved soon. He insisted that they have raised the maximum issues with the concerned departments and pressed for their prompt and early solutions.

Puneet Mahajan said that the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana is providing respite to scores of patients especially those belonging to weaker sections of the society who require financial assistance for the expensive treatment. He said that the issues being encountered are being taken with the authorities.

Pouni Chak declared as Nano Model Village in Kisan Ghoshti

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Pouni Chak, a village in Jammu, has been announced as a Nano Model Village under a pioneering initiative by IFFCO (Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited) in collaboration with the Agriculture Department, Jammu. The announcement was made at the Kisan Ghoshti organized by IFFCO and Agriculture Department Jammu, where S. Arvinder Singh Reen, Director Agriculture Jammu, graced the occasion as the chief guest.

In his address, State Marketing Manager of IFFCO, Shri Sukhpal Singh Sidhu, mentioned that to accelerate the adoption of nano fertilizers among farmers, IFFCO has launched the Nano Fertilizer Usage Promotion Mahaabhiyan. As part of this initiative, IFFCO has identified 200 model nano village clusters across India.

These villages, including Pouni Chak, will receive a 25 percent subsidy on Nano Urea Plus, Nano DAP, and Sagarika, making these advanced fertilizers more accessible to farmers.

IFFCO will also provide a financial grant of Rs 100 per acre to drone entrepreneurs, facilitating cost-effective spraying services for farmers in the selected villages.

TDF Scheme Promotes 'Aatmanirbharta' in Defence; Start-ups & MSMEs Enhance Capabilities in Cutting-Edge Technology

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

The Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme is playing a crucial role in promoting 'Aatmanirbharta' (self-reliance) in defence by encouraging the participation of public and private industries, particularly start-ups and MSMEs. This initiative aims to create an ecosystem that enhances capabilities in cutting-edge technology. The TDF scheme, a flagship program of the Ministry of Defence, is executed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) under the 'Make in India' initiative. To date, a total of 77 projects, with a commitment of over Rs 300 crore, have been sanctioned to various industries, and 27 defence technologies have been successfully realized under the scheme.

Success Stories:

1. Combat Robotics, Pune: Combat Robotics has developed an innovative simulator for unmanned vehicles, supporting UGVs, UAVs, USVs, and UAVs. This multi-

domain simulator provides comprehensive environmental modelling, scenario and vehicle modelling, and intuitive control systems. Developed under the Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR), Bengaluru, it serves as a vital tool for agencies working on autonomous systems.

2. ChiStats Labs Private Limited, Pune: ChiStats Labs has created virtual sensors for aero gas turbine engine health monitoring, enhancing operational reliability and longevity. The system leverages AI/ML technologies for accurate and rapid assessments. The project, guided by the Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE), Bengaluru, also includes tools for data assessment, active learning, and AI model validation. These tools, accessible via a user-friendly web interface, improve decision-making and capabilities in defence applications.

3. NewSpace Research and Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru: This start-up developed an autonomous drone for indoor search

and report operations, capable of operating in zero light conditions. The project includes 3D mapping, an exploration algorithm, and an AI/ML engine. Developed under CAIR's guidance, this technology is applicable in search and rescue, surveillance, industrial inspections, and hazardous environment exploration.

Secretary of the Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO, Dr. Samir V Kamat, congratulated the start-ups and DRDO labs involved in these projects. He emphasized that these achievements align with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Aatmanirbhara Bharat'. Objectives of the TDF Scheme: Provide grants to Indian industries, including MSMEs and start-ups, as well as academic and scientific institutions for developing defence and dual-use technologies not currently available in India.

Engage private industries, especially MSMEs and start-ups, in the design and development of military technology, supporting them with grants.