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# HEADLINES TODAY

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Hizb militant active since last week arrested

Srinagar, Oct 6. : Police on Thursday claimed to have arrested Hizb militant in South Kashmir's Awantipora. As per a police statement, joint forces including soldiers from 42 Rashtriya Rifles, Jammu Kashmir Police and men from 42 Battalion CRPF caught hold of a man at Chandrigam check-point and during the search, one Pistol along with a pistol magazine was recovered from him. The arrested person has been identified as Danish Mohiuddin Ganai of Dadsara Awantipora. Police said that during questioning, Danish confessed that he works for the militant outfit Hizb and was active since last week. An FIR (221/22) has been registered at police station Awantipora and investigation is underway, police said.

#### Man falls into a gorge while cutting grass, dies on spot

Reasi, Oct 6, A man died after falling into a gorge from a height in the Mahore Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir. Police sources said that a man was cutting grass in the Mahore forest area when he slipped and fell into a deep gorge. The victim identified as Manzoor Ahmed Lohar son of Muhammad Abdullah Lohar, a resident of Lowepora Dewal Mahore was rushed to hospital where doctors declared him brought dead. Police in this regard have registered a case under relevant sections of law. (KNT)

#### Army man killed in accidental fire in Baramulla

Srinagar, Oct 06 : An Army man

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## With no Bullet proof Shields, Amit Shah's Visit terms Business as usual in Kashmir

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Oct 6: In a significant departure from the past, Home Minister Amit Shah addressed the rally in north Kashmir's Baramulla and visited downtown Srinagar without a bullet proof shield even as it was business as usual unlike hartals in the past during such high profile visits. These are said to be the big takeaways of Home Minister's visit to the valley. Shah addressed a mega rally in Baramulla without a bullet proof shield and visited Gurudwara Chatti Patshahi in Rainawari area of the city, once infamous for stone-pelting protests. Significantly, all this happened amid business as usual in the valley especially city centre Lal Chowk, which used to shut



down on such high profile visits. The significant change marks an improvement in the security situation in the valley. In his address at the Baramulla rally, Shah said Prime Minister Modi "wants separatism and terrorism to end here and Jammu & Kashmir is becoming India's paradise". "I appeal to people to

uproot terror from Jammu and Kashmir..Modi government will not tolerate terror at all," Shah said in Baramulla. The minister said that this was earlier a terrorist hotspot and now it had become a tourist hotspot", he added. "In Kashmir Valley, earlier maximum 6 lakh tourists used to visit every year, whereas this year till now 22 lakh tourists have visited. This has given employment to thousands of youth. Earlier, stones and guns were given in the hands of the youth of the Valley, but today Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given mobiles and laptops to the youth by setting up industries so that the youth can get employment," Shah said in his meeting in Baramulla, as per News 18.

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## J&K first among UTs/States to achieve the feat of establishing 75 Amrit Sarovars in each district



HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: In a review meeting of Rural Development Department held by the Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta it was informed that J&K has achieved the milestone of being first to establish at least 75 Amrit Sarovars in each of its districts as per the aspirations of the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. Dr Mehta applauded the department for this unique

achievement and asked them not to stop here but work harder to further improve these rural assets throughout J&K. He enjoined upon them to take this mission further. The UT of J&K had started implementing the scheme in a mission mode at the very beginning of the mission. The UT level committee under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary with the participation of departments l

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## Classes 1-9 exams most likely in March, official orders expected in weeks time: DSEK

'Winter vacation to be decided as per the weather conditions'

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Oct 06: Amid confusion regarding the exams of lower class students, the School Education Department on Thursday said that it will most likely conduct it in March and official orders in this regard are expected this week. According to the news agency Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) said, "Most likely, all the exams

from Classes 1-9 are going to be held in the month of March." "We have submitted our proposal to the government and we expect that within one or two days we expect the official orders," he said. DSEK further said that the government will decide the winter vacation as per the weather situation. "For now, we are trying to fill the gap that has been created during the COVID-19 pandemic. As far as the winter vacation for schools is concerned, we will decide it according to the weather situation. We will try to

continue schooling till December end," he said. Notably, following the shifting of all board exams to March session, the Jammu and Kashmir State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) had also said that it will likely do away with the October-November session. In this regard, SCERT has forwarded a proposal to the Principal Secretary, School Education Department. KNO has leant that a joint meeting of all the Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) of SCERT was held in

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## In 4 years, children's nutritional status 'worsens' in JK, reveals national survey

'35% women, 36% men too thin, overweight or obese'

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Oct 06: Children's nutritional status in Jammu and Kashmir has worsened in the last four years, a national survey has revealed, underlining that continuing high levels of under-nutrition are "a major problem" in the Union Territory. The news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) has leant that the National Family Health Survey

(NFHS-5) released by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has said that the 27 percent of children who are stunted has not changed in the four years between NFHS-4 and NFHS-5. "The percentage of children who are underweight increased from 12 percent to 19 percent, and in the same period, wasting increased slightly from 17 percent to 21 percent," reveals the survey. The Survey which is considered to be a baseline data for health research studies in the country further says difference in the levels of malnutrition in

J&K are more pronounced for several background characteristics and that malnutrition is somewhat higher for male children than female children on all the three nutritional status measures. Malnutrition refers to deficiencies, excesses or imbalances in the person's intake of energy and/or nutrients including under-nutrition and overweight, and obesity. In case of Adults' nutritional status, more than two-fifths that includes 35 percent of women and 36 percent of men are either too thin or overweight

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## Shrinking saffron fields, produce worry growers

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Oct 06: Pampore which is known as saffron town is witnessing an uptick in constructions in saffron fields causing decline in saffron production as well as shrinking land for the prized spice. Locals from Pampore told that land under saffron is shrinking because of residential and commercial complexes coming up in saffron fields. For this reason, many growers have switched to other crops in the absence of facilities and government's non-seriousness towards promotion of the saffron.Locals said that the much-hyped

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## Rs 10000 Cr worth investment projects under execution in J&K

DCs to be incentivized for attracting new investments, creating jobs

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 6: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today took detailed review of the Industries

& Commerce Department besides taking stock of the investments being made here in the UT of J&K. The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce; Directors of Industries, Jammu/Kashmir; Directors of Handloom & Handicrafts, Jammu/Kashmir; MD SIDCO & SICOP, MD JKTPPO and many other concerned officers. While taking stock of the investment

proposals made through single window clearance system the Chief Secretary was apprised that out of the investment proposals totalling more than Rs 60000 Cr, industrial units worth around Rs 10000 crore are already under different phases of execution here in the UT. Elaborating it was given out that after allotment of land in favour

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## Development and peace in J&K is top priority of PM Modi led government: Ramdas Athawale

J&K is and was the integral part of India says the Minister

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR OCTOBER 06: Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri Ramdas Athawale today said that development and peace in Jammu and Kashmir is the top priority of the Prime Minister Modi led government which is evident now with the visit

of lakhs of tourists this year and the beginning of investment processes in thousands of crores in different sectors in Jammu and Kashmir for the welfare of the people. The Minister said this while interacting with the media during a press briefing held at Srinagar. Shri Ramdas Athawale said that the peaceful atmosphere, which is now prevalent in J&K under the present government, has been able to attract lakhs of tourists which is a positive sign and will create job opportunities for the youth of J&K besides infrastructure development in

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Union MoS, Member Parliament meet Lt Governor

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: Dr. Ramdas Athawale, Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Em

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

## Record number of tourist arrivals testifies change, development happening across J&K

Around 1.62 crore tourists visited J&K this year

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: After three decades, Kashmir is attracting lakhs of tourists which Tourism players say is the return of golden era of Kashmir tourism. The record number of tourists who visited Jammu and Kashmir this year, testify the overall development and change that has taken place in the Union territory. Tourism is the biggest source of employment in Jammu and Kashmir and since January, 2022 till date,



1.62 crore tourists have visited Jammu and Kashmir, which is the highest in 75 years of independence. Tourism has generated maximum employment in various regions of Jammu and Kashmir including Poonch, Rajouri, Jammu and the

Kashmir Valley. For last 70 years, people were demanding international flights from Jammu and Kashmir. Fulfilling this popular demand, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi started direct flight from Srinagar to Sharjah. Earlier, there was also no flight during the night from Srinagar and Jammu and the Prime Minister also started night flights from the both cities. Recently, a comprehensive Film Policy was launched to attract film-makers for shooting after decades and within a year of notification of this policy, as many as 140 shooting permissions for films and web-series have been issued. Soon, a film studio

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Advertisement for the 10th anniversary of the inauguration of the Muzaffargarh Canal. The text is in Urdu and mentions the date 07 October 2022. It features a large number '10' and the title 'میرلا دی کانال' (Muzaffargarh Canal). The ad is decorated with floral patterns and includes contact information for the organizing committee.

Progressing J&K

## Secretary Health assesses functioning of PMBJAK, AMRIT Pharmacies across J&K

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 6: Secretary Health and Medical Education (H&ME), Bhupinder Kumar, today assessed the functioning of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendras (PMBJAK) and Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) Pharmacies operating in various secondary and tertiary care health institutions across the Union Territory.

Director Health Services, Jammu, Director Health Services, Kashmir, Principals of all Government Medical Colleges, State Drugs Controller, J&K (Nodal Officer, PMBJAK & AMRIT), senior officers of Health and Medical Education, Chief Medical Officers, Medical Superintendents, Project Coordinator, Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)/BPPI besides representatives of HLL Limited, India attended the meeting.



State Drugs Controller, J&K, presented a detailed presentation highlighting the overall scenario of these stores and current challenges surrounding the initiative.

It was informed in the meeting that Jan Aushadhi Kendra's are operating under the aegis of Union Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and are targeted to provide safe, efficacious and quality medicines at an affordable price. Besides, 215 Jan Aushadhi Kendra's including 150 government Kendras and 65 private

entrepreneurs are operating across the UT at present. These establishments are maintaining an inventory of nearly 700 molecules and end users are getting a benefit to the extent of 50-90 percent and as compared to similar molecules of private companies operating in the private Sector. Since, April, 2022 to 30th September, 2022 medicines worth Rs 17.98 crore have been dispensed in these stores which inter-alia indicates that end users have been benefitted to the tune of Rs. 107.88 crore.

As far as AMRIT pharmacies are concerned their basket is comprised of more than 6000 drugs, implants, surgical disposables and other consumables which are being offered to end users at an average discount of 60 percent of the Maximum Retail Price. These stores are operating under the aegis of Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. As on 15th September, 2022, about 8, 45,817 lakh patients have benefitted from AMRIT pharmacies. The value of drugs dispensed at MRP is Rs.19560.37 lakh and the patients have been benefitted with a savings of Rs 10269.44 lakh. These stores are offering uninterrupted services 24x7. Secretary impressed upon all the stakeholders to promote the initiatives of Government of India. He highlighted the concept of PMBJAK / AMRIT saying that these stores have been introduced to reduce out of pocket.

## Regional PF Commissioner Rizwan Uddin conducts seminar in Kargil

Kargil, Oct 6: Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, UT Ladakh and J&K, Rizwan Uddin, who is on a two-day visit to Ladakh, today conducted a seminar to spread awareness on Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and other related schemes at conference hall Baroo, Kargil.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kargil, Ghulam Mohi-U-Din Wani, SE R&B, Executive Engineer PHE, Chief Education Officer, representatives of NHID-CL, NHPPC, representatives of Taxi Union, Contractor Association, Private schools, Hotels, other establishments besides other stakeholders participated in the seminar.

At the outset, the Regional PF Commissioner highlighted the importance of enrolling employees, contractual or casual, under EPF to extend the benefits of social security schemes.

He spoke at length about the schemes framed under EPF and Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, such as the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952, Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1952 and Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995.

He also shared the modalities of employees' contributions and administrative charges regarding the same schemes. He also briefed the participants about the benefits envisaged under the three

schemes to beneficiaries. Stakeholders were also apprised about the benefits of pension and insurance to family under EPS Scheme, 1995 and under Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976 respectively to family members in the event of unfortunate death.

Rizwan Uddin stressed to ensure remittance of provident funds in respect of all eligible members including outsourced employees timely.

He also assured to resolve the issues faced by the schools, hotels, other establishments and stakeholders by providing handholding support and training as per the requirements and needs particularly on Universal Account Number (UAN)

activation, KYC updation, claim settlement and e-nomination.

Live demonstration about obtaining the UAN with the mobile number was made for a number of employees of schools and other establishments. UANs were provided to many such employees on spot whose nomination Bank KYC was not complete. Employer was advised to complete KYC and e-nominations of all employees.

The meeting also deliberated on various other issues, including the problems associated with the implementation of EPF and MP Act, 1952, coverage of establishment and enrolment of members, issues related to the enrolment of members, UAN activation, and KYC.

## Kishtwar: DDMA discusses District Disaster Management Plan

KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 6: District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Kishtwar met today here in the conference Hall of DC office complex under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Dr Devansh Yadav to discuss District Disaster Management Plan (DDMP) aimed at evolving an effective standard operating procedure to deal with disaster situations in the district. ADC Kishtwar Kishori Lal Sharma, ACR Kishtwar Varunjeet Singh Charak, SDM Paddar Dr Rishi Kumar Sharma, Dy-SP (DAR) Zia-ul-Haq, Account Officer DC of Kishtwar Imran Ahmed Kichloo, secretary Red Cross Sheikh Asgar, officers from all line departments of the district, Tehsildars, besides representatives of SDRF, Red Cross and Aapda Mitra attended the meeting. Extensive discussions were held on developing a responsive and effective disaster management mechanism through a robust institutional framework in the district. The discussions covered a wide range of aspects including duties and responsibilities of different departments and officers and resources that need to be made available and their effective use under a well-organised guiding mechanism. The DC Kishtwar said that in addition to the workforce available with the district administration, a network of volunteers under Red Cross, Aapda Mitra, SDRF needs to be built in all zones of the district under a proper incentivised mechanism which will ensure their availability at the time of need. Numerous other aspects and requirements like holding of regular training programmes and disaster drills and development of generic task force teams at block, Sub-Division, tehsil levels to strengthen and finalise the disaster management plan for the district were also discussed in the meeting. The DC highlighted focus areas and requirements specific to the Kishtwar district and called for attention thereto while formulating a plan. He also emphasised on the importance of devising micro-level and macro-level plans that will institutionalise disaster management in the district through a robust and responsive mechanism. He said the idea was to make preparedness for dealing with disaster situations in the district an effortless exercise and response and mitigation a well-organised effort as part of Aapda Mitra, SDRF needs to be built in all zones of the district under a proper incentivised mechanism which will ensure their availability at the time of need. Numerous other aspects and requirements like holding of regular training programmes and disaster drills and development of generic task force teams at block, Sub-Division, tehsil levels to strengthen and finalise the disaster management plan for the district were also discussed in the meeting. The DC highlighted focus areas and requirements specific to the Kishtwar district and called for attention thereto while formulating a plan. He also emphasised on the importance of devising micro-level and macro-level plans that will institutionalise disaster management in the district through a robust and responsive mechanism. He said the idea was to make preparedness for dealing with disaster situations.

## UNION TERRITORY JAMMU & KASHMIR CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT CIVIL SECRETARIAT J&K

As decided by the Tender committee members in the meeting held on 27-04-2022 and re-assessment meeting held on 26-09-2022 after collecting reviews from the concerned Deputy Commissioners regarding the requirement of the subsidized helicopter services, the Tender ID: 2022\_Civil\_161980\_1, regarding Subsidized Helicopter Service Scheme advertised vide No. CAW-02 of 2022 is hereby stands discharged and the fresh tendering process for the subsidized Helicopter services will be initiated to start the subsidized helicopter services from the month of Nov 2022 for next six months.

DIPK-11292/22

Director Finance  
Civil Aviation Department

## UNION TERRITORY JAMMU & KASHMIR Office of the Block medical officer Tral

On behalf of Lt. Governor of J&K union territory sealed tenders affixing revenue stamp of Rs.10 are invited from the registered dealers for the supply of 19 kg commercial gas cylinders for SDH Tral. The tenders along with a CDR for Rs. 5000 (five thousand only) drawn from any branch of J&K Bank pledged to Block Medical Officer Tral shall reach to the office of u/sd. within 15 days from the date of publishing of this notice.

DIPK-11291/22

Block Medical  
Officer Tral

## UNION TERRITORY JAMMU & KASHMIR MECHANICAL DIVISION SRINAGAR (MED).

☎ Fax No: 0194-2497053 ☎ email: xenmds@gmail.com ☎ website: www.medkashmir.org ☎

### Corrigendum No - 01

**Subject:** Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Smart Accessories for 02 No. of Traffic Patrolling/Surveillance cars for traffic management under Srinagar Smart City Project.

**Reference:** This office NIT No: MDS/TS/2022-23/ 59 /e-tendering ;Date: 22.09.2022 (tender ID: 2022\_PWDJK\_189598\_1)

In view of representation and for wider participation, the critical dates of above referred NIT are extended as under:

Last date of submission of bids extended upto	14.10.2022 upto 18.55 Hrs
Date of opening of technical bids online	15.10.2022 at 14.00 Hrs

All other terms, conditions and technical specifications of the NIT shall remain same.

DIPK-11327/22

(Er. Jahan Ara)  
Executive Engineer,  
Mechanical Division, Srinagar

## Corrupt employees in SMC being shown door: Athar Aamir Khan

Srinagar, Oct 6, KNT: Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) has started the process of removing employees allegedly involved in malpractices and corruption.

While talking to news agency Kashmir News Trust, Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Athar Aamir Khan said that they have started the process of removing 'corrupt' employees and action has already been taken against 35 employees.

"We recently started the process of removing 4 permanent employees among which one has been forcefully retired," the Commissioner said adding that they have completed regular departmental enquires and initiated action against 52 employees for their involvement in 'corruption.



"There was a clear-cut policy from day one that any kind of corruption and dereliction of duties won't be tolerated. Action is not being taken against lower rung employees only but these include senior officials, ward officers, and building inspectors as well," Athar Aamir Khan said.

He said it is a continuous process and they have been taking action

from day one. "If there is any delinquency from any official, immediate action is taken," he said adding that at the same time bona fide employees are always encouraged.

"If somebody will pressurize our bona fide employees, malign their image, we won't tolerate that and will file cases against those elements," Khan said.

Meanwhile, Srinagar Mayor, Junaid Azim Mattu in a tweet informed that: the process to clean the SMC of corrupt elements has been formally started this morning. There will be absolutely no sympathy for those who have indulged in brazen corruption. This is a strong and welcome step to take the ongoing investigation to its logical conclusion." (KNT)

## Batgund Tral gets J&K Bank ATM



SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 6: J&K Bank today commissioned an ATM at Batgund in Tral. Zonal Head Pulwama Tariq Ali threw open the automated teller machine today for public in presence of valuable customers and other Bank officials.

On the occasion, Zonal Head Pulwama requested the people to avail digital products of the Bank which have made the Bank's services swift, secure and convenient for people besides utilizing the banking facilities at the newly inaugurated ATM. "I am sure that the ATM will take care of immediate banking needs of people residing in its catchment area along with the commuters", he said.

He also urged the people to come forward and benefit from the government sponsored schemes, which have been devised to generate self-employment among the youth of the country.

People of the area thanked the Bank for prompt resolution of their demand of an ATM in the area.

## DFCO Kishtwar intensifies activities to promote Eat Right Challenge-2 Campaign

KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 6: To ensure the Safety, Quality and Wholesome availability of Sweets & allied products in the market, the team of Food Safety, DFCO Kishtwar, led by the Enforcement Officer, Prethipal Singh today inspected main markets in Kishtwar town and carried out 10 Risk based online inspections under FSSAI.

To check the quality of proprietary foods with High Risk tendency, including sweets, the Officer concerned lifted 4 samples for analysis under FSSAI, Rules & regulations and most specifically under Eat Right Challenge-2.

Besides, the team asked the local sweet manufacturers to make use of permitted colors, permitted additives & permitted preservatives, besides apprising them about the hazardous effects of un-permitted colors, additives & preservatives.

Simultaneously, sweet shopkeepers were strictly advised to stick to the packaging & labeling regulations.

He insisted on showcasing details on the products viz. date of manufacturing, date of packaging, FSSAI license number, the net weight, phone no./contact no. and other description of the product along with Composition. The Officer asserted that this sensitization under Eat Right Challenge 2 shall continue.

Laying emphasis, it was enjoined upon all the Food Business Operators including Sweet shops & Bakery dealers to get their licenses renewed & file the annual return through the portal of FOSCOs.

The Officer concerned warned the Food Business Operators to desist from adulteration & malpractices and avoid overpricing and display the licence at the prominent place of their establishments.

Notably, he laid stress on hygienic practices of the establishments including kitchen, workshops, tools & serving areas, also advised to adopt personal Hygiene of the Food handlers by keeping the environment of the premises neat, clean & well sanitized.

## Ayush Organises Yoga Camp In 4RR Unit At Bhadarwah

Amir Iqbal Khan

Bhadarwah, Oct 06: Going by the drive to include belt forces in its mission to cover maximum population, a Yoga camp was organised by the Department of Ayush Jammu and Kashmir at Rashtriya Rifles battalion headquarter Sarna based at Bhadarwah on Thursday.

Following the directions of Director Ayush Jammu and Kashmir and under the guidance of District Ayush Officer Doda, a Yoga camp was held in which Jawans from Indian army enthusiastically took part.

Health expert of the department Dr Nidhi Padha delivered a lecture during the session and detailed the participants about the impacts of Yoga on the growth and development of the human body.

She also conducted a Yoga session by demonstrating different postures and Asanas. Second in command of the battalion also performed Yoga during the session.

"It is a widely acclaimed fact that Yoga reduces anxiety and stress resulting in good health and that a Yoga practitioner gets numerous health benefits as well," She explained.

Participants appreciated the move of the department of AYUSH and hoped that such type of camps would be organised in future also.

## KF. in collaboration with AP under support of 41 RR organised Nasha Mukta Rely in Kupwara.

DR.AB QAYOUM



KUPWARA, Oct.06: Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Doifode Sagar Dattatray flagged off a Nasha Mukta Abhiyan, here in which a large number of school children participated. The rally was organized by "Kafila Foundation" in Coordination with "Ammhi Punekar" under Support System of 41 RR HAMDARD-E-KUPWARA.

The rally went through various markets of Kupwara town, providing awareness to the people about ill effects of the drugs and emphasizing the need to live a drug free life. The participants & Public were enlightened about the awful effects of drugs and the role of parents in safeguarding their youngsters from falling into the addiction trap. "The youth were urged to take part in positive activities like sports and avoid the drug menace. President Kafila said that every citizen has a responsibility to sensitize the youth regarding drug abuse and make them aware of the hazardous effects of the drugs. The rally was flagged off from the main bridge Kupwara. District Administration and Kulgam Police were also part of the awareness drive. Later President Kafila thanked 41 RR HAMDARD E KUPWARA battalion for their Continuous Support to the Organisation.

## DLTFC Budgam recommends 53 self-employment cases under JKREGP scheme



BUDGAM, OCTOBER 06: As many as 53 cases for sanctioning of self-employment cases under Jammu and Kashmir Rural Employment Generation Programme (JKREGP) were today recommended at a meeting chaired by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam.

At the outset, the committee interacted with aspiring entrepreneurs and apprised them about prospects, successful set up and operation of their ventures under the JKREGP.

The DC advised beneficiaries to focus on their work and ensure they become successful entrepreneurs and create avenues of employment for not only themselves but also for others. Stressing on

the timely approval and sanctioning of cases, the DC directed concerned to ensure handholding of all aspiring entrepreneurs and make their plans financially viable.

He instructed concerned to revisit all DPRs and ensure approval of all genuine cases within 10 days time after proper scrutiny of cases in consultation with the banks.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Lead Bank Manager Budgam, Principal ITI, Director RSETI, Cluster Head J&K Bank Budgam, District Coordinator J&K State Cooperative Bank Budgam, District Coordinator KVIB, representatives from DIC and other departments.

# Dulloo inaugurates indigenous vaccines against sheep diseases and embryo transfer technology at DIL Nowshera

## Terms launch as proud moment for Sheep Husbandry Department

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 06: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo today inaugurated indigenous production of vaccines for sheep diseases and embryo transfer technology here at Disease Investigation Laboratory (DIL) Nowshera.

Director Sheep Husbandry Kashmir, Director Research SKUAST-K, Ex Director Education SKUAST-K, Heads of Departments, faculty members, senior scientists and others were also present on the occasion.



Dulloo inaugurated indigenous production of Food Rot Vaccine, Sheep Pox Vaccine and introduction of Embryo Transfer Technology in Small Ruminants.

The ACS termed the

launching of vaccines and embryo transfer technology as proud moment for Sheep Husbandry Department and congratulated the faculty, scientists of the Department and SKUAST-K due

to which we are able to succeed in the SKUAST-K of these vaccines and also helped in providing technical know how in Embryo Transfer Technology.

He said these vaccines

will help the sheep farmers in great extent by reducing economic losses to their livestock.

Dulloo observed that J&K is importing around 60 percent of mutton from outside and there is scope, opportunity and challenge as well for which we have to formulate certain strategy which will help pur Sheep rearers.

"We have to develop a strategy and we are working on it. We are actively working on how to reduce the mutton gap in next five years and make J&K self reliant in mutton production," he said.

He said that embryo transfer technology will prove a game changer as the population of sheep will increase and quality mutton will also be better as compared what we have today.

Also, the ACS also inspected several laboratories of DIL which include Bacteriology Lab, Viral Diagnostic Lab, Cell Culture Lab, Foot Rot and Sheep Pox Labs.

He also interacted with the scientist and faculty of these labs and enquired about the status of their research in their respective fields.

## Monthly District Coordination meeting held at Ganderbal DDC directs for quality & timely redressal of grievances

GANDERBAL, OCTOBER 08: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Ganderbal, Shyamir today chaired the Monthly District Coordination meeting at the Conference Hall of Mini Secretariat, here.

During the meeting, threadbare discussions were held on deliverables of district, redressal of grievances received on JKIGRAMS, Time Limit of Grievances, besides status of Special Summary Revision, status of Tourist Villages, printing of land passbooks and JJM certification.

On the occasion, the DDC sought status of redressal of grievances department wise received on JKIGRAMS and grievances raised during weekly Block Diwas.

While reviewing the redressal of grievances, the DDC took strong note of long pending grievances and passed strict directions to the concerned HODs to ensure quality and timely disposal of grievances received both online and offline.

The meeting also discussed inter-departmental issues to ensure better coordination among all



the departments at all levels for smooth functioning and quality disposal of issues of the general public.

Meanwhile, the meeting also discussed the status of ongoing Special Summary Revision in the district and was informed that over 40 percent target is achieved till date. The DDC directed the AEROs to expedite the process so

that the target is achieved in the stipulated time frame.

The DDC also reviewed the status of facilities being put in place in tourist villages and the status of printing of land passbooks for which he gave necessary instructions to the concerned departments.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development

Commissioner Ganderbal, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani; CPO, ACR, Dy. DEO, Executive Engineers of various wings besides other district officers. During the meeting, threadbare discussions were held on deliverables of district, redressal of grievances received on JKIGRAMS, Time Limit of Grievances, besides status of Special Summary Revision, status of Tourist Villages, printing of land passbooks and JJM certification. On the occasion, the DDC sought status of redressal of grievances department wise received on JKIGRAMS and grievances raised during weekly Block Diwas.

While reviewing the redressal of grievances, the DDC took strong note of long pending grievances and passed strict directions to the concerned HODs to ensure quality and timely disposal of grievances received both online and offline. The meeting also discussed inter-departmental issues to ensure better coordination among all the departments at all levels for smooth functioning and quality disposal of issues of the general public.

## Eid-e Milad-un-Nabi (SAW) arrangements finalized at Ganderbal

GANDERBAL, OCTOBER 06: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyamir today convened a meeting to finalize the arrangements for the smooth celebration of Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW) in the district.

The DC stressed upon the officers for providing all the requisite facilities to the devotees such as safe drinking water, sanitation, Medicare facilities, adequate transport facilities and uninterrupted power supply.

He enjoined upon the AD, FCS&CA for providing sufficient quota of ration to the people. The EO Municipal Council Ganderbal was directed to ensure proper sanitation in and around the shrines and mosques during the Milad days. Regarding traffic management, the DC asked the ARTO to streamline the traffic arrangements to facilitate the devotees and ensure better trans-



port facilities and route plan across the district during Milad days. Besides, the Health Department was asked to ensure availability of medicines, doctors, and ambulance near identified shrines/mosques. The DC further stressed for close coordination and synergy among line departments for ensuring adequate arrangements and successful celebration of the festival. Among others, the meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani; CPO, ACR, EO Municipal Council Gan-

derbal besides other district officers. He enjoined upon the AD, FCS&CA for providing sufficient quota of ration to the people. The EO Municipal Council Ganderbal was directed to ensure proper sanitation in and around the shrines and mosques during the Milad days.

Regarding traffic management, the DC asked the ARTO to streamline the traffic arrangements to facilitate the devotees and ensure better transport facilities and route plan across the district during Milad days. Besides, the Health Department was asked.

## Anganwadi workers, helpers demand release of wages, liability

Farooq Rather

Srinagar, 06-Oct: President Anganwadi Workers and Helpers Union (J&K) Mir Hanefa on Thursday said that Anganwadi workers, helpers working under the ICDS scheme in Jammu and Kashmir are without wages for the past several months.

She said that these scheme workers have been working tirelessly as most of the government schemes are implemented through them. Even during the fight against COVID-19 pandemic, they have been at the forefront. These employees have to feed their families, but despite working



hard, they are not paid their wages on time. She said that the central share and state share of their wages for several months is yet to be released. She urged the administration to release their pending wages as well as liability of 2019 at the earliest.

## Kulgam Police observed Thana Diwas

Farooq Rather

Kulgam : October 06, 2022 Kulgam Police continuing its Public outreach programme today held 'Thana Diwas' functions at Police Station Devsar, Police Ptation D.H. Pora and Manzgam, chaired by respective jurisdictional Police officers in which Sarpanchs, Panchs, Respectable citizens, civil societies of concerned areas, including members of Auqaf Committees, Numberdars, Chowkidars, Traders Federation and Transporters of respective areas participated. During the meetings, Participants highlighted various issues of public importance, and they were assured that their genuine grievances pertaining to Police will be resolved on priority and that of civil administration will be taken up with the concerned Departments for their early redressal. While speaking on the occasions, it was reiterated that the main aim of organising 'Thana Divas' is to improve efficiency, transparency and accountability in Policing at grass-root level and to hear and redress grievances of general public, besides seek support and active cooperation in maintaining L&O, curbing drug menace and others social evils in the areas. The Participants were also stressed to co-operate with Kulgam Police in identifying anti-national and anti social elements who always try to disrupt the peaceful environment in the district. The participants appreciated the role of Police.

## PCCF visits South Kashmir; inspects demarcation & development works

ANANTNAG, OCTOBER 06: The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF), J&K and Head of the Forest Force, Dr Mohit Gera today inspected the forest areas of South Kashmir and reviewed progress of development works being carried out in the area during the current financial year.

In Anantnag Forest Division, Dr. Mohit Gera addressed Forest officers and Nursery managers of South Forest Circle during One Day Training Workshop on "Production of Quality Planting Material" at Nagdandi Forest Nursery in Kuthar Forest Range.

He took a hands-on session through PowerPoint presentation on Nursery management. He also inspected Nagdandi Nursery and directed for improving certain nursery equipment and structures for production of quality planting stock. Dr. Gera also inspected Com-

partment No 16 a/L Gogaldar, Mattan Range of Lidder Forest Division, which has been adopted by the PCCF as per directions of MoEFCC, Government of India for its development and management under Forest Patch Adaption policy for Forest officers. The PCCF took review of ground preparations being made on the site and directed for execution of afforestation works as per the approved works programme.

On the occasion he kick-started the plantation program in this upcoming plantation unit by planting Blue Pine sapling. He also directed for development of a new 12 km long trekking route in this area connecting this forest with Pahalgam.

Later during the day, the PCCF inspected the Environmental Awareness Centre, Zawoora in Shopian Forest Division where he addressed members of the Forest Rights Committee, Vil-



lage Forest Committees and other locals.

In his address, the PCCF informed that J&K Forest department is committed for upliftment of Tribal and other forest fringe communities through various initiatives of the Government in the UT of J&K. On this occasion, the PCCF distributed livelihood kits/items amongst Self Help Groups un-

der the Centrally Sponsored Green India Mission.

He also inspected pioneer plantation units established under CAMPA scheme during the year 2010-2011 in Shopian Forest Division. He directed for preparing a subsequent plan for this established CAMPA unit and for distribution of benefits to local communities.

The PCCF also interacted at

length with the Forest frontline staff on various Deliverables, schemes and Government programs in forestry sector including Green J&K Drive, One Beat Guard One village Program, Forests for Recreation, fodder, livelihood etc and directed the forest officials for work with full dedication and commitment for conservation and protection of Forests, wildlife and biodiversity through the people-centric approach of the department.

Later, Dr. Gera inspected demarcation works carried out under CAMPA scheme during the year 2021-22 in Yarwan Forests of Shopian Forest Division. He directed the acceleration of installing of Boundary pillars for securing the forest land in a time bound manner. He informed about the plan of the department to secure all forest lands of Kashmir by installation of Boundary pillars by 2024-25.

## SDM Noorabad reviews arrangements for Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW)

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, OCTOBER 06: A meeting of officers was today held under the chairmanship of Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Noorabad, Bashir ul Hassan at SDM office D.H.Pora here to review the arrangements put in place for the celebrations of Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW). During the meeting, SDM reviewed arrangements made by the concerned departments for providing safe drinking water, medical care facilities, uninterrupted power supply, sanitation and other requisite arrangements at Yaroo Hazratbal Chimmer, D.H.Pora and other places.

The meeting was attended by BMO, AEE PDD PHE, NT, SHO, TSO and other officers besides members from Auqaf committees from D.H.Pora, Chimmer and Yaroo Hazratbal.

SDM stressed upon all the departments to extend all the requisite facilities at all these places for smooth celebrations of Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi SAW. A meeting of officers was today held under the chairmanship of Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Noorabad, Bashir ul Hassan at SDM office D.H.Pora here to review the arrangements put in place for the cele-



brations of Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW). During the meeting, SDM reviewed arrangements made by the concerned departments for providing safe drinking water, medical care facilities, uninterrupted power supply, sanitation and other requisite arrangements at Yaroo Hazratbal Chimmer, D.H.Pora and other places. The meeting was attended by BMO, AEE PDD PHE, NT, SHO, TSO and other officers besides members from Auqaf committees from D.H.Pora, Chimmer and Yaroo Hazratbal.

SDM stressed upon all the departments to extend all the requisite facilities at all these places for smooth celebrations of Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi SAW.

## Wildlife Week-2022: Awareness programme held at Beat No. 1 of Mirgund WCR

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: As part of Wildlife Week-2022 celebrations, the Department of Wildlife Protection J&K Government, Wetlands Division Kashmir in collaboration with the Department of School Education, Kashmir (Chief Education Officer-Budgam) today organized an impressive awareness programme at Beat No. 1 of "Mirgund Wetland Conservation Reserve" (WCR), here.

The aim was to raise awareness among stakeholders especially school going children regarding conservation and protection of Mirgund Wetland Conservation Reserve.

On the occasion, Nazir Benazir, Chairman National Society for protection of Water Resources, Forest & Wetlands was the chief guest. The function was attended by Volunteers, Panchayat

members of the villages around Mirgund Wetland Conservation Reserve, N.G.O's, Range Officer, concerned and various officers/officials of the department.

Different speakers highlighted the vital role of healthy Wetlands and pledged to save Mirgund Wetland Conservation Reserve.

After conclusion of the programme a cleanliness drive was conducted in and around the said Wetland in which students of Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School Narbal (Budgam) participated.

Further, an Awareness cum Cleanliness drive was also conducted in and around "Shallabugh Wetland Conservation Reserve" in which students of Govt. Middle School Kreshibal and Govt. Middle School, Badiwoodar Sangam, Srinagar participated.

At the end of drive Mohd Ashraf Kabli, Range Officer Shallabugh thanked the participants and appealed to all the stakeholders especially students of schools/colleges to join hands with the department of Wildlife Protection for maintaining cleanliness of the "Shallabugh Wetland Conservation Reserve". After conclusion of the programme a cleanliness drive was conducted in and around the said Wetland in which students of Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School Narbal (Budgam) participated.

Further, an Awareness cum Cleanliness drive was also conducted in and around "Shallabugh Wetland Conservation Reserve" in which students of Govt. Middle School Kreshibal and Govt. Middle School, Badiwoodar Sangam, Srinagar participated.

# Dulloo reviews preparedness plan for Rabi season in Jammu

## 30000 hectares of waste land to be brought under cultivation this year

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo today took stock of preparedness of the department for the upcoming Rabi crop season in the Jammu Division.

The meeting was attended by Director Agriculture Jammu, Scientists from SKUAS, Jammu besides other officers of the department.

The ACS underscored the need of providing truthful and certified seeds to the farmers for better yields. He impressed upon both the Directors to properly assess the requirements of High Yielding Varieties of seeds required by them so that there is no shortage of it at the sowing time. He stressed on them to take the seed replacement rate to at least 10% this year. He impressed upon the officers to procure the seeds well on time so that the same reaches to growers before the sowing season.

During the meeting Dulloo in-

structed the officers to formulate a strategy in association with experts

issues. He told them to provide him the district wise details of fallow

all the Kisan Credit Cards and help them in securing the loans for small

has to be covered under different crops in Jammu Division against

provided on subsidy to the farmers. Moreover 20000 ha area expansion under oil seed shall be targeted.

The meeting also discussed promotion of farm mechanization to achieve farm power goal from 1.75 kW/ha to 2.5 kW/ha. Also 100 Super seeder/Straw Reapers shall be distributed to the farmers to check the crop residue burning, as was said in the meeting. For the awareness of farmers through trainings and exposure visits within UT and outside J&K UT about 70000 farmers would be covered. Kissan Melas shall be organized in every district to demonstrate agriculture activities and aware the farmers, the meeting was informed.

It was further revealed that 4500 MTs of Paddy is targeted to be procured during KMS 2022 through 23 seasonal online mandies and also 16500 Qtl of wheat seed shall be procured from registered seed growers, as was summed up during the meeting.



from the Agricultural Universities for increasing the area under crop cultivation. He enquired about different reasons for keeping this land from bringing under cultivation and asked the department to make plan accordingly to address these

land to be taken up for cultivation under different crops.

The ACS urged them to work in close coordination with the banks for disbursement of loans under KCC scheme. He asked them to make concerted efforts to activate

time farmers. He directed the District Agriculture Officers to have regular coordination meetings with the banks for smooth performance under the KCC scheme.

The meeting was informed that an area of 357000.57 hectares of land

an area of 331.90 in the previous year. The meeting was further apprised that 58102 quintals of seeds would be made available by the department for the purpose.

It was also given out that 50000 qtl of HYV & Hybrid Seeds shall be

## Director Agriculture Kashmir visits Tangmarg

### Takes stock of the harvesting of summer peas cultivated in the area

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: The Director Agricul-

area. Speaking on the occa-

department took some special steps including the in-

mitted to the welfare and wellbeing of the farming community of the region. He asked the concerned officers to put in all the efforts and ensure that more and more educated youth adopt vegetable cultivation as the main entrepreneur. It be minimized.

He said the department took some special steps including the introduction of summer peas in these areas and we are harvesting a good yield of these summer peas, he said. He appreciated the efforts of the farmers and the concerned officers for their collective efforts in the entire process of cultivation. Director said that the department is committed to the welfare and wellbeing of the farming community of the region. He asked the concerned officers to put in all the efforts and ensure that more and more .



ture Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal today visited Lalpora village of Zone Dohwan sub subdivision Tangmarg to take stock of the harvesting of summer peas cultivated in the area. Director Agriculture expressed satisfaction over the production of special quality peas in the

sion, the Director said that during the months of March and April some climatic changes were experienced, the department endeavoured to introduce some interactions so that the effect of climatic change on the local agriculture ecosystem could be minimized. He said the

roduction of summer peas in these areas and we are harvesting a good yield of these summer peas, he said. He appreciated the efforts of the farmers and the concerned officers for their collective efforts in the entire process of cultivation. Director said that the department is com-

## Daylong Awareness programme on Disaster Preparedness held at IM-GDC Shopian

SHOPIAN, OCTOBER

06: A daylong Mega Awareness cum training programme on Disaster preparedness was today organised by District Disaster Management Authority, Shopian at Imtiyaz Memorial Govt Degree College (IM-GDC) Shopian, here.

On the occasion, training was imparted by the trainers from SDRF to the participants and a series of lectures were delivered with regard to disaster preparedness and its technical aspects.

Demonstration sessions on First Aid, Fire-



fighting etc were also conducted by the SDRF Staff wherein the participants were made aware about the Disaster Management preparedness and were taught in detail as how to minimise effects of any disaster

and to avert hazards.

Incharge Programme, SDRF team, Lateef Ahmed said that such kind of programmes must be attended in order to get awareness about disaster preparedness so that impacts of

disasters are mitigated without loss of life and property.

Moreover, he urged the students to involve themselves fully in such programmes and get proper training to face any eventuality.

Later, a live demonstration of equipment was also conducted which evoked keen interest from the students and participants.

Principal, IMGDC, Prof. Bashir Ahmed Dar, College Professors, Incharge SDRF, Shopian, Shahnawaz Ahmed Mir, Volunteers, besides a huge number of students were present.

## DRA Committee finalizes 11 rent cases in Bandipora

BANDIPORA, October 06: In order to finalize the Rent Assessment cases of private buildings being housed by various departments, the District Rent Assessment Committee, met here today under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC), Dr Owais Ahmad.

The Committee discussed various cases in presence of land and building owners to fix the appropriate rent for the occupied ac-

commodations in consonance with the approved rates of 2018 notification.

11 cases were approved and rent was accordingly finalized for the occupied accommodations. Rent cases pertaining to Social Welfare, Police, Handicraft, Education, Geology and Mining, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, and Sheep Husbandry departments were approved on spot.

The meeting was attend-

ed by Joint Director Planning Imtiyaz Ahmad, SE R&B, officers of concerned departments and officials besides concerned house owners.

Addressing the meeting, the DC asked the officers to pay rent to the concerned land and structure owners on time and ensure safety of the Government records as well as rented property.

Later, the Director visited a mushroom unit in the

area and interacted with the mushroom growers. He assured the concerned farmers of every technical support from the department.

The Director Agriculture was accompanied by Joint Director Agriculture Inputs Farooq Ahmad Bhat, Chief Agriculture Officer Yadvinder Singh, Sub Divisional Agriculture Officer Tangmarg and other officers of the Department.

## Anti Encroachment drive held at Bandipora; 300 kanals land retrieved

BANDIPORA, OCTOBER

06: The District Administration Bandipora today conducted a special anti-encroachment drive to retrieve the encroached land at Laharwalpora, Bandipora.

During the drive that conducted under the presence and supervision of Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bandipora, Waseem Raja, the team demolished illegal

sheds erected on the state land thereby freed around 300 Kanals of land from illegal encroachment.

ADC directed officers to intensify such drives and said that a time bound rooster will be devised to free the encroached state and kachcharie land.

He further intimated that last week, similar encroachment drive was held in Hajin in which hundreds of kanals of

land was freed from land encroachers.

He also asked officers to update land records and keep vigil on state lands to avoid future encroachments. The drive was conducted after receiving a number of complaints from the inhabitants of the locality and the field reports of revenue officials.

Assistant Commissioner Revenue Parvaiz Rahim, Tehsildar Bandi-

pora, and Naib Tehsildar were also present in the squad. While commenting on the drive, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad said that these drives shall continue till all land is retrieved from the encroachers.

Dr Owais appealed to the general public for their cooperation and support to curb this menace of encroachment.

## HDFC Bank launches SmartHub Vyapar for merchants

Srinagar, Oct 6, KNT: HDFC Bank announced the launch of SmartHub Vyapar Merchant app, a comprehensive



payments and banking solution designed to fulfill the everyday business needs of merchants.

SmartHub Vyapar facilitates instant, digital and paperless merchant onboarding for HDFC Bank customers and allows merchants to accept interoperable payments across multiple payment modes which include Cards - Tap & Pay UPI and QR code. Merchants can also accept remote payments by sending a payment link over mobile or email to facilitate non-face-to-face collections.

Payments received through UPI can be instantly credited to the bank account ensuring merchants get immediate access to sales receipts.

To reduce merchant anxiety around transactions, SmartHub Vyapar has been provisioned with an inbuilt voice feature informing the merchant of successful transactions, doing away with the need to track transactions through any other means including the need to have a separate device to receive voice-based notifications.

On the banking front, merchants can avail banking services like opening fixed

deposits, and quick access to pre-approved loans and credit cards. Merchants can also get a real-time view of all Smart Hub Vyapar transactions credited into their bank accounts.

Smart Hub Vyapar enables merchants to make payments to their distributors and vendors. Business expenses like payment of utility bills and GST can also be made through the Smart Hub Vyapar app.

Merchants get 24x7 support through the Bank's Eva chatbot in addition to support made available via phone banking and the relationship management team of the bank.

SmartHub Vyapar App has been developed by HDFC Bank in partnership with Mintoak Innovations India Pvt. Ltd which is a merchant SaaS platform with a modular product offering to help banks connect with their merchants.

The merchant app was showcased at an event in Mumbai by Parag Rao, Group Head, Payments Business, Digital & IT, Arvind Vohra, Group Head, Branch Banking, Anjani Rathor, Chief Digital Officer, HDFC Bank and Ramesh Lakshminarayanan, Chief Information Officer, HDFC Bank.

"HDFC Bank is committed to support the growth of all merchants from large format chains to local kirana stores," said Parag Rao, Country Head - Payments, Consumer Finance, Technology & Digital Marketing. "We have crafted the new SmartHub Vyapar app to meet every need of the merchant and bring efficiencies to their banking and business ecosystem. Our aim is to solve problems and difficulties merchants face in their day-to-day business, help them grow their business, deepen our reach across," (KNT)

## Police organises training session on investigation techniques in Budgam

Budgam Continuing its efforts to hone the investigation skills and embed investigation techniques among the investigating officers, Police organised a training session on "Investigation Techniques" at Sub Division Office Khansahib in Budgam. SDPO Khansahib Shri Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din-JKPS hosted the training programme which was attended by IOs

of Police Station Khansahib & Police Post Waterihail. During the programme, SDPO Khansahib stressed upon need for professional investigation skills and emphasised upon IOs to ensure proper collection of evidence under law for ensuring conviction of the accused persons in the cases. SHO Khansahib and In-charge Police Post Waterihail also attended the training session.

During the session, SDPO Khansahib threw light on various legal aspects relating to investigation of UA(PA), NDPS, Crime against women and other heinous crimes. He laid emphasis that IOs should conduct investigation as per the set parameters of criminal law of land. He also added that during investigation, utmost care must be taken to follow all the SOPs that are paramount

for investigation of criminal cases. While concluding the workshop, SDPO Khansahib directed all the investigating officers to conduct investigations efficiently so that culprits do not go scot-free due to erratic investigation and stressed for adopting the latest technology standard practices to expedite investigation of cases on merits for judicial determination.

## Hindi pakhwada concludes at NIT Srinagar

### Kashmir has given the world rich literature: Satish Vimal

Srinagar, Oct 06: The celebrations of Hindi Pakhwada concluded at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar on Thursday, and various activities were organized by 'Rajbhasha Cell' on the campus.

The valedictory ceremony of the 15-day event was presided over by noted broadcaster, multilingual poet, and author Dr. Satish Vimal, who was the Chief Guest in the event.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal was the Chief Patron, while Institute's Registrar Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari was the patron of the event.

Dr. Mudasir Ahmad Bhat (Lecturer Hindi Deptt. University of Kashmir), Dr. Bhartendu Kumar Pathak (Asst. Prof. Hindi Deptt. University of Kashmir), Prof. Arvind Shah (Freelance Writer and Poet) and Mr. Parijat Kaul (Consultant DD Kaiser) were the special guests on occasion.



Addressing the gathering, Chief Guest Dr. Satish Vimal said Kashmir has given the world a rich literature in multiple languages, and it was globally accepted and appreciated by the people. "The valley has produced many great poets and scholars, including Agni Shekhar, Anand Wardan, Sha-

ma Koul, and others who had a great contribution in the field of Hindi literature," he said. Dr. Vimal said in Sanskrit, Persian, Urdu, Arabic, Hindi, and English languages period, great poets and authors, and saints were born in Kashmir. Their rich literature was accepted by the whole world.

Even 70-80 percent of Sanskrit literature is credited to Kashmir," he said.

Dr. Vimal said the people of Kashmir have the potential to shine in any part of the country. He urged students to learn, and understand more languages and stated that we should not be biased with any language.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Sehgal, said Hindi is a connecting language, and over the past several years, there have been continuous efforts to implement Rajbhasha on the campus.

"We are encouraging multilingual official letters. NIT Srinagar has recently added some Hindi books to the library so that students will get benefited from such initiatives," he said. Prof. Sehgal said no language in the world defines any particular religion or region and it is only a means of communication and bringing people together of all sects.

## EXCESSIVE CONSUMPTION OF CARBS CAUSE DIABETES?



LIENNA MAY

### Type 2 Diabetes: An Overview

Diabetes is one of the most prevalent diseases worldwide, affecting a large population yearly. More than 422 million people suffer from the disease worldwide, and about 1 to 6 million deaths occur because of diabetes annually. In the United States alone, around 10.5% of its total population, which accounts for 34.2 million people, fell victim to the disease last year. In 2019, diabetes became the seventh leading cause of death in the country, as the disease caused 87,647 deaths that year.

Diabetes can result from various factors, including weight gain, genetics, unhealthy eating habits, inactivity, high blood pressure, age and even race or ethnicity. Among the several causes, one of them is the increased consumption of refined carbohydrates. Therefore, controlling or limiting the intake of carb-rich foods can help you manage diabetes or reduce the risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

The reasons that contribute to the spike in glucose levels may vary from person to person. Even the carbs or calories a person requires are not the same. Likewise, a food item that may spike up your blood glucose levels may not work similarly for another person. So, it is vital to understand and know what works for you and how you can manage your metabolic health and glucose levels.

One of the best options to measure your glucose levels is to use HealthifyPro 2.0 by one of the leading digital health and wellness platforms, HealthifyMe. You get a wearable device called BIOS, a continuous glucose monitor that keeps real-time track of the glucose levels in your blood. The expert coaches then guide you on maintaining the glucose level accordingly. In addition, HealthifyPro 2.0 users also get assistance from expert nutritionists to plan a customised diet plan, ways to improve their metabolism, etc., and quick guidance and advice whenever necessary.

Diabetes is a long-lasting disease that can affect the way your body turns the food you eat into energy. Usually, the body breaks down the food you consume into sugar or glucose, which then gets released into the bloodstream. The blood further takes it to different body parts to supply other organs with the required energy to perform several life functions. When this glucose level in the blood goes beyond the right level, the pancreas secretes insulin to bring it back to the recommended level. However, when a person has diabetes, their body may not make enough insulin or cannot utilise it efficiently. Therefore, when the insulin stops fulfilling its purpose or if there is insufficient insulin, the blood sugar level is also imbalanced.

Studies prove that chronically high blood sugar levels may lead to severe medical conditions like kidney disease, heart failure and even vision loss.

### Note

Insulin is a naturally occurring hormone that breaks down sugar in the blood to use as energy. When insulin is absent, blood sugar levels elevate, which can cause several harmful effects on the body. Type 1 diabetes occurs when the body doesn't produce enough insulin, and type 2 diabetes occurs when the body acts insensitively to insulin. Type 1 diabetes usually starts in the earlier stages of life in a person as a result of the immune system attacking the pancreas, thus preventing the body from producing insulin. However, type 2 diabetes usually occurs later in life in people, mostly in adults. Obese adults are at a higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

### Carbohydrates and Diabetes: Understanding the Relationship

People with diabetes are often unaware of the effect of carbohydrates on their blood sugar. An increase in carbohydrate consumption can be a potential risk for the disease. Overconsumption of refined carbohydrates can spike up your blood sugar levels, which is harmful to people with diabetes.

Hence, you must know the relationship between diabetes and carbohydrates, make the right food choices and avoid the consumption of too many carbs.

Not all carbs are equal to people with diabetes. Certain carb-rich foods also contain other nutrients that your body needs. You must remember that your body needs carbohydrates, especially complex carbohydrates, to produce the energy required to function. Carbohydrates can even benefit someone with diabetes if consumed in the correct quantity. So, one must not cut down on carbohydrates altogether. However, it is ideal to consume them in moderation.

Keeping track of daily carbohydrate consumption, especially by diabetics, can help them improve the quality of their life, stay healthy and prevent diabetes complications, including kidney and cardiovascular diseases, stroke, etc.

### Types of Carbohydrates and Their Diabetes Connection

Carbohydrates are mainly of two types, simple carbs and complex carbs. Simple carbs contain sugars such as fructose and glucose, which have simple chemical structures composed of monosaccharides or disaccharides. Studies say that simple carbs can raise blood glucose levels quickly due to their simple structure, which is harmful to people with diabetes.

Unlike simple carbs, complex carbs have a less immediate impact on blood sugar, causing it to rise more slowly. That is because these carbohydrates contain more complex chemical structures having three or more sugars, oligosaccharides and polysaccharides. Usually, most food items rich in complex carbs also contain vitamins, minerals and fibres. However, certain food items, such as white bread or white potatoes, which may also not have many beneficial nutrients, can lead to more drastic blood sugar spikes.

### Carbohydrate Consumption with Diabetes

The total grams of carbohydrates a person consumes will affect their glu-

ucose levels. Hence, understanding how much it affects will help you know the insulin required. A Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study says that diabetic people should try eating 50% of their calories from carbs. So, if a person's intake is 1800 calories per day, around 900 to 900 of it should be from carbohydrates, which means around 220 to 225 grams of carbs per day.

### Reference Meal Plan

Below is a sample meal plan that provides 1800 calories and 200 grams of carbohydrates. However, it is a general estimate and may not be the right amount your body requires. Likewise, no perfect amount is the right amount for everyone, as everyone's body is different. That is where continuous glucose monitors, metabolism readers and devices like HealthifyPro 2.0 comes to play. They can help you decide the right amount of carbs that you require to keep your glucose levels at an optimal level and reduce your risks of diabetes.

### Breakfast

A medium banana  
Rolled oats: ½ cup or 28g  
Low-fat milk: 1 cup or 13g  
Chopped walnuts: ¼ cup or 4g  
Total carbs: 65 grams

### Lunch

Tomato: ½ large  
Baby carrots: 8 nos.  
Whole wheat bread: 2 slices  
Brown rice: 1 cup  
Low-sodium turkey meat: 4 ounces or 115g  
Low-fat Swiss cheese: 1 slice  
Steamed broccoli: 1 cup  
Yellow mustard: 1 tsp  
Shredded lettuce: ¼ cup  
Low-fat string cheese stick: 1 no.  
Plain fat-free Greek yoghurt: 6 ounces (150 g)  
Blueberries: ¾ cup (175 g)  
Total carbs: 59 grams

### Dinner

Baked chicken breast: 6 ounces (150 g)

Margarine: 2 tbsp  
Quinoa: 1 bowl  
Total carbs: 86 grams

### Snack

Tangerines: 2 nos.  
Total carbs: 19 grams

### Choosing Suitable Carbs: The Fundamentals

The American Diabetes Association recommends everyone consume 'good' carbohydrates, whether they have diabetes or not. You can divide it into three categories: fibre, starches and sugar, and avoid processed carbs and refined sugar, including candies, juices and soda.

The three types of good carbohydrates provide several benefits that can improve your health, as discussed below:

### Fibres

Studies have confirmed that fibres provide several health benefits to the body, such as:

- Reducing your blood pressure and cholesterol levels
- Helping to lose weight
- Increasing the insulin sensitivity of the body
- Keeping the blood sugar at an optimal level

### Starch

Studies conducted by the American Diabetes Association say that starch releases glucose into the blood slowly, which helps in preventing blood sugar spikes. You can obtain starch by consuming vegetables, whole grains and fruits.

### Sugars

Sugars are not generally suitable for diabetic patients, but they are good to help bring back the glucose to a recommended level for someone whose glucose level drops too low. In such cases, the studies conducted by the ADA recommend consuming 15 grams of carbohydrates or more if the blood sugar level fails to rise after the first serving.

## CEVICHE RECIPIES FOR WEIGHT LOSS

### Healthy Ceviche Recipe



Servings- 6  
Preparation time- 2 hours 10 minutes

### Ingredients

Raw salmon (chopped in cubes): 2 cups (400 g)  
Lime juice: 40 ml  
Tomatoes (chopped): 4 cups (200 g)  
Serrano peppers (minced): 2  
Onion (minced): ½ cup (100 g)  
Cilantro (chopped): ¼ cup

### Method

Cut the salmon into small cubes and add to a nonreactive bowl (glass bowl). Add little lime juice on top, cover, and refrigerate for two hours. This is done to let the lime juice cure the fish. In a separate bowl, combine the tomatoes, serrano peppers, onion, and cilantro, and set aside in the fridge to marinate. Drain off most of the lime juice after the fish has a cooked-like consistency leaving about 2-tablespoons in the bowl. Mix thoroughly after adding the chopped vegetables. Serve on tostadas, tortillas or with healthy baked chips like a dip.

### Seafood Ceviche Recipe for Weight Loss



Servings- 4  
Preparation time- 10 minutes + 7-8 hours (overnight curing time)

### Ingredients

Shrimp (chopped): 3 cups (700 g)  
Onion: 1  
Garlic (finely chopped): ½ tsp  
Jalapeño peppers: 1  
Cilantro: ½ bushel  
Parsley: 1 bushel  
Lemon: ¼ cup  
Bell peppers: 2

### Method

In a glass or wooden bowl, combine all ingredients and mix well. Let it sit in the refrigerator overnight. Serve in an iceberg lettuce cup or over mixed greens.

### Healthy Mackerel Ceviche

Servings- 6  
Preparation time- 10 minutes + 7-8 hours (overnight curing time)

### Ingredients

Mackerel fillets: 4  
Grapefruit: 2  
Fennel leaves: 20 g  
Coriander: 20 g  
Olive oil: 1 tbsp (30 ml)  
Salt: To taste  
Cucumber: 1 cup (200 g)  
Onion: ½ cup  
Tomato: 1 cup

### Method

Peel and slice two grapefruits into a big flat plate. Whisk it to separate all those little segments. Add two tablespoons of olive oil and salt to taste. Cut some fennel leaves and add them to the grapefruit. Add chopped coriander leaves. Take filleted and pin-boned mackerel and slice bite-sized chunks. Place the fish onto the plate and lightly season with salt. Finish with the zest of grapefruit and drizzle over some olive oil. Marinate the mackerel for an hour before serving.

## Is Ceviche Healthy for Weight Loss?

PARUL DUBE

South American cuisine is colourful and flavorful. Ceviche, pronounced as "seh-vee-chay", is a healthy Peruvian dish usually served as an appetiser. Ceviche is a traditional dish of raw seafood soaked in citric juice. It is commonly made with raw, fresh fish or shrimp marinated in lemon or citrus juice. The acidity cures fish by denaturing the proteins, and the fish becomes solid and opaque while absorbing flavour.

Ceviche does not go through the cooking process that requires heat. So if the phrase 'raw seafood' fills your heart with fear, you might be hesitant about ceviche. But it's not entirely raw either.

Both heat and citric acid are agents of a chemical process called denaturation. So ceviche is a dish with incredibly complex flavours. And since citrus juice does the work of 'cooking', heat is not a necessary element here.

Ceviche is a vibrant dish brimming with perfectly refreshing flavours. True seafood lovers will instantly fall in love with it, especially when you pair it with baked tortilla chips, lettuce leaves, beans, or quinoa.

This article is perfect for you

if you enjoy salads and seafood. So keep reading to explore how ceviche can fit into your weight loss journey.

### Ceviche for Weight Loss

There are many opinions on ceviche being a healthy diet for weight loss. Unfortunately, there are different recipes for ceviche, so it is difficult to make a general statement about whether or not it is a healthy choice for weight loss. However, ceviche can be a nutritious meal if made with fresh, healthy ingredients.

Ceviche is a nutritious dish that balances all three macronutrients, which translates to a suitable calorie range. According to health professionals, ceviche may be an effective weight-loss choice.

It is low in fat and calories but has a lot of protein. One must also consider the health benefits of the vegetables used in ceviche. Because they are rich in antioxidants, veggies can assist in the battle against free radicals. As a result, ceviche can cause significant weight loss combined with regular exercise and portion control.

### Note

Ceviche is a simple dish to prepare. Also, it is a fabulous appetiser for your next dinner party. A healthy seafood delicacy, ceviche, helps you meet your weight loss goals and makes your taste buds happy. First, make your ceviche with fresh raw salmon and veg-



gies. Then, toss in chopped jalapeños, pour little olive oil, add slices of avocado, and garnish it with herbs of your choice. A serving of ceviche delivers a low amount of carbs and fats but a high amount

of protein, vital to building muscles and losing weight.

The critical aspect is understanding how many calories you

### How to Use it for Weight Loss

need to eat in a day and ensuring you do not overeat your total calories for the day. If you burn more calories than you consume, you will find yourself in a "calorie deficit", which is the only way fat loss can occur. Overeating anything is not good for your health. Moreover, according to studies, it is usually the quickest way to get out of shape. Therefore, portion control is a critical factor in weight loss.

Here are a few points on how one can use ceviche for weight loss.

Understanding what goes into making ceviche is vital if you want to use it for weight loss. Avoid adding high-calorie fish like Hilsa, Shark, etc. Ceviche is a versatile and easy dish that can get customised to one's liking.

Include low-calorie veggies such as cucumber, corn kernels, lettuce, asparagus, lentil, cabbage, celery, tomato, spinach, green beans, and sweet potatoes. Make this dish at your home. In this way, you can control the number of calories used in the dish.

Ceviche is good for building muscles and weight loss due to its high protein content. With proper exercise, you can achieve your

weight loss goals.

### Note

If you enjoy delicacies like ceviche, sashimi, and sushi, you are undoubtedly familiar with the concept of eating raw fish. And while it's perfectly fine to eat those delicacies in moderation, side effects are associated with ingesting raw foods of any kind, especially fish. One of the chief dangers of consuming raw fish is getting a foodborne disease, which can result in nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, and other unpleasant symptoms. So, if you experience uncomfortable symptoms, limit your intake.

### Conclusion

Ceviche has been around for generations, and the health benefits of ceviche are finally getting recognised. This dish is very nourishing in addition to being delicious.

This popular seafood dish can help someone lose weight if included in their diet appropriately. It would help if you had a calorie-deficient diet and regular exercise. It is rich in essential micro and macronutrients; therefore, it will support healthy weight loss.

# HEADLINES TODAY

## EDITORIAL

### Human - Wild Animal Conflict : An Alarming Scenario Ahead

Frequently we get to know about the leopards or bears being spotted in residential areas. The entire population living near the Woods of Kashmir Valley is in distress after these incidents.

Encroachment of forest areas by human population leads wild animals (in search of food during the winter) to residential areas. The frightened people attack these animals. The department is short of manpower and infrastructure to save the man and the beast.

In the trouble-torn Kashmir valley people not only have to put up with roaring guns but those of them who live close to forests have to put up with the destruction wrought by wild animals. Now the residential areas which have come up at the cost of encroachment over the forests are bearing the brunt. The Wildlife Department has come under severe criticism from all quarters, however the need to understand the fact that when we try to encroach on wildlife habitats, it definitely comes at a very heavy cost.

According to an impartial analysis, more than 60 incidents of man-animal conflict have taken place during last six months, in which six people died (mostly children) and more than twenty-five injured including some children.

Fear and panic has gripped a majority of the villages and even some of the urban areas falling in and around Srinagar City, in the Shopian area of South Kashmir and some areas of the Kupwara district after leopards repeatedly entered residential areas and attacked villagers. In retaliation angry mobs killed some leopards. Although the wildlife department is working as tirelessly to prevent these man - wild animal encounters however when there is any loss of human life people throw onus on the wildlife department as they allege that as if the Wildlife department does not even exist in the UT of J&K.

In some areas we can't negate the allegations of common masses that taking advantage of the continuous turmoil in the state, officials and workers of the wildlife department are sleeping over this grave issue, leading to gross violation of animal rights and loss of human life as well.

Several incidents of wild animals attacking people in villages and some urban areas of Kashmir in which a number of people were injured have been reported. Leopard attacks on children have been reported and just during last one month two minor children were attacked and killed in leopard attacks.

In wake of heart wrenching incident of leopard killing little adda, a five year old little heart, the people of these areas are too scared to venture out of their houses.

Several leopard attacks over the past few months have injured a number of people in these areas. There is fear among residents of mountainous areas and forest belts after leopard attacks occurred at different places in the area.

The officials concerned on the conditions of anonymity expressed their helplessness in controlling leopard attacks, citing lack of infrastructure to capture the animals. It is pertinent to mention here that an angry mob ruthlessly beat a leopard to death some months back in Shopian district of South Kashmir when it entered into a residential area.

Inside sources depict that the department is short of basic infrastructure like nets and tranquilizer guns, which can save the villagers and the wild animals as well. In fact, killing the animal is strictly prohibited according to the Act and punishable up to six years of imprisonment. The law provides that permission can be given to kill a leopard once it turns into a man-eater. Officials of the Wildlife department also plead helplessness. Owing to shortage of manpower, they could not cover the entire area where wild animals roam.

The encroachment of forest areas by the people is the major cause of these incidents that these wild animals enter residential areas in search of food and the frightened people attack these animals.

Sooner the better sense prevails to put this house in order. Everyone has a role to be played honestly. Pertinently Government needs to act fast and make them all accountable to save both man and the beast..

# ELECTION COMMISSION IS INFRINGING ON THE RIGHTS OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Prakash Karat

The Election Commission of India wants political parties to provide detailed information about the financial implications of the promises made in their election manifestos as well as the effects of these promises on the fiscal sustainability of the state or central government's finances. For this, the Election Commission proposes to amend the model code of conduct to include a two-part proforma to be filled up by political parties for disclosure of the promises made and the financial implications of these.

This is an extraordinary and bizarre proposal which has been mooted by the Election Commission. The reason given for this step is "While the Commission is agnostic to the nature of promises, the need to frame disclosure requirements to enable healthy debate on the financial implications of implementing those promises both in the immediate future and for the long-term fiscal sustainability is imperative for facilitating the conduct of free and fair elections."

Such an explanation does not wash. If a political party decides to offer free school uniforms to children going to government schools, the worthiness of such a promise is to be decided by the people who vote in the elections. What would be the financial cost and how the finances for the uniform scheme are to be allocated is for the newly-elected government to decide. Where does the Election Commission figure in the matter?



According to the commission, the second part of the proforma provides for some fiscal information being prefilled by the respective state/central government based on the latest budget estimate/ revised estimate. The political party is to fill the right side of the proforma by showing how financing would be raised to fill the gap with reference to the latest budget estimate or revised estimate in the context of the increased finances required for fulfilling the election promises. Such an exercise would involve a complicated case of financial accounting which would only be possible by a team of financial experts who have the experience of official budget making.

Moreover, the commission's desire to assess the "impact of the additional resource raising plan (for fulfilling promises) on fiscal sustainability of the state or the union government, as the case may be" is entering dangerous territory. The commission seems to accept

the neo-liberal notions of fiscal conservatism and fiscal sustainability. As far as the CPI(M) is concerned, it has been opposed to the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, which fixes the fiscal deficit limit at 3 per cent of GDP. Will the Election Commission act as the arbiter on what fiscal sustainability is about?

The current move of the ECI to elicit details about the financial implications of election promises made by political parties and match it to the financial situation of the government concerned is surprising because only a few months before, in April this year, the Election Commission had in an affidavit to the Supreme Court said: "It is also stated that offering/distribution of any freebies either before or after the election is a policy decision of the party concerned. And whether such policies are financially viable or have adverse effect on the economic health of the state is a question that

has to be considered and decided by the voters of the state".

The Election Commission had also submitted that it cannot regulate state policies and decisions which may be taken by the winning party when they form the government, "Such an action, without enabling provisions in the law, would be an overreach of powers".

Why this change of heart in the space of a few months? Has the Prime Minister Modi's speech in July criticising the 'revdi' culture and blaming the opposition for it been a factor for the EC reconsidering its earlier stand? The whole debate stirred up on "freebies" was nothing but voicing the neo-liberal objections that subsidies for food, fertilizer and electricity and such like are all wasteful of public resources and are freebies. According to the prevailing neo-liberal wisdom, transfers to the working people must be substituted with transfers to the big capitalists to promote growth.

That is why when the Supreme Court took up the hearing of a petition by a BJP leader against "freebies" being promised by political parties during election time, the CPI(M) had stated that it was not for the Supreme Court to deliberate upon and decide whether election promises made by political parties are "freebies" or not. To paraphrase the Party's position: This issue pertains purely to the realm of political. In a democracy, political parties are free to set out their platform and promises in the election manifesto. It is for the people to judge them, accept or

reject them. It is the prerogative of a political party which wins the election to implement the promises it has made to the people with regard to welfare measures.

The bench headed by the then Chief Justice of India, N V Ramana, had heard the petition which wanted the reconsideration of the judgment given in the Subramaniam Balaji case by a two-member bench in 2013. On the last day of Justice Ramana's tenure on August 26, the CJI directed that the case be heard by a three-member bench to be decided by the new CJI. So, the matter of election promises of "freebies" is still pending before the Supreme Court.

That makes the hurry for the ECI to insert new guidelines in the model code of conduct all the more intriguing. Is it targeted at the welfare schemes and direct cash transfers being made by various state governments? The prime minister considers all the central schemes as genuine welfare measures while similar welfare schemes undertaken by the opposition state governments are to be branded as "freebies". The latest move of the Election Commission seems to subscribe to the prime minister's views. The ECI's intervention on the financial implications of election promises made by political parties will be a serious infringement on the right of political parties to address people's vital concerns and to respond to them in a democratic fashion. All political parties must be one in opposing this move of the Election Commission. IFA SERVICE

## ECONOMIC CRISIS IN INDIA ACCENTUATING WITH CONTINUING LOSS OF JOBS

Krishna Jha

"ONE of the most striking results of the path of capitalist development is the concentration of Capital with economic power in the hands of big monopolies who enrich themselves at the expense of people and even other broad sections of the Indian bourgeoisie..."

These are lines from the program adopted by 22nd Party Congress of the Communist Party of India (CPI) held at Puducherry on March 25-29, 2015. It becomes very clear that the path of finance capital moves through concentration of capital in few hands. The fact is that finance capital takes its shape only when there is merger, of various forces, which is called concentration and the system it operates in requires its centralization, that is exclusivity. No other player is allowed.

Since the devastation that came with pandemic, resources are getting accumulated as the process of monopolization gets sharper. In the process, the small and medium industries and agriculture, centers of production in rural and urban areas that provide livelihood are dying. Millions of small businesses are getting simply shutting down, industries closing down, employment rate diminishing, millions of workers and employees have been perishing. People at a massive scale are either walking miles to meet the two ends or doing jobs that leaves them almost starving. Even the middle class employees

and entrepreneurs face the same crisis as the common workers. It is not only the workers and peasants exploited, it is the entire non-monopoly section that bears the burden of such atrocities.

The unemployment situation in India remains grim. Mass exit of labour force during last few years has distorted the labour force and caused it to shrink to an alarmingly low level.

India's unemployment rate surged to a one-year high of 8.3 per cent in August as employment sequentially fell by 2 million to 394.6 million, according to data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). This is the highest unemployment rate since August 2021. During July, the unemployment rate was at 6.8 per cent and the employment was 397 million, the CMIE data added. Quite obviously, India urgently needs an economic revival with rejuvenation in job market with employment generation.

According to CMIE data, 70 per cent of the share of wealth is today concentrated in the hands of only ten percent. In the days of lock down and in its aftermath, as there was no relief for the larger masses, hunger, deprivations and deaths were common sight. Covid 19 has polarized productive and finance capital as never before. While world economy slipped deeper into crisis, financial giants accumulated wealth as never before, mainly through speculation. The



world was never witness to such accumulation of wealth, and that too so fast, and at the same time, so much deprivation and weakening of economy eating away the roots.

As per the latest data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), inflation in the food basket was 7.62 percent in August, up from 6.69 percent in July and 3.11 percent in August 2021. On an annual basis, the rate of price rise was in excess of 10 percent in the case of vegetables, spices, footwear, and fuel and light. The BJP government's very refusal to discuss the issue in Parliament amounts to admitting failure to control inflation, which can be attributed to government's flawed policies. Food inflation has been particularly worrisome. Domestic budgets started feeling the pinch ever since demonetisation began to rob people of their

livelihood, in the process sucking up all the demand in the economy.

The government at the centre has not just heaped mounting miseries on people, it has also comprehensively manipulated the data. This is often done to either hide the failures of the government or to show a growth that never happened.

With production process in turmoil while monopolies keep reaping the gains, and been evolving, the basic contradiction of monopoly capitalism as corporate sector gets strengthened. It has been the evolution of dialectics, reaching out to a stage that has both the old and new features that are getting ushered in. Development is always relative, and nothing is out of blue. Roots are there but relevant only till it spaces out for the new. As the monopolization goes further, there

emerges a new socio-economic reality, which has no precedence. We are witness to each of its features.

The phenomenon is unprecedented and new. It has the new basics. The productive forces have been developing in a novel way moving towards scientific and technological revolution and democratizing the entire masses of non-monopoly sections. On the other hand, with concentration of capital, contradictions also get sharper as the capital keeps moving away from production and towards speculation and stock market.

When Lenin wrote about imperialism and finance capital, he also visualized the agony of the entire non-monopoly section of the masses and the rising need for assertion of their unity to face the challenge. His "Two Tactics of Social Democracy" was the script for the democratic revolution based on unity of all these sections.

It was on these lines that the Communist Party of India in its program adopted in 2015 carried forward the concept of democratic revolution, and said clearly, "... This... has to be anti-feudal, anti-imperialist and anti-monopolist." The 24th congress of CPI at Jawahar from October 14 to 18 will discuss in details the present economic crisis and chart out programme of action to fight the anti-people measures of the Narendra Modi Government.

IFA SERVICE

## HIGH ENERGY PRICES JEOPARDISE GLOBAL SOLAR, BATTERY INDUSTRIES

K Raveendran

Record breaking energy prices in Europe are threatening the global solar and battery industry, with manufacturing capacity facing a serious risk. The energy intensive nature of these manufacturing processes is leading some operators to temporarily close or abandon production facilities as the cost of doing business escalates. Unless prices turn around soon, Europe's plans to cut dependence on imported fossil fuels by boosting installed renewable generation capacity and electric vehicle (EV) usage could be derailed.

According to latest estimates, 35 gigawatts (GW) of solar PV manufacturing and more than 2,000 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of battery cell manufacturing capacity could be mothballed unless power prices quickly return to normal levels. And there appear to be little prospects for prices correcting in the immediate future.

European electricity prices have risen to unprecedented levels in recent weeks due to unplanned nuclear and hydro-power plant outages, soaring demand for cooling during an oppressive summer heatwave and reduced gas deliveries from Russia. According to energy specialists Rystad Energy, daily average spot power prices in Germany - Europe's leader in solar and battery cell manufacturing capacity - have surpassed 600 per megawatt-hour (MWh), while rates in France have topped 700 per MWh. During peak hours, European power prices have spiked to 1,500 per MWh, unsustainable levels for consumers, including the industrial sector. Although prices have retreated significantly since these record highs in August, rates remain in the 300 to 400 range, many multiples above pre-energy crisis norms.

In recent years, Europeans have benefited from reliable and affordable electricity. Low-carbon manufacturers have also

predicated their build-up of production capacity on stable power prices of around 50 per MWh. With manufacturers in other regions, such as Asia, enjoying lower electricity input tariffs, European producers are becoming increasingly uncompetitive by comparison.

Although Europe's solar manufacturing capacity is relatively modest on a global scale - making up only 2 percent of total capacity - any shutdowns or abandoning of projects would have significant long-term negative consequences. The European Union (EU) has targeted 20 GW of production capacity by 2025, and although 35 GW of projects is currently planned, many have not secured funding, increasing the risk that these projects will fall through if high power prices continue. With Europe expected to be short on gas for several years and high electricity prices to continue as a result, attracting financing and investment for solar manufacturing plants could

prove challenging.

Battery cell manufacturing - crucial in the EV and battery storage supply chain - is even more energy intensive than solar manufacturing, and Europe is a major global player. The EU currently boasts about 550 GWh of capacity, representing 27 percent of global operational capacity. Announced projects under development are set to boost that total significantly, increasing capacity to 2.7 terawatt-hours, positioning the EU as a global leader. However, those are now at risk and the car manufacturing and battery storage sectors could struggle to source European-made batteries as a result.

Supply chain issues are dogging even the Indian solar and battery industries. Much of the raw materials for the industry comes from China, but due to supply chain constraints in the wake of the pandemic, Chinese supplies have become more costly, along with the high cost of transportation, with the result

that the industry is struggling to meet the demand, which mostly comes from abroad.

Manufacturers are mostly focused on export markets for the sale of solar PV cells and modules at higher prices. Most new players have tie-ups with European and American companies to prioritise exports. This leads to reduced supplies for the local market, which is growing at a fast pace.

Funding has been a major constraint for the growth of the domestic industry. But new investments into technology as well as manufacturing infrastructure are expected to usher in a change in the next five to ten years. Major players such as Ambani, Adani and Tata have planned for \$100 billion investments in the next ten years to build integrated solar manufacturing plants, which should take the current capacity of 2GW for cells and 12 GW for modules to 50 GW in the next five years.

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# INDIA CAN BECOME A \$25 TRILLION ECONOMY IN TWENTY FIVE YEARS FROM NOW

K R SUDHAMAN

As India celebrates its 75th year of independence this year, several roadmaps are being laid for it to become a developed economy in the next 25 years when India would celebrate its 100th year of independence in 2047. Some of us might not be alive to witness it but ever optimist Veteran banker K V Kamath, who is chairman of National Bank for Financing Infrastructure, said recently that he expects India to be a \$25 trillion economy in 25 years. Presently India is around \$3.7 trillion economy and recently overtook Britain, India's colonial masters, to become a fifth largest economy in the World. But India is far behind topmost economic power United States, which is now a \$26 trillion economy followed by China a \$21 trillion economy.

India might have come a long way since independence in 1947 from an impoverished to a vibrant economy and is now among the fastest growing economies in the world. But it is still a long way to go to become a developed economy.

Kamath feels a 7-8 per cent growth if achieved on a sustained basis, India would double its GDP every nine years and a 10-11 per cent growth annually will make India the third largest economy in the next nine years.

All these statistics are fine but the fact is India is far behind the target of \$5 trillion economy by 2023-24 set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. India's commerce Minister Piyush Goyal is talking of preparing a five-year road map through a new trade policy to aim \$ 1 trillion goods exports and additional \$1 trillion services exports by 2027-28. In reality, India is yet to achieve \$500 billion goods exports originally planned to be achieved by 2015-16 by the previous UPA government.

Nevertheless Kamath's optimism arises from the fact that Covid had helped in cleaning up Corporate balance sheets as well as that of Indian banks. Corporates have now become more frugal and thereby more efficient. The Indian banks NPAs situation too has steadily improved. The overall liquidity and lending capacity too

is better. But monetary tightening due to inflationary pressure might pose some short-term problems and these are not insurmountable. Digitalisation and India's efforts to get into hardware manufacturing besides rollout of 5G technology in telecom offered great prospects for the country to leapfrog in economic development.

Infrastructure is still a problem. Corruption, delays in getting clearances and other logistics and political impediments makes the improvement in ease of doing business a big joke. Many foreign companies still do not consider India to be an investment friendly destination. However the slowing down of Chinese economy, geopolitical situation and increasing labour costs in China makes India an exciting option with its large market and large pool of trained and skilled manpower with majority of 1.4 billion population being youth below the age of 35 years.

Situation is just ripe for India to take off rapidly. India is also a vibrant democracy with a sizeable English speaking population and it also has by and large stable laws

with attractive taxation system and a competent judiciary. These are all big positives but the flip side: democracy is also a slow process of polity and many multinationals prefer authoritarian regime as there is a sort of single window and quick clearance despite manifold risks.

On balance though there are some difficulties, India's time has at last come for it to march ahead with all cylinders firing and prospects seem to be exciting for agriculture, Industry and services sectors to just boom from now on. There is of course recession in some of the advanced economies, China is slowing down rapidly, commodity prices particularly oil are still high. There is global inflationary pressure and global trade is slowing down. These are challenges but it is also an opportunity for India. India's investments as percentage of GDP is rising and slowly getting back to 35 per cent mark. This meant animal spirits among corporates are getting unleashed.

FDI inflow is likely to cross \$100 billion for the first time this year. Private investments are looking up with excess capacity vanishing.

Global recession may in a way be helpful as it may give that much time to build capacity and fix infrastructure problems. With the twin balance sheet problem behind us that is the balance sheet problem in Indian companies as well as Indian banks, things have started looking up. The two years of covid had in a way helped the corporates and the banks to deal with bad loans problem to a considerable extent. These are welcome developments along with several global companies exploring to have a second manufacturing hub to ward off supply disruptions.

More than anything else, digitalization and India's prowess in software and hardware designs and R&D, make the coming years very exciting and the prospects look unstoppable for India. Here it is important, the Government, corporates and bureaucracy act in unison to ensure that this time around India does not miss the bus. Though there are certain fixing required, Kamath may not be way off the mark. Indian economy is poised for a takeoff.

IPA SERVICE

## THE COFFIN-LIKE CELL PHONE

SUFI MOHAMMED HUSSAIN

I have started turning off the mobile data on my phone. Believe me, the sky does not fall by doing this.

It is common to hear these days that children are addicted to cell phones. It is not only children but we adults, too, are addicted to our phones. We get a panic attack if we find our phone missing. Phones have become parts of our bodies as well as minds, because they take care of things for which we had to physically move or rely upon our mental acumen in earlier times. Memory, for example. We write all important numbers, dates, appointments on our phones. We even store passwords and important information in the form of screenshots in our mobile phones. In short, it has become a necessary and unavoidable part of our daily lives.

The cell phone has numerous advantages and it is difficult to think of a life without one. In metro cities like Delhi and Mumbai, it is difficult to commute, pay bills, eat or even find an address without a mobile phone. Well, I do not need to go into its utilities when you are already aware of how useful it is. However, there are instances where you can see people using mobile phones for no good reason. You may often find yourself scrolling videos on Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook or reading or watching the forwarded message on WhatsApp. Some of the stuff is interesting but most of it wastes your time and occupies your mind to the detriment of better thoughts.

Due to excessive scrolling people are found complaining about headaches, migraines, dryness in skin, dryness in eyes, sleeplessness, insomnia and, in worst case scenarios, depression. Social media was created to unite us with people across the globe, but it somehow has helped in disconnecting people. How often have you seen a group of friends laughing and enjoying a meal in a restaurant or at a cafeteria in the workplace, school or college? Just look around, look at what has happened to us. We are neck-deep in our phones, we collide with each other because we are walking in different dimensions existing in our mobile phones and reality is completely ignored. Even in families while having supper you will find members of the family absorbed in mobile phones, having no or low regard to what they are eating. You can add lots more things which I have not mentioned, like how babies have to watch that video while they are being fed. How toddlers stick to phones and allow us to iron our clothes. We are in a way promoting it to even a newborn, by first clicking pictures and sometimes flashlights still on, damaging the eyes of the baby. Then by showing him or her screens displaying the father on video call. Certain things cannot be avoided, but most things can be done away with, to decrease screen time.

Applications like metaverse have opened a completely new dimension. The time is not far when you will have to enter into a coffin-like box to wake up in the metaverse and perform your daily tasks, which means you will no longer be carrying your mobile phone but you will be inside your phone and doing all those things and more which you otherwise used to do. Reality will lose its relevance because even if you would want to come out of that dimension, and open that coffin-like box, you will see people around you sleeping in those boxes because they are somewhere else in some other dimension and then you will find yourself roaming around those boxes and you will not have access to any of them, just like you do not have access to mobile phone of another person. There will be layers of security covers protecting them. Finding yourself completely ridiculous, you will look for your coffin box and sleep to meet people inside in another dimension.

We are still some distance behind from the metaverse. I have found a solution to the problem beforehand. One of the methods works quite fine for me. I have started turning off the mobile data while reaching the office. By turning off data, all the notifications are automatically turned off. Your cell phone goes into reduced functionality mode wherein it will still have that classic forgotten incoming and outgoing calling feature. It will also have one redundant application called messaging which you can use to send messages. These things seem to have worked fine for me. Earlier I would turn off notifications but I would still go ahead and open Instagram or WhatsApp out of curiosity. Turning data off has reduced my screen time from seven-and-a-half hours to three hours on average, meaning I am saving both my eyesight, my time and my mental peace. I have set slots when I turn on data, such as at 1pm after having lunch for 10 to 15 minutes and then after 4pm for 10 to 15 minutes and then for another hour or two when I am not doing any important stuff in the evening.

Believe me, the sky does not fall by doing this. If you are equally annoyed by drastic screen time, try this. You do not need to be as drastic as I have gone. You can do it for 1 hour to begin with and then start improvising over it. People who want to get in touch with you in emergency scenarios would go ahead and call you instead of resorting to a message and waiting for you to respond. So chill and give yourself a treat of time and mental peace.

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# DOCTORS HAVE TO CARE OF ALL PATIENTS, IRRESPECTIVE OF RELIGION AND COLOUR

DR ARUN MITRA

During training as a doctor we are told to be empathetic, compassionate and caring for anyone who visits us for advice. This becomes part of the value system of most of the doctors. To treat, to care and to advise in a scientific manner to any person without any bias for caste, creed, religion, gender or socio-economic status is duty of a physician. This is because medical science has proved all human beings to have similar blood. Therefore doctors have been in the fore front to speak against discrimination and violence of any kinds. They have raised voice for the check on the proliferation of small arms which are used in violent incidents.

It's also natural for us to speak against nuclear power and doctrine of threat of violence with nuclear weapons and seek total abolition of weapons of mass destruction. The doctors have been serving people without caring for the borders. They have worked in the most arduous conditions of natural and manmade calamity. It therefore

hurts when someone talks of bias against people from other religion, caste, ethnic groups or gender.

This bias is not inherent to the human feeling but is inculcated and developed during the period of growth from childhood to adolescence through our talks with those who have such feelings. The atmosphere prevailing around us helps build our thought process to a large extent. Such bigot feelings can ultimately turn into hate to the extent of committing extreme kind of violence towards those who disagree or question. We have been witnessing this in several places at different times around the globe.

Nazis had no remorse in killing Jews or others who did not conform to their ideology. Over 8 lakh people died in 100 days of violence from 7th April to 15th July 1994 where Hutu led government targeted Tutsi and moderate Hutus in Rwanda. Hatred was to the extent that even husbands killed wives from other tribe. More than 20 lakh people are supposed to have died during communal violence at the time of par-

titution of India in which Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs killed each other for no reason. What happened during the pogrom of Muslims in Gujarat in 2002 or anti Sikh riots in 1984 are a slur on our democracy.

In the present day times of science and technology there are forces who change laws to suit the structures in power in the name of religion or race. In a patriarchal society, women bear maximum brunt through misinterpretation of religion by those who desire to continue to subjugation the women. It is easy to impose sanctions, the dress code and other things on women. Events in Iran are a pointer to this. Looking at the pictures of women in a museums in Iran, the ancient times Iranian women never used a purdah.

Therefore they have not accepted hijab as part of their dress. So they are rejecting the hijab despite extreme repression by the religious fundamentalist government. But those in power have no remorse in killing a 22 years young woman just because she spread her hair out and removed the hijab. The protests

continue even though the girls in more number are out to face the killer squads. Worse is that the law makers in the Parliament shout in favour of police who is out to kill.

Rituals of worship have become stereotypical and lost the essence of humanity/religious value system. On many occasions extreme indoctrination about certain practices have been enforced on immature minds and made to follow dictates. Like any other thing religion too needs to be updated. Dogmatic approach in religion will kill its essence.

Swami Vivekananda in his speech at Chicago had said 'I am proud to belong to a religion which has taught the world, tolerance and universal acceptance. We accept all religions as true...I am proud to belong to a nation which has protected all persecuted...' "Sectarianism, bigotry and its horrible descendant, fanaticism, have long possessed this beautiful earth. They have filled the earth with violence, drenched it often with human blood, destroyed civilization" Rabindranath Tagore had said

IPA SERVICE

# THE LAKE IS PERHAPS THE QUEEN OF LAKES IN POKHRA (NEPAL)!

M S NAZKI

If you want to dream about a dream girl then Pokhara is the place: Neelam told me about this when she first met me on the banks of the beautiful lake in Pokhara!

'The lake is perhaps the queen of lakes in Pokhara (Nepal)!'.

'It was a one month trek which the man who is a lover of Nepal! I got a chance to accompany him and it was from Dulabari we took off and it was a dream for the next thirty days till we reached Pokhara and the first place we visited was the lake!'

'It was there I met Neelam Gurung' obviously pretty and we military men also can play pranks in leisure times! We were not in uniform but definitely the attire could match any of the foreigners there!'

'The officer who was leading was a big heated man and from the corner of his eyes (I do not which one) he had seen us talking!'

'Two hours boy, you can talk and yap! It was at dinner when we met and he said that kid we are here for a week! I knew a week had several hours!'

'Those hours would multiply into years I never knew! A story has a beginning and this one from the very beginning had to be romantic!'

'But the start to any romantic story is boring and if I remember correctly the start to this one also was boring to the least!'

'This is how madam Neelam began, By radiocar-

bon dating and investigating the alluvial deposits of Pokhara Valley, researchers have found that there were at least three large medieval earthquakes in 1000, 1255, and 1344 AD. Up to 9 cubic kilometer of conglomerates, massive mud and silt show indications of one or several megan floods that emanated from the Sabche Cirque in the Annapurna range.' This was a first ball duck, I thought!

'My reply was 'Hey girl (By that time I did not know her name) I'm not a Geology student and neither I'm of history? Her reply was prompt, 'I'm a tourist guide and it's my duty to tell you as to what this lake is all about?'

'I'm not a tourist, I'm sitting with you, talking to you because this lake is charming, rather dazzling for the eyes!'

'But she would not stop, 'listen I'm Neelam Gurung, I have been told to tell you all about the lake that is why I'm with you and perhaps wasting my time! Anyway this is Phewa Lake, Phewa Tal or Fewa Lake (it is a freshwater lake in Nepal formerly called Baidam Tal of the Pokhara Valley that includes Pokhara city, parts of Sarangkot and Kaskikot!'

'The lake is stream-fed but a dam regulates the water reserves, therefore, the lake is classified as semi-natural freshwater lake. It is the second largest lake in Nepal; the largest in Gandaki Province after the Rara lake in the comparison to Nepal's water bodies.'



'She was talking on and on and then I interrupted in Gorkhali, 'Kanchi Bookh lageya Ko Chaa, Ko Hotel Chaa! The rely was in a hurry, 'Tapayee Gorkha Chaa? 'Gorkhali Kora Garna Seekhe Ko Chaa! This had to be my reply!'

'From the banks of the lake we were in a hotel! It was a lady running it and she told the lady, 'Keta Layi Bookh Lage Ko Chaa! What to say the lunch was delicious! It was rice and a acountry rooster!'

'Perhaps on the lunch table four eyes had exchanged some looks! The looks which had begun from the Pokhara Lake!'

'This story was narrated to me by my friend! We had to part ways because the life's story is as such! I'm alive but he faded away! Every soldier has a story to tell but Neelam is a very dear sister of mine! This story is dedicated to my friend and my sister Neelam Singh Gurung and her two daughters, Aaarti Singh and Netra Singh! If a soldier has a story to tell then a soldier also knows how to write

(Though just average)!

'Sometimes you want to say, 'I love you, but...?' to say 'I love you, but...' is to say, 'I did not love you at all'. It was after a week (the time given to me I told her, 'thank you for the knowledge you gave me but this does not end here! We are bound to meet again! And we did!'

This was the second day and again the boredom which was all factual knowledge that was in the offing which became useful now when I got this story to write upon!

The lake is also famous for the reflection of mount Machhapuchhre and other mountain peaks of the Annapurna and Dhaulagiri ranges on its surface.

The Tal Barahi Temple is situated on an island in the lake. It is located 4 km from the city's centre Chiplehunga.

Phewa lake and water sports is one of the major tourist attraction of Pokhara city and the north shore of the lake has developed into a tourist district, commonly called Lakeside, with hotels,

restaurants and bars catering to the tourists.

On the third to the seventh day we were in Pokhara and the lectures from the beautiful mouth piece of Neelam were unending! I had no option but to keep listening to her wobbling tongue!

Pokhara is a metropolitan city in Nepal, which serves as the capital of Gandaki Province.' 'Thaa Chaa was always she said after completing the sentence!'

'It is the second most populous city of Nepal after Kathmandu!'

'Then she showed me the Annapurna Range, with three out of the ten highest peaks in the world—Dhaulagiri, Annapurna I and Manaslu!'

'The she was emphatic, 'Pokhara is considered the tourism capital of Nepal, being a base for trekkers undertaking the Annapurna Circuit through the Annapurna Conservation Area region of the Annapurna ranges in the Himalayas!'

Tapayee pani Gorkha Regiment Ko Cha (GR word surprised me). The city is also home to many of the elite Gurkha soldiers, soldiers native to South Asia of Nepalese nationality recruited for the British Army, Nepalese Army, Indian Army, Gurkha Contingent Singapore, Gurkha Reserve Unit Brunei, UN peacekeeping forces and in war zones around the world.

Pokhara lies on an important old trading route between China and India. In the 17th century, it was part of the Kingdom of

Kaski which was one of the Chaubisi rajya (24 Kingdoms of Nepal,) ruled by a branch of the Shah dynasty.

Many of the hills around Pokhara still have medieval ruins from this time. In 1786 Prithvi Narayan Shah added Pokhara into his kingdom. It had by then become an important trading place on the routes from Kathmandu to Jumla and from India to Tibet.

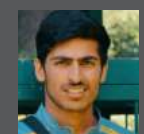
The nearby hills around Pokhara are covered by Gurung villages with few places belonging to Magar community. Small Magar communities are also present mostly in the southern outlying hills. Newar community is almost non-existent in the villages of outlying hills outside the Pokhara city limits.

She took me to her village on Sunday that week and I had to confess, 'I say this to you now: I love you, with no beginning, no end. I love you as you have become an extra necessary organ in my body. I love you as only a girl could love a boy. Without fear. Without expectations. Wanting nothing in return, except that you allow me to keep you here in my heart, that I may always know your strength, your eyes, and your spirit that gave me freedom and let me fly.'

A soldier did his duty and faded and the wife is doing hers! I'm just a brother in a mirror! The officer whom I'm talking about was accompanying a moustached General of Indian Army! The beginning was from Binna-

guri! The story is true!

## MY VILLAGE



SHAHID SHAMSHAD KUMAR

At the edge of stream  
Try to cross the river  
With emotions, relaxations and patience  
Don't look at the coloured faces  
You will lose your identity  
I fell asleep while I think  
Because there is no correct link  
You will face hatred  
You will face hardships  
You are at the edge of a stream  
So, try to cross the river  
Some are to compromise  
While some are good to be uncomfortable  
Comfort zones are the lessons  
While the uncomfortable stage is a pillar  
It's good to struggle with fever  
So try to cross the river!



## BRIEFLY NEWS

## 'Kantara' enjoys successful run in theatres

The highly anticipated film 'Kantara' from the house of Hombale Films has been released, and is currently enjoying a successful run in the theatres.

Released on September 30, 'Kantara' is a story of a mysterious forest and major happenings surrounding the area. This is after KGF's mega success that yet another Hombale production is enjoying a victory in the box office.

On Thursday, BookMyShow took to Twitter and shared a post highlighting the success of 'Kantara' as the film received a record-breaking 99 percent rating with 18k plus reviews.

This is the first time in the history of BookMyShow that a film has marked such a rating.

In the caption, they wrote "The grandeur and magic of #Kantara is undeniable! Catch this blockbuster in theatres near you!"

Directed by Rishabh Shetty, produced by Vijay Kiraganduru, 'Kantara' stars a talented cast of Rishabh Shetty and Sapthami Gowda in the lead. The film is rooted in a vibrant setting and it is performed with utmost perfection.

## 'Vikram Vedha' makers announce discounted ticket price from Oct 7

HRithik Roshan and Saif Ali Khan starrer 'Vikram Vedha' is having a great run at the box office ever since its release, and is registering constant growth in its collections.

While the makers are leaving no chance to bring the experience of the film to the masses, they have now decided to discount the ticket price by 20-30 percent for the audience.

'Vikram Vedha' is constantly garnering a lot of love from the masses, which is well reflected in its constant rise at the box office. As the film is attracting a whole lot of crowd to the theaters, the makers have decided to welcome more of them by discounting the ticket price in all cinemas across the nation by 20-30 percent from October 7. This will certainly make the film available to the mass audience while making it more pocket friendly.

'Vikram Vedha' is presented by Gulshan Kumar, T-Series, and Reliance Entertainment in association with Friday Filmworks and Jio Studios and a YNOT Studios Production.

The film is directed by Pushkar and Gayatri and produced by Bhushan Kumar and S Sashikanth and Reliance Entertainment.

## Kiara wraps first schedule of 'Satyaprem Ki Katha'

The golden girl of Bollywood, Kiara Advani has successfully attained the title of a superstar with back to back successes and a long list of upcoming projects.

The actress has now wrapped the first schedule of her much anticipated 'Satyaprem Ki Katha', which also stars Kartik Aaryan.

Kiara took to her Instagram story to announce the wrap for the first schedule of the National Award winning director Sameer Vidwans' 'Satyaprem Ki Katha'.

Playing the titular role of Katha in the film, Kiara essays a totally different look. The actress often shared sneak peeks and BTS from the sets while shooting in Mumbai.

Announcing the wrap, Kiara shared a video with her team who celebrated the end of the first schedule. Kiara and team would now resume the second schedule in Gujarat soon.

Emerging amongst the most bankable stars of the industry, Kiara has enjoyed a streak of successes from 'Shershaah' on the digital platform, to the first blockbuster of Bollywood post pandemic with 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2'. Kiara's 'Jugjugg Jeeyo' also impressed the audience and critics alike in addition to faring well at the box office.

Running around the clock juggling multiple schedules one after another, Kiara will be resuming the second schedule of 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' soon, and rejoining the sets of S Shankar's RC-15.

## Nushratt's next is drama-thriller 'Akelli'

Nushratt Bharuchha, who has been raising the bar with her choice of brave subjects for movies, will be seen next in a drama-thriller titled 'Akelli'.

Set in Iraq, 'Akelli' showcases how a person realizes her own capabilities in adverse situations like being trapped in the desert land.

Speaking about the film, the producer and founder of Dashami Studios, Nitin Vaidya expressed, "We are thrilled to announce Akelli starting Nushratt Bharuchha. Her character in this film symbolizes a lone woman's battle against all odds. The film's subject is very different and as a storyteller Pranay has visualized each and every bit so well that his conviction made us want to back this movie."

'Akelli' is helmed by Pranay Meshram, who has worked as an associate director for various projects and will debut as a director with this film. It is produced by Dashami Studios' Nitin Vaidya, Ninad Vaidya, Aparna Padgaonkar along with Vicky Sidana & Shashant Shah.

## WKD: Amit Verma's return guarantees drama &amp; twists

With its light-hearted yet relatable portrayal of commoner's life and amusing plot twists, renowned slice of life, 'Wagle Ki Duniya', is a definite crowd pleaser.

The show also garners nationwide appreciation for its outstanding way of shedding light on social issues.

Harshad's NRI cousin, Nick (Amit Verma), has returned to India from the United States for a business conference. Rajesh and his boss Kiara have also been invited to this conference, but things are about to go downhill. Kiara and Nick had met when they were both set up for a potential marriage arrangement. Their meeting did not go as their families had planned and they both despised each other ever since.

Now, Rajesh foreseeing this problem doesn't inform Kiara that Nick will be the keynote speaker at the conference. As the two enemies reunite, disaster strikes, and Rajesh is caught in the crossfire.

## Rajamouli's 'RRR' apply for Oscars in main categories

SS Rajamouli's epic action drama 'RRR' starring Jr NTR and Ram Charan in the leads is one of the most successful movies of this year.

While the film brought a whole new rage in the cinema halls with its release, it also went on to win big on the global front. The film received praising comments from renowned Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) directors like Scott Derrickson, Edgar Wright, and James Gunn. Taking ahead the conquering spree, the makers have applied to The Oscars for main categories and are all optimistic to set their footprints on such a prestigious platform.

'RRR' is truly one of the few films that have received immense international acclamation apart from its domestic success. It is yet another cinematic wonder from the director Rajamouli, after his blockbuster, 'Baahubali' franchise. Having seen its phenomenal success across the boundaries, the makers spread its international remark and have applied to The Acad-



emy for the Oscars in main categories.

It would be the first time that an Indian film will be representing Indian cinema on such a grand level.

While posting a thank you note on their social media, the makers shared a note, "#RRRforOscars We are honoured that RRR's overwhelming success represented Indian Cinema on the global stage by creating milestones at the worldwide box office and uniting film buffs across the world by transcending linguistic & cultural barriers. We're grateful to each & every one who loved our film and cheered us over the past few

months. You made this journey possible.

We applied to The Academy for Oscars consideration in general category. We wish our RRR family the best and thank them from the bottom of our hearts for making this possible. Here's to continuing to win hearts and entertain audiences worldwide."

Directed by Rajamouli, 'RRR' was released on March 25. Starring Jr NTR, Ram Charan, Ajay Devgn, Alia Bhatt, Shriya Saran, Samuthirakani, Ray Stevenson, Alison Doody, and Olivia Morris, the film was produced by D. V. V. Danayya.

## 'Ki Kariye' from 'Code Name Tiranga' out



The trailer of one of the espionage-thrillers of the year, 'Code Name Tiranga' has received a lot of love from the audience for its high-octane action and emotions.

While fans are eagerly waiting for the film, the makers have rose their excitement a notch higher by dropping 'Ki Kariye', a soulful rendition that will win over their hearts.

Shoot in a picturesque location in Turkey, 'Ki Kariye' just hits the right chord. It's almost impossible to take your eyes off Harry Sandhu, Parineeti Chopra and their crackling chemistry.

'Ki Kariye' is sung by Harry and Sakshi Holkar. It's composed by Jaidev

Kumar, penned by Kumaar and alaap by Sanj V.

Speaking about the same, Harry mentioned, "Ki Kariye is one of the most special songs for me. The audiences have showered me with abundant love for my music, I hope this song and the film also receives the same amount of appreciation. This song will grow on people and I am certain they will hear it on loop like us."

'Code Name Tiranga' is presented by Gulshan Kumar, T-Series, and Reliance Entertainment along with Film Hangar and produced by Bhushan Kumar, Ribhu Dasgupta, Vivek B Agrawal, and Reliance Entertainment.

The film will hit the big screens on October 14.

## 'Influencer' bit is most beautiful part of 'Vakeel Babu': Abhishek

Amazon miniTV recently premiered a short film titled 'Vakeel Babu', as part of its first of its kind film extravaganza the 'Mini Movie Festival'.

The short film has been receiving praise from viewers across the globe for its engaging narrative and impactful performances. Abhishek Banerjee, who plays the role of Shiraz Hassan in this short film, has opened up on how his character resonates with audiences, while maintaining a unique newness about itself.

"The influencer bit in the film is the most beautiful part of 'Vakeel Babu'. Everybody wants to be an influencer these days, everyone wants followers and likes, and this Vakeel also needs it. In today's time, if you are doing fine on Instagram, it means you are doing well in life as well," Abhishek said in a statement.

"In this movie, Shiraz is trying to tell a similar story. His journey started from advocacy and moved to a chatroom on some social media platform. His performance on social media is better as he has to take less efforts as a lawyer. So, his journey, while beginning as an influencer's, ends with him actually realizing what it means to be a lawyer," he added.

## 'Bigg Boss 16': Race for captaincy takes toll on housemates

The bell of danger chimes in 'Bigg Boss 16' for the first time, and it is for the captain of the house Nimrit Kaur Ahluwalia.

'Bigg Boss' conveys to her that she is fired from her position as captain and is summoned to the confession room. While the rest of the contestants watch the live feed of Nimrit's conversation in the confession room, the master shares that he's disappointed with the rules of the house being broken repeatedly under her captaincy.

He grants her a chance to redeem herself as captain with a challenge and announces that the first person to ring the gong in the garden area will qualify as a contender for captaincy. Before 'Bigg Boss' finishes his sentence, Shalin Bhanot rushes out and strikes the gong. Nimrit is upset with Shalin, who has been a friend to her for sounding off the gong and challenging her captaincy. Is this the end of a friendship in the house?

The captaincy challenge dictates that both the contenders must pose by balancing the baskets on their heads and the rest of the



housemates must fill items into the basket of the contender they wish to overthrow. Whoever breaks their stance or drops the basket, stands defeated. It will be exciting to watch who will bear the burden with grace and emerge victorious. The new captain will be empowered to change the duties and can assign three new contestants to carry out the household chores.

After the race for captaincy, Bigg Boss extends a chance to the nominees (Gori Nagori, MC Stan, Sajid Khan, Shiv Thakre, Gautam Vig and Archana Gautam) of the week to rescue themselves from the threat of being evicted. He designates a task for Gori Nagori, who must enthrall housemates and viewers with her dance skills and convince the rest of the nominated contestants

to join her. If she succeeds in doing so, she earns the power to withdraw one contestant from the nominations list and save from getting evicted. She can use this power for herself too. If she fails, the other nominees get a chance to immunize one contestant by a unanimous vote (aapsi sehmati). Will she fail or succeed? As the game changes with a masterful twist, it will be entertaining to watch who steps out from the risk of being evicted.

While everyone is wary about the next roll of dice by 'Bigg Boss', Sumbul Touqeer breaks down because she feels undermined by the rest of the housemates and thinks it is because she's one of the youngest among them.

'Bigg Boss 16' airs every Monday to Friday at 10pm pm and every Saturday-Sunday at 9.30 PM on COLORS.

## Ferrero Rocher ropes in Hrithik for its 'Golden Diwali' campaign

Ferrero Rocher has released a video ad for their digital campaign featuring Bollywood superstar Hrithik Roshan for the upcoming Diwali digital campaign.

"To further strengthen their brand recall amongst the consumers, this ad will be promoting Ferrero Rocher across the digital space as part of the brand's #GoldenDiwali campaign. The ethos of the brand resonates with the golden festival of Diwali as the campaign aims to establish Ferrero Rocher as the perfect choice for consumers to gift a Golden Diwali to their precious ones," the brand said in a statement on Thursday.

"The Diwali campaign aims to fortify the positioning of Ferrero Rocher as a premium brand and establish the proposition of how Ferrero Rocher is "Precious like the people we love". The joy of being with your family and friends, being together, a moment of delight, even by yourself - such moments deserve to be celebrated with something very special, because a precious moment becomes even more unique if enjoyed with a Ferrero Rocher speciality," it said.

"The Digital Film opens with Hrithik reminiscing about his past Diwalis with his Family. He is sitting inside his house which is decked up with Diwali decorations. He talks about how



his family needs everything to be festive and decorative to keep up with the new cultural festivities that crop up every year. However, one thing that remains constant for each Diwali is his family's love for Rocher - The Roshan's love for Rocher." He is then seen indulging in the delectable taste of presence of hazelnuts in Ferrero Rocher and ends by wishing everyone an elegant and #GoldenDiwali with Ferrero Rocher," the release further added.

Commenting on the occasion, Zoher Kapuswala, Mar-

keting Head, Pralines, Ferrero India said, "Ever since we have introduced Ferrero Rocher, a lovingly crafted chocolate speciality in India, it has witnessed an exponential growth by offering consumers an indulgent experience through high quality ingredients. We believe that our digital campaign featuring Hrithik Roshan will help in leveraging the premium imagery that Hrithik Roshan carries and further strengthening our positioning of a premium brand which revolves around style and elegance."

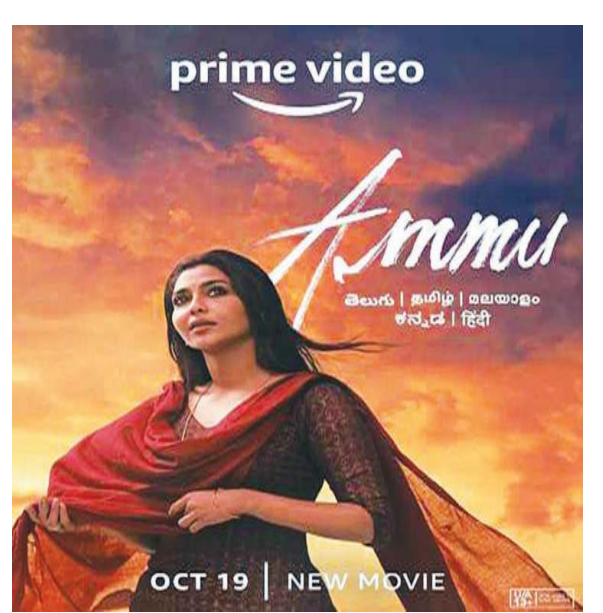
## Prime Video to air 'Ammu' on Oct 19

Prime Video on Thursday announced the global premiere of its first Telugu Original Movie, 'Ammu', releasing on October 19.

With ace filmmaker Karthik Subbaraj as the Creative Producer, produced by Kalyan Subramanian and Kaarthekeyan Santhanam of Stone Bench Films, and written and directed by Charukesh Sekar, the film is a drama thriller that is an empowering story of a woman who rises like a phoenix in the face of adversity.

'Ammu' traces the thrilling transformation of a woman from being a victim of domestic violence to overcoming her internal conflicts, discovering her inner strength and giving the big payback to her abusive husband. Aishwarya Lekshmi plays the titular role in the movie alongside Naveen Chandra and Simha in the lead.

"Ammu is special for us for several reasons. Not only is it our first Telugu original movie, a landmark we are thrilled to have crossed; but it is also an important and a relevant story that focuses on the strength and resilience of women," said Aparna Purohit, head of India Originals, Prime



Video.

"It also cements our next collaboration with Karthik Subbaraj, after Putham Pudhu Kaalai and Mahaan. Ammu features terrific performances by our lead cast, Aishwarya Lekshmi, Naveen Chandra and Simha. We, at Prime Video, are excited and proud to bring this story to our audiences not just India, but across the world," added Aparna.

Karthik Subbaraj, Creative Producer shared, "Ammu, as a film, is more than just a revenge thriller. The movie

is rooted in drama, laced with the unpredictability of life that will keep the viewers on the edge of their seats. It is fantastically performed by some of the industry's finest with Aishwarya, Naveen and Simha giving it their all. I applaud Charukesh Sekar for bringing this gripping and important narrative while keeping intact its emotional core and I am thrilled that with Prime Video we are able to take this movie to customers around 240 countries and territories."

## Honey Singh-Millind Gaba's groovy track 'Paris Ka Trip' out

Bhushan Kumar has not only brought audiences some of the biggest chartbusters, but is also known for surprising them with some dynamic musical pairings.

The music mogul now brings Punjabi music heavyweights Yo Yo Honey Singh and Millind Gaba together for the very first time for a groovy track 'Paris Ka Trip', marking their debut collaboration.

Composed by Yo Yo Honey Singh and penned by Millind, Asli Gold and Yo Yo Honey Singh, the easy listening, trippy track is seasoned with some quirky lyrics and synchronized beats with Punjabi dhol influence. A modern track that's connected to the artists' Punjabi roots, the music video of 'Paris Ka Trip', directed by Mihir Gulati has been filmed on a grand scale with glitz, bling, top models and hundreds of dancers.

Producer Bhushan Kumar said, "This is a fantastic collaboration between two artists who own their individual styles of music. They both have distinct sounds and yet share a deep connection which comes through in Paris Ka Trip."



Honey Singh shared, "Millind Gaba is like a brother to me and I'm so happy that fans finally get to watch us together. We had a blast creating this track and shooting the music video. 'Paris Ka Trip' felt like one big party."

Millind said, "Honey Singh is back better than ever. I call him 'Sher' and I have deep respect and love for him as an artist. I feel extremely excited that we

could collaborate on this track because I've learnt a lot from him."

Mihir added, "The high-life of the track is the brotherhood and camaraderie between Yo Yo Honey Singh and Millind Gaba. The song is modern in its approach but still connected to their roots - Paris Ka Trip is a sure shot treat for their fans."

'Paris Ka Trip' is out on T-Series' YouTube channel.



## DDC Doda reviews performance of PWD, progress of NABARD, CRF & other Projects

DODA, OCTOBER 6: To review the performance of PWD (R&B) in the execution of works under Capex Budget 2022-23, NABARD, CRF and Languishing Projects, District Development Commissioner Doda Vishesh Paul Mahajan today chaired a meeting of key officials of the department in his office chamber today. The meeting was attended by ADDC, Pran Singh; Superintending Engineer PWD, Suresh Kumar; CPO, Suresh Kumar; Ex En Special Sub Division Gandoh, Mush-taq Ahmed; Ex En Doda, Mohd Rafeeq; Ex En Bhaderwah, Tan-zeel Ahmed, AEEs and AEs of the department.

It was informed that out of Rs 685.92 lakhs allocation under the Capex Budget-2022-23, Rs 342.96 lakh stand was released to the PWD department for execution of 72 works. "Out of 72 approved works, 53 have been allotted, while 6 works stand completed and 8 works are declared non



feasible by the concerned engineers," the meeting was told.

The SE informed that expenditure of Rs 271.65 lakh have been made till date, while bills

for work done liability of Rs. 70 lakhs would be submitted shortly in the concerned treasuries for withdrawal in favour of the concerned contractors.

Regarding NABARD funded works, the meeting was informed that a total 22 works were approved in the district out of which 7 have been completed and work on 11 was on. Under CRF, a total of 31 roads were approved of which seven roads have been completed till date, while work on more 19 projects was on. About Languishing Projects, the meeting was told that the department took up 33 projects out of which 18 are complete and work on 10 projects is in progress.

The DDC asked SE and Ex Ens to personally monitor the quality of the work on ground. It was decided in the meeting that the non-feasible works be recommended for foreclosure and funds involved in these works be processed for reallocation.

The DDC directed the concerned to ensure 75% physical and financial completion of the works under all schemes by or before 15th of November.

## DC reviews execution of IWM projects in Block Doongi

RAJOURI, OCTOBER 6: District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal today chaired a meeting of the concerned officers to review the progress on the projects being executed under Integrated Watershed management program.

Officers present in the meeting included CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; PO IWMP, Mohd Sheraz Chouhan, CAO, Sohan Singh, DSEO, Sandeep Sharma and Concerned Engineers.

At the outset, the PO IWMP informed that the Integrated Water Management Program's main objective was to restore ecological balance by harnessing, conserving and developing degraded natural resources such as soil, vegetative cover and water.

It was informed that in Rajouri the IWM program is being implemented in Block Doongi at an estimated cost of Rs 9.45 cores with 09 projects. He further informed that the works are located in four Panchayats of the



Block Doongi, including Dhara Sanwala, Namblan, Doongi Bhranna and Tethyali pothah.

The DDC asked the concerned officers to ensure that all the projects are completed at the earliest so that the benefits reach the general public. The DDC also directed the technical staff to tender all the projects at the earliest. He also directed the PO IWMP to furnish the geotagged photos of all the works completed so far to his office.

## Horticulture Department hosts Mega farmers' Awareness Camp at Nargota

JAMMU, OCTOBER 06: Horticulture department to work in synergy to



today organised a Mega farmers' Awareness camp here at Block Development Office Nagrota. Member Parliament Lok Shaba, Jugal Kishore Sharma was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Addressing the camp, MP Jugal Kishore Sharma said that Jammu division has huge horticulture potential and appealed to the PRIs and the field functionaries of the

tap the same. He sought their proactive role to bring tangible results on the ground and towards increasing the farmers' income. The officers and officials were asked to host awareness and training camps on regular intervals in Block/Tehsil levels to impart training to farmers on pruning and other modern horticultural operations besides establishment of

high density orchards. The M P stressed on the need to impart skill training in fruit processing to the women of the farmer community to facilitate their financial empowerment. Earlier, Chief Horticulture Officer, Jammu, Sarabjit Singh elaborated in detail about the incentives available under various central and UT sponsored schemes of the department. He urged the farmers to come forward, associate with the Horticulture Department and avail the benefits of different components viz establishment of nurseries, installation of Polyhouses, Community Borewells, construction of Pack Houses, horticultural machinery, micro irrigation etc. for uplift of their socio-economic status. During the camp, the concerned District officers and field functionaries made the farmers aware about horticultural

## GDC Pouni hosts series of events to mark Gandhi Jayanti week

REASI, OCTOBER 6: NSS Unit, in Collaboration with Red Ribbon Club of Government Degree College Pouni organised varied activities under Gandhi Jayanti week.

The week full activities were organised with full enthusiasm under the supervision of the College Principal Prof Rajni Bhagat.

Prof. Balbir Kumar, Convener NSS and Prof. U S Liza, Convener RRC laid out an action plan which included a series of activities from September 29 to October 6 in connection with Gandhi Jayanti Celebration.

The formal celebration started with Principal, Prof. Rajni Bhagat's address foregrounding the Gandhian principles with reference to the experiences of his life. She

urged everyone to follow the mission of the Government of the nation to do away with single use plastic and keep the surroundings clean.

On the day 2, the NSS Volunteers conducted a cleanliness drive/ Swachata on the college campus under the supervision of Prof. Balbir Kumar, which was the first activity conducted under Gandhi Jayanti Celebration.

The second event included Quiz and Essay Writing Competitions held by the Department of all Languages in collaboration with Red Ribbon Club and NSS Unit on day 3. Prof. Balbir Kumar, Nodal NSS, Dr. Tarseem Kumar, HOD Dogri, Prof. Jaspal Singh, HOD Punjabi, Prof. U S Liza, HOD English, and Tanpreet Singh, Physical Director Education.

## DC Kathua discusses draft District Skill Development Plan at DSC meet

KATHUA, OCTOBER 6: Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rahul Pandey today chaired the meeting of District Skill Committee (DSC) here at DC office complex to discuss draft District Skill Development Action Plan under Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP), a programme of the Ministry of Skill Development, Government of India.

The DC stressed upon the stakeholders to cover all those skill sets required for the industrial demands keeping in view the changing dynamics of industrial footfall in Kathua under New Industrial Policy-2021. He asked them to map the skills as per the need and profile so that individuals from all categories could be covered and benefited.

The DC further asked the representatives of industries, including major



industrial units to help administration in ensuring right mapping of skills. He also directed concerned officers to share the details of available training courses/course structure alongwith the minimum qualification/eligibility criteria in ITI's, polytechnic and other skill imparting institutions so as to spread awareness among the masses.

The DC directed all the stakeholders to incorporate new ideas, suggestions in the draft before finalization of the District Skill Development Plan.

Among others, GM Chenab Textile Mills, GM DIC, Principal ITI Hiranagar, Principal ITI Kathua, CEO, CAO, CPO, DSWO, AD Employment, Handloom and Handicraft, President Industries Association, Officers from other concerned departments attended the meeting. The DC stressed upon the stakeholders to cover all those skill sets required for the industrial demands keeping in view the changing dynamics of industrial footfall in Kathua under New Industrial Policy-2021.

## Nasha Mukh Abhiyan DIPR presents Nukkad Natak at MAM College

JAMMU, OCTOBER 6: The artists of Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) today presented a theme based on Nukkad here at Government M.A.M College to promote Nasha Mukh Abhiyaan.

Incharge Principal of the College, Mr. Sanjay Karupia was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

The objective of organising the event was to spread awareness among the students about the disastrous consequences of drug abuse and encourage them to contribute their bit in the eradication of the menace from the society.

The event was conducted under the supervision of Joint Director Information Jammu, Sapna Kotwal.

Faculty members, students witnessed the play with great enthusiasm. Artists who presented Nukkad Natak on the theme received a lot of applause from the audience. Incharge Principal of the College, Mr. Sanjay Karupia was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The objective of organising the event was to spread awareness among the students about the disastrous consequences of drug abuse and encourage them to contribute their bit in the eradication of the menace from the society.

## HM Shah should restrain from political gimmicks: Rattan Lal Says National Conference won over people's heart for decades together

REASI, Oct 6: Hitting out hard against Amit Shah's acerbic remark against Abdullah Family during Baramulla Rally, Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President, National Conference, expressed great disappointment against the Home Minister for undermining the past political victories of National Conference.

The senior NC leader said this while reviewing the process of special summery revision of electoral rolls at Reasi on Thursday.

Rattan Lal Gupta said that the National Conference has won over people's heart not once, not twice but for decades together as the political decimation of all other parties including BJP in the past is testimony to this fact, one should not malign the image of a leading party in the State and its leadership.

Mr Gupta said the NC has won hearts of people and won elections a number of times. Mudslinging is unjustified.

Rattan Lal Gupta asserted that the National Conference had registered landmark victories in J&K in 1977, 1983 and 1987, and a two third majority in 1996 elections in the erstwhile State. He said that it was

2002, when the country witnessed the era of coalition governments. "The NC again won elections in 2002 and 2008 and emerged largest party in J&K", he said.

"Unlike BJP, which got few seats in the last Assembly due to propaganda of Modi wave, the NC has a clean record of running full time governments with utter satisfaction of the electorates of both the regions rather Ladakh also, and all this was due to fair policy of the party towards all regions", Rattan Lal said, adding that J&K has no room for the divisive politics of BJP and soon after the polls, its leadership would know this reality on ground.

The Provincial President said people of Jammu and Kashmir stand with NC not for any wave or political traps based on communal agenda but due to the sacrifices of its leadership as the fact remains embedded in the region's history that founder of the NC Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah spent years in Jail and the party always fought for the rights of people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Under NC realms from 1975 to 2014, J and K had witnessed massive development as medical col-



leges, university, roads infrastructure, schools, hospitals, SKEWPY etc were constructed and dedicated to the people unlike BJP which is master in changing the names of public infrastructure to wipe out work done by the previous regimes", Rattan Lal Gupta said, adding that under present regime in J&K people are longing for basic amenities like power, water, roads

and the most frustrating thing is policy deficit on youths career and future. Rattan Lal Gupta also raised serious concern over the illegal mining going on in the Reasi district. While on the other hand, the district administration has not showing serious concern over spreading of Lumpy Skin disease in far-off areas of the district. He said that the slackness and callous

attitude of the authorities can be well judged from the fact that there is acute shortage of vaccine in major districts of Jammu region. He accused the Administration of lying in deep slumber as the veterinary doctors are not visiting the remote areas of the districts. He appealed to the Lt Governor Manoj Sinha to issue strict instructions to the concerned authorities in this regard to ensure adequate availability of vaccines in remote areas of the state so that all the cattle are vaccinated within a stipulated time period and the situation does not go from bad to worse.

The Provincial President appealed to people of district Reasi for supporting National Conference to have equitable development and brighter future of Jammu and Kashmir.

Among others who were present include: Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Secretary Jammu, Vijay Lochan P.P SC Cell, Abdul Gani Teli P.P OBC Cell, Pardeep Bali Sr. leader, Tariq Butt, Ch. Sadiq, Dev Raj Khajuria, Sher Singh, Ram Parkash Suri, Raj Kumar Sharma, Ayub Bhatt, Javed, Charan Dass, Ramesh Kumar, Ashok Mehta and others.

## GCOE Jammu organises Inter-College Essay Writing Competition on Gender equality

JAMMU, OCTOBER 6: The Cash Committee of Government College Of Education, Jammu today organised an Inter-College Essay Writing Competition on the theme, "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow."

Prof. Aekta Gupta, Principal of the college was the Chief Guest, while Prof. Shalini Rana presented the formal welcome address. Students from different colleges of Cluster University participated in the event.

Dr. Jyoti Parihar, Convener of the program, in the inaugural session, highlighted the importance of gender equality and the significance of such programs for gender



sensitization. The chief guest of the program asserted that gender was a social construct otherwise nature has not discriminated between any gender.

The participating students from across different Colleges, through their creative writing,

expressed their views about the importance of gender equality to have a justifiable, equitable and sustainable world tomorrow. The Essays were examined by Dr. Sonia Khajuria of GCW Parade. Later, in the valedictory session, prizes were presented to the winners.

The first prize was bagged by Nitya Sharma of GCOE, Jammu. The second and third prizes were bagged by Ritik Kumar of SPMR College of Commerce and Akshar Goswami of MAM College, respectively.

The program was conducted by Prof. Shalini Rana. The CASH Committee members who participated in the program were Dr. Deep Kumar Bangotra, Prof. Ramandeep Kralia, Dr. Sushma Bala, Dr. Maansi Sharma, Prof. Rubina, Prof. Vinay Lata. The student organizers were Anu Bagal, Arushi Sharma, Rashmi Singh and Mehak Khajuria. Vote of thanks was delivered by Prof. Vinay Lata.

## DC Ramban chairs DLTF meeting Panel approves BBBP District Action Plan - 2022-23

RAMBAN, OCTOBER 06: District Administration Ramban today approved the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' (BBBP) scheme District Action Plan for the fiscal 2022-23 here in a meeting of the District Level Task Force (DLTF) chaired by Deputy Commissioner, Mussarat Islam. The DLTF held a detailed discussion on different components of the scheme like Beti Bachao and Beti Padhao and approved a plan of Rs. 30 lakh for the year 2022-23.

The Action Plan proposals pertaining to different departments were discussed in detail, including re-enrollment of school dropped out girls, equipping teachers to impart education in



a gender-sensitive manner, imparting self-defense training to girls, sensitization of all the stakeholders about the PC&PNDT Act, MTP Act, and Convergence for nutrition and Health Education including menstruation hygiene behavior and conduct of Sports events for girls to make the ambassadors of BBBP

scheme. The DLTF allocated Rs. 8 lakh for capacity building and awareness programme, Rs. 8 lakh for providing incentives under PMMVY in convergence with ICDS department, Rs. 6 lakh for provision of sanitary pads in schools in convergence with Education department under Beti Bachao component.

Similarly, under the Beti Padhao component, an amount of Rs. 5 lakh was allocated for Pre-Matric Scholarship, Rs. 0.50 lakh for the National Means cum Merit Scheme and Rs. 2.50 lakh for organizing Sports Events and Self Defence Training for girls by the concerned departments. The DC asked the stakeholder departments to work in coordination for effective implementation of the Action Plan under BBBP. Among others, Programme Officer, ICDS, Jahangir Hashmi; Chief Planning Officer, Dr. Kasturi Lal; Chief Education Officer, Dev Anand; District Social Welfare Officer, Rahul Gupta; Dy. SP headquarter Pardeep Singh.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

## TOURISTS

will be launched with state-of-art facilities. This, besides providing new opportunities to the young talent of Jammu and Kashmir, shall boost the business ecosystem of the Union territory.

Various other models and schemes are also being launched to promote tourism here. Rural tourism is steadily occupying a space hitherto denied to it either due to not venturing into this area of tourism of vast potential or even if such an idea having been conceived, lack of resources has kept the roadmap for it in virtual doldrums. 75 offbeat tourist destinations are also being developed in Jammu and Kashmir as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.

A record-breaking 20.5 lakh tourists, including 3.65 lakh Amarnath yatis, visited Kashmir in the first eight months of this year, drawing visitors from all over the nation to the gorgeous and picturesque Valley.

The 2 million tourists represent an all-time high tourist footfall for Kashmir valley. The tourist sites like Pahalgam, Gulmarg, and Sonamarg as well as all hotels and guesthouses in Srinagar experienced 100 percent occupancy.

Tourism sector in Jammu and Kashmir is being developed as per the vision of sustainable development goals. Besides, dedicated focus is also being given to strengthening the hospitality segment and for establishing a robust tourism infrastructure system.

Government is working towards developing state-of-art resources through public and private investment. J&K Government has adopted a five-pronged approach for effective transformation of the tourism potential of J&K. A comprehensive mechanism is being laid down to provide the best facilities to corporate golfers, tourists and food connoisseurs.

Despite setbacks faced due to Covid pandemic, the UT administration has taken sufficient steps for the revival of tourism in J&K and for providing employment to individuals associated with the sector.

Notably, a number of policy interventions have been made to provide financial support to various stakeholders associated with tourism sector.

## MEETS LG

powerment today met Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here at Raj Bhawan.

The Union MoS and the Lt Governor discussed a range of issues related to backward classes, senior citizens, drug-abuse and other special schemes aimed at social and economic empowerment of people.

The Union MoS also shared his views on the present developmental scenario in the UT of J&K.

Similarly, Er. Gulam Ali Khatana, Member Parliament, Rajya Sabha also called on the Lt Governor and discussed various issues pertaining to public welfare.

The Lt Governor, while interacting with the newly elected Member of Parliament observed that the UT Government is steadfastly working on all fronts to make every section of the society an equal stakeholder in the development process of J&K.

We are reaching out to the last person in the queue with all benefits of the government schemes and the rapid socio-economic growth taking place in the UT for ensuring inclusive and equitable development for all, added the Lt Governor.

## UNION MINISTER

the tourism sector.

Sh. Athawale said that the government wants to create more employment opportunities for the youth of J&K by attracting private sector investment. Many private sector investors have come to Jammu and Kashmir and will invest thousands of crores of rupees for the welfare of the Union Territory, the minister added.

Saying that J&K is and was the integral part of India, Sh. Athawale said that it is in the interest of Pakistan to improve relations with India for peace to prevail and for its own development.

Shri Ramdas Athawale said that from last many years, the gates of development have opened for J&K which is evident from the fact that all the centrally sponsored schemes and programmes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Jan Dhan Yojana, MUDRA, PM Ujjwala Yojana, Scholarship Schemes for Students, Welfare Schemes for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes are now implemented in J&K.

Shri Athawale further said that hundred percent implementation of many central schemes in J&K is witness to the fact that Govt. of India is steadfast to provide social stability at all fronts be that housing, livelihood etc. to the people of J&K.

The Minister informed that under PM Narendra Modi implementation of the social welfare schemes has picked up pace in Jammu and Kashmir which is evident from the fact that under PM Jan Dhan Yojana, between 2014-2022 (September), 26 lakh accounts have been opened in J&K, under PM Ujjwala Yojana between 2016-22 (September), 12 lakh 43 thousand gas connections have been allotted to the beneficiaries, under PM Awas Yojana (Urban) between 2015-22 (September), 15 thousand houses have been constructed in J&K, under PM Awas Yojana (Rural), ninety thousand houses have been constructed, under PM Jan Arogya Yojana, 05 lakh 09 thousand have been benefited in J&K and under Ujala Yojana, 85 lakh LED bulbs have been issued in J&K. The Minister informed that between 2019-22 (September), 1720 De-addiction centers have been either funded or established under Financial Assistance for the establishment of De-addiction centers out of which 12 have been either funded or established in Jammu and Kashmir.

## ARMY MAN

was killed in an accidental fire in Watergam area of North Kashmir's Baramulla district on Thursday. Official sources told Kashmir News Apex- (KNA) that one army personnel namely C. Chander Mohan while moving in his Camp vehicle from Chatoosa Camp to Watergam and his rifle accidentally discharged ammunition. He said that in the incident he received critical injuries and he succumbed before reaching to hospital. He said that his dead body is lying in Watergam camp and investigation in this regard has been taken up. (KNA)

## WORTH

of these unit holders they had in turn deposited a sum of Rs 217 Cr into the government exchequer as their lease dues.

Dr Mehta impressed upon the officers to strictly adhere to the single window system and timelines to ensure that industrial units get established smoothly and creates employment opportunities for our youth besides strengthening the economy.

The Chief Secretary emphasized that the remaining reform points out of 352 recommended by BARP for industrial development should be implemented within this month.

Dr Mehta further said that the administration would incentivize the good work put up by the Deputy Commissioners in attracting new investments in their districts. He further stated that all DCs would be evaluated on few parameters of creating enabling environment for invest-

ments. The Chief Secretary also emphasized on making the Kashmir Haat and Jammu Haat vibrant trade centres. He asked the concerned Directors to take measures to turn them into business hubs round the year. He also stated that Rural Haats should be established at Panchayat level with upscaling at block and District level.

The meeting was informed that more than 3300 applications has been approved by HLLAC with Letter of Intent (LoI) issued in favour of 1879 applicants and lease deeds executed by 260 applicants. It was also made out that in 111 industrial estates 9869 Kanals of land has so far been allotted to the prospective unit holders.

Regarding new estates it was said that 37 DPRs had been prepared by SIDCO and SICOP worth more than Rs 2200 crore besides receiving applications for 2 private estates also. The meeting also discussed the dozens of proposals received by the department for establishing health care projects in the two med-cities of J&K.

The meeting also deliberated upon the progress made on investments made by foreign companies in the UT. It had detailed discussion on various proposals made by these companies after signing of MoU with the UT administration. These includes Dubai based businesses like EMAAR Group, Noon.com, Al Maya Group, GL Employment, MATU Investments and others.

## DESK

virtual mode to seek inputs on adoption of Uniform Academic Calendar upto class 9th in winter zone areas of JKUT and formulation of budget estimates 2022-23 Viz 2023-24.

"In the meeting a threadbare discussion was held with all stakeholders for smooth implementation of Uniform Academic Calendar upto class 9th in JKUT sync with the Uniform Academic Calendar notified by Government of Jammu & Kashmir (UT) for class 10th 11th and 12th," reads the minutes of meeting.

It states that all participants in the meeting had agreed for adoption of Uniform Academic Calendar upto class 9th in JKUT.

"All the participants in the meeting have agreed to implement Uniform Academic Calendar in rural and urban and winter zone areas in sync with the academic calendar of other classes 9th to 12th as notified by the government," it reads—(KNO)

## HM

earlier maximum 6 lakh tourists used to visit every year, whereas this year till now 22 lakh tourists have visited. This has given employment to thousands of youth. Earlier, stones and guns were given in the hands of the youth of the Valley, but today Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given mobiles and laptops to the youth by setting up industries so that the youth can get employment," Shah said in his meeting in Baramulla, as per News 18.

## CS

ike Forest, Culture, Revenue, Jal Shakti was constituted for apex level monitoring and implementation of the scheme.

It was further revealed that as per the guidelines of the mission, the UT had to complete 300 Amrit Sarovars before 15th August, 2022 and 1500 Amrit Sarovars by 15th August, 2023. However, the UT completed 1490 Amrit Sarovars on 15th of August, 2022 and hoisted National Flags over them on the occasion of Independence Day. It was informed that at present the UT has completed the work on 1953 Amrit Sarovars.

The UT is endeavoring to create and beautify more Amrit Sarovars and the Finance Department has released Rs 50 crore for the rejuvenation / creation of these Amrit Sarovars.

It is pertinent to mention here that the Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on National Panchayat Raj Day on 24th of April this year in Palli Gram Panchayat in District Samba of J&K itself and at the national level, the UT figures at no. 2 in terms of completion of Amrit Sarovars featuring just after the much bigger State of Uttar Pradesh.

## CHILDREN

or obese.

"Among women aged 15-49, the proportion of overweight or obese is 29 percent, which is the same as NFHS-4," the NFHS-5 reveals, adding that more men are overweight or obese (32%) than thin (4%) similar to pattern observed in the last survey.

"Five percent of women in Jammu and Kashmir are too thin. Over three-fifths of women and men are at a healthy weight for their height," the Survey reveals.

It also reveals that under-nutrition is widespread in the younger age groups (especially age 15-19), those in rural areas, and women of scheduled tribes.

"Overweight and obesity are more prevalent in older adults than those in urban areas, and well-educated men," the Survey says—(KNO)

## LAND

National Saffron Mission has not yielded results as the authorities were unable to make water pumps functional meant for irrigating the fields in dry season.

Chairman Saffron Growers Association Kashmir Abdul Majeed Wani told KNO that the Manmohan Singh-led government released over 400 crore under National Saffron Mission so as to provide better facilities to growers. However, the mission could not achieve its target as the irrigation system remained incomplete, he said. This, according to him, prompted many to switch to other crops. Wani said that since 2014 most of the growers have lost interest in Saffron and the last three years have seen decline in produce.

Saffron production has decreased from 16.45 metric tonnes to 0.02 metric tonnes in last five years in Kashmir, according to official data.

He also highlighted the conversion of saffron fields saying people are constructing complexes, houses amid ban. He appealed to the government to come up with a seed nursery so that growers can get seeds there to continue growing saffron—(KNO)

## Sopore School starts campus radio

Sopore, Oct 06: A private school in Sopore town has started campus radio to hone the skills of students.

Talking to the news agency— Managing Director Sanctorum Institute of Education (SIE) Shakir Ashraf said that the 'Radio Sanctorum' initiative would provide students a better exposure.

He said that the students will be able to create their own content on any topic, language and would be exposed to find solutions as well.

"The school radio would enable students to take active part, besides it would help them to become broadcasters, decision makers above all solution solvers," Shakir added.

He said that a team of 15 members including RJ Fajar, RJ Ronag, RJ Uzair, RJ Aafiyah, RJ Fayiz would be managing the station. Officers and young achievers would be called in by the RJs for interactive sessions.

## Impart Swachhata, anti-drug awareness to students on daily basis: DC Kishtwar to teachers

KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 6: Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar, Dr Devansh Yadav- today stressed on teachers to impart Nasha Mukht Bharat abhiyan and Swachhata Abhiyan awareness to students in morning assembly on a regular basis. He was interacting with the staff and students during a surprise inspection of the Government Middle school Bagwan Mohalla Kishtwar conducted to take on the spot appraisal of the functioning of the school. During inspection, the Deputy Commissioner checked Arrival, attendance registers besides enquired about implementation of PM-POShAN (Mid Day Meal).

He also inspected the classes and interacted with teachers and students to assess the learning outcomes. The Deputy Commissioner asked the teachers to discharge their teaching-learning activities with utmost dedication and sincerity to achieve desired outcomes. Besides, the Headmaster was directed to ensure the punctuality of staff and implementation of a biometric attendance system in the school. The DC laid special thrust on the maintenance of Sanitation and Hygiene in MDM and cleanliness at School besides imparting awareness under Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan and Swachhata Abhiyan in the morning assembly on regular basis.

## Campus placement drive held in GCW Gandhinagar



JAMMU, OCTOBER 6: Career Counselling and Placement Cell of Padma Shri Padma Sachdev, Govt P.G college for Women, Gandhinagar, in collaboration with NIIT-IFBI, today conducted placement/ selection drive for the Relationship Manager in ICICI Bank with a salary of Rs 2.45-3.1 lakh per Annum here on the College Campus. In the beginning of the drive, Prof Rajni Kumar, Convener, Career Counselling and Placement Cell welcomed the gathering and gave a short brief about the programme. Rajendra Jodha, Area Head, NIIT spoke about the need for training to join a bank and interacted with the students and spoke about the changing skill sets of a Bank Employee. Prof Minu Mahajan, Principal of the College lauded the efforts of the committee and thanked the team from NIIT-IFBI for conducting this placement drive in the college to provide students with the recruitment opportunities. Approximately 50 pass out and final Year students of Padma Shri Padma Sachdev, Govt. P.G College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu participated in the selection drive. As many as 31 students were shortlisted for the preliminary round. The shortlisted students will be tested at different levels before being absorbed as Relationship Managers by ICICI Bank. Rahul Sharma, Head, NIIT, Jammu was also present. The organizing committee comprised Dr Renu Rajput, Prof Malti Rajput, Prof Neelam Thapa, Prof Sugandha Mahajan and Prof Rajinder Kumar.

## 'Wildlife Week' celebration DC Ramban presides over awareness programme at NCI

RAMBAN, OCTOBER 6: Department of Wildlife Protection today organized an awareness programme here in New Convent Institute (NCI), Ramban as a part of the ongoing 'Wildlife Week' celebration.

On the occasion, Deputy Commissioner, Mussarat Islam presided over the function. The event, organised by the Department of Wildlife Protection, Chenab Division Kishtwar, and Range Batote- Ramban, also witnessed debate and painting competitions on the theme 'Conservation of Forest and Livelihood'. The principal of the Host School, Mehboob Khan, Range Officer, Wildlife, Mansoor Ahmed and other officers, staff members and students also participated in the programme. Highlighting the objectives of observing Wildlife Week, the Deputy Commissioner urged the participants, particularly the children, to adopt an eco-friendly lifestyle. The Department is conducting week-long awareness programmes all over the UT of Jammu and Kashmir to create awareness among people about the importance of conservation of wildlife, habitat and the environment in general. The Deputy Commissioner marked the students as future nation builders and asked them to contribute towards sustainable development and protection of the environment including maintaining ecological balance on the earth. The DC also appreciated the students for their presentations in the e debate and painting competitions and asked them to regularly take part in extracurricular activities for their overall personality development. Meanwhile, the speakers sensitized the participants about the protection of wildlife species and forests. Later, the Department of Wildlife Protection also distributed prizes among the winners and participants of the competitions.

## DC Reasi flags of Van for distribution of spawned bags of Button Mushroom

REASI, OCTOBER 6: Agriculture Prod. & Farmers Welfare Department, Reasi today kick started the distribution of pasteurized spawned bags of Button Mushroom. The refrigerated van carrying 1st lot of 950 bags was flagged off by Worthy District Development Commissioner, Reasi, Babila Rakwal. About 50-100 farmers are likely to be benefited by Mushroom cultivation in the coming season. Approximately 4000 bags will be distributed to the farmers during the current season and about 12 tonnes of mushroom is supposed to be produced in district Reasi. Harbans Singh, Chief Agriculture Officer, Reasi briefed the Deputy Commissioner Reasi about the cultivation of different mushroom species in the district in the past one year. Amit Sharma -Mushroom Dev. Officer-Reasi, Mushroom experts of the department Jasbir Singh, Kumar Gaurav, Swarn Jamwal, the officers of allied departments of Agriculture Sector viz. Chief Horticulture Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Reasi accompanied the District Development Commissioner during the flag off ceremony.

## BLO wise progress of SSR 2022 reviewed at Town Hall Kupwara



KUPWARA, OCTOBER 6: On the directions of District Election Officer (DEO), Kupwara, Doifode Sagar Dattatray, ADC Kupwara, Ghulam Nabi Bhat today convened a series of meetings with BLOs, Supervisors and other concerned officers of Kupwara, Lolab and Trehgam Assembly constituencies to review the progress of enrolment of new voters under Special Summary Revision (SSR) 2022.

The ADC reviewed BLO wise data and received feedback from the concerned BLOs.

Addressing the meeting, the ADC asked all the BLOs to ensure completion of enrolment of voters within 2 days positively. He directed them to speed up the efforts of door to door visit of each household so that no voter is left unregistered. He said the main objective of holding these series of meetings is to ensure that all new voters get registered so that they can exercise their right to vote.

Dy. DEO Kupwara, Mehraj-u-din Wani; ACR Kupwara, Jowhar Ali, besides, Election staff and other concerned were present in the meeting.

## ICDS Project Buffliaz organises awareness programme on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao



M S Nazki

Surankote: An awareness programme on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao was today organised by ICDS Project Buffliaz here at Buffliaz area in Surankote Tehsil of Poonch district

Sarpanch Tahira Tabassum Sarpanch Buffliaz B , was the chief guest on the occasion and CDPO Nisar Ahmad guest of honour.

The programme was attended by teaching staff/ students of the School, Sarpanchs, Panchs, frontline workers from ICDS, Supervisors, Girls children and a huge gathering of the locals.

At the onset, Sarpanch Tahira Tabassum delivered a detailed lecture on the need of launch of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme, its inception and objectives. He laid emphasis on the necessity to "Save and Educate the girl Child".

The BBBP aims to generate awareness among the public regarding importance of girl child and declining trend in child sex ratio is a major factor for women dis-empowerment at the present times, he said. He further added that it is our collective responsibility in the society to save and educate the girls.

Besides, a Colourful Cultural and poetic programme was presented on the occasion.

Lastly, School bags, Book's Pens and Baby Kits were also distributed

## Rotary Club Jammu Baahu gifts Desks at NSK School, Chhanni Himmat

Jammu, October 06 -Rotary Club Jammu Baahu donated Desks for one classroom at Naveen Shiksha Kendra (NSK) High School at Chhanni Himmat. The School is being run by SAVERA, a non-government organisation (NGO). The gift is part of an ongoing support system that Rotary Club Jammu Baahu has been extending to the school which is imparting quality education to children who come from an underprivileged background.

Speaking on the occasion Sourabh Sethi, President of Rotary Club Jammu Baahu congratulated the management of the school for their service towards the cause of imparting quality education to children who come from a poor background. The fact that one of the students of the school had secured over 95% marks in the Board Examination recently is the proof of the quality education being imparted in the school, he said. He also said that Rotary Club would also consider supplying winter uniforms to all the students of the school.

P.C.Kapoor, President of SAVERA, the NGO that runs the School, thanked Rotary Club of Jammu Baahu for their generous gift. He also praised the superior quality and build of the Desks and said that these were most suitable for the students.

Interact Club Jammu Baahu, comprising of the students of the School, was given new projects for completion before Diwali that would generate resources for their Interact Club and the School.

Other members of Rotary Club Jammu Baahu who were present on the occasion include Adeep Mehta, Harsh Nair and Ravinder Kaul.

## DC releases Publication highlighting Socio-economic profile of Kathua District

KATHUA, OCTOBER 6: To highlight the socio-economic and development profile of the district, District Development Commissioner Kathua Rahul Pandey released "Village Amenity Directory" for the year 2021-22 here at a brief release function organised in his office today. Chief Planning Officer, Uttam Singh; District Statistics and Evaluation Officer Kathua, Ranjeet Thakur; Assistant Director (E&S), Mahesh Kumar and other staff members of DSEO Office Kathua were present during the release ceremony. The District Statistics and Evaluation Office Kathua is the Nodal Agency for collection, compilation and dissemination of important statistical data in the district. The data contained in the publication will serve as an important tool.

## India awaits WHO information on any cough syrup link to Gambia deaths

India is awaiting World Health Organisation (WHO) evidence of a link between an Indian cough syrup and the deaths of dozens of children in Gambia after the UN agency said the medicine may cause kidney damage, two Indian officials said on Thursday.

The death of 66 children in the West African country is a blow to India's image as a "pharmacy of the world" that supplies medicines to all continents, especially Africa.

"Urgent investigation in the matter has been already taken up ... immediately after receiving communication from WHO based on the available information," said one of two health ministry staff members who spoke to Reuters on behalf of the ministry but did not want to be identified.

"While all required steps will be taken in the matter", India was awaiting a report establishing "causal relation to death with the medical products in question" and other details from the WHO.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus on Wednesday told reporters the UN agency was investigating the deaths from acute kidney injuries with India's drug regulator and New Delhi-based cough syrup manufacturer Maiden Pharmaceuticals.

The UN health agency informed the Drugs Controller General of India of the deaths late last month after which the regulator launched an investigation with state authorities, in tandem with the

WHO, the two sources said. The WHO said laboratory analysis of Maiden cough syrup had confirmed "unacceptable" amounts of diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol, which can be toxic and lead to acute kidney injury.

Telephone calls to a listed number for Maiden, which launched its operations in November 1990, went unanswered as did an emailed request for comment. Calls to the Drugs Controller General of India also went unanswered.

Maiden manufactured and exported the syrup only to Gambia, the Indian ministry sources said. Maiden says on its website it has two manufacturing plants, in Kundli and Panipat, both near New Delhi in Haryana state, and has recently set up another one.

It has an annual production capacity of 2.2 million syrup bottles, 600m capsules, 18m injections, 300,000 ointment tubes and 1.2 billion tablets. It says it sells its products at home and exports to countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The two health ministry sources said that importing countries typically test such products before allowing their use.

The WHO said the Maiden products — Promethazine Oral Solution, Kofexmalin Baby Cough Syrup, Makoff Baby Cough Syrup and Magrip N Cold Syrup — may have been distributed elsewhere through informal markets but it had only been identified in Gambia.

## 2022 Nobel Prize For Literature Goes To French Author Annie Ernaux



Stockholm: French author Annie Ernaux, known for her deceptively simple novels drawing on personal experience of class and gender, won the Nobel Literature Prize on Thursday, the jury announced.

Ms Ernaux, 82, was honoured "for the courage and clinical acuity with which she uncovers the roots, estrangements and collective restraints of personal memory", the jury said.

Interviewed on Swedish television immediately after the announcement, Ms Ernaux said it was "a great honour" and "a great responsibility". Her more than 20 books, many of which have been school texts in France for decades, offer one of the most subtle, insightful windows into the social life of modern France.

Above all Ms Ernaux's crystalline prose has excavated her own passage from working-class girl to the literary elite, casting a critical eye on social structures and her own complicated emotions.

Her legacy is the grit in the French literary oyster, or as she puts it, to offer an alternative to the "unconditional admiration for the pretty phrase."

"In her writing, Ernaux consistently and from different angles, examines a life marked by strong disparities regarding gender, language and class", the Swedish Academy noted. "Her work is uncompromising and written in plain language, scraped clean", it said.

"And when she with great courage and clinical acuity reveals the agony of the experience of class, describing shame, humiliation, jealousy or

inability to see who you are, she has achieved something admirable and enduring".

Annie Ernaux said that receiving the Nobel Literature Prize was a "great honour" but also a "great responsibility."

"I consider this to be a great honour for me and at the same time a great responsibility, a responsibility given to me," Ms Ernaux told public broadcaster SVT moments after the prize was announced. The Nobel Prize comes with a medal and a prize sum of 10 million Swedish kronor (about \$911,400).

Last year, the award went to Tanzanian-born novelist Abdulrazak Gurnah, whose work focuses on the plight of refugees and exile, colonialism and racism.

Ms Ernaux will receive the Nobel from King Carl XVI Gustaf at a formal ceremony in Stockholm on December 10, the anniversary of the 1896 death of scientist Alfred Nobel who created the prizes in his last will and testament.

Ms Ernaux, whose name has circulated in Nobel speculation for several years, is the 17th woman to win the prestigious prize, out of 119 literature laureates since the first Nobel was awarded in 1901.

The Swedish Academy has in recent years pledged to make the prize more diverse, after a 2017-2018 #MeToo scandal that left it in tatters.

Famed — and lambasted — for its Eurocentric Nobel picks dominated by men, the jury has repeatedly maintained, however, that its prize is neither political nor subject to gender or ethnic quotas.

## Indian-origin family kidnapped in California on Monday found dead, Sheriff says

Four members of a California family, including

ther, Jasdeep Singh, 36, and the baby's uncle,

Warnke said that the motivation for the crime was



an 8-month-old girl, were found dead in a rural area on Wednesday after they were abducted in the city of Merced on Monday, authorities said.

According to Hindustan Times, the family was of Indian origin and went missing earlier this week.

The victims were identified as the baby, Aroohi Dheri, who was abducted along with her mother, Jasleen Kaur, 27, her fa-

Amandeep Singh, 39. Police say the four were abducted from the family's trucking company in Merced, about 150 miles (240 km) east of San Jose.

"Tonight our worst fears have been confirmed. We found the four people from the kidnapping and they are in fact deceased, Merced County Sheriff Vernon Warnke said in a media briefing.

Describing the incident as "horribly senseless",

not known yet, adding that they were alerted by a farm worker.

Authorities in Merced County said Jesus Manuel Salgado, 48, was a suspect in the family's deaths and was in custody.

They were attempting to speak with Salgado, who was hospitalized after trying to kill himself before being taken into custody, to determine whether another person was involved, Warnke had said

## Ex-cop kills 22 children, 12 others in Thailand daycare mass shooting

A former policeman killed 34 people including 22 children in a gun rampage at a daycare centre in eastern Thailand on Thursday, later shooting dead his wife and child at their home before turning his weapon on himself, police said.

Police identified the attacker as a former member of the force who was dismissed from his post last year over drug allegations. He was facing trial on a drugs charge and had been in court in the hours before the shooting, police said.

District police official Chakkraphat Wichitvaidya cited witnesses as saying the gunman was also seen wielding a knife in the attack in the town of Uthai Sawan, 500 km (310 miles) northeast of Bangkok in the province of Nong Bua Lamphu.

About 30 children were at the centre when the gunman arrived, fewer than usual, as heavy rain had kept many people away, district official Jidapa Boonsom, who was working in a nearby office at the time, told Re-



uters. The shooter came in around lunch time and shot four or five officials at the childcare centre first," said Jidapa, adding that among them was a teacher who was eight months pregnant.

At first people thought the shots were fireworks, she said.

"It's really shocking. We were very scared and running to hide once we knew it was shooting. So many children got killed, I've never seen anything like it."

The gunman forced his way into a locked room where children were

sleeping, Jidapa said. She said she thought he killed children there with a knife.

Videos posted on social media showed sheets covering what appeared to be the bodies of children lying in pools of blood.

Reuters could not immediately authenticate the footage.

Police spokesperson Paisan Luesomboon told broadcaster ThaiPBS the gunman had been at a court hearing in connection with a drug case earlier on Thursday and had gone to the daycare centre to find his child, but the child was not there.

during a news conference on Wednesday morning.

"We are devastated. We are shocked. We are dying every moment," a relative who gave only his first name, Balwinder, said during that news conference.

Warnke said they had notified the family about the deaths.

"We got information from the suspect. We are going to keep that close to our chest at this point, but that suspect has in fact been talking to us," Warnke said.

Police had shown a surveillance video from outside the trucking company showing a man whose face was obscured by a medical-style mask leading away Jasdeep and Amandeep Singh, then Kaur and her daughter.

Police were alerted to the crime after finding Amandeep Singh's black 2020 Dodge Ram pickup truck burning on the side of a county road. While investigating, sheriff's deputies were unable to reach the family.

## Got A Request To "Press The Russians... Which We Did": S Jaishankar On Ukraine

Auckland, New Zealand: India is willing to do whatever it can to facilitate a solution to the Ukraine crisis, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said today, as he highlighted how India pressed Moscow on the safety of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant in Ukraine when the two countries stepped up fighting near the highly sensitive facility.

Mr Jaishankar, who is in New Zealand on his first visit to New Zealand as the External Affairs Minister, during a lengthy interaction with Simon Bridges, the CEO of Auckland Business Chamber, said when it comes to Ukraine, it is natural that different countries and different regions would react a little differently.

The people will view it from their viewpoint, their immediate interest, historical experiences, their insecurities, he said.

"To me, the diversities of the world which are quite evident will also naturally lead to a differential response and I would not disrespect the position of other countries as I can see that many of them are coming from their threat perception, their anxiety, their equities in Ukraine," he said.

In this situation, Mr Jaishankar said he would see what India can do, "which obviously would be in the Indian interest, but also in the best interest of the world."



"When I was in the United Nations, the big concern at that time was the safety of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant because there was some fighting going on in the very proximity to it," he said.

"There was a request to us to press the Russians on that issue which we did. There have been other concerns at various points of time, either different countries have raised with us or the UN has raised with us. I think at this time whatever we can do, we will be willing to do," Mr Jaishankar said.

The Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Station in southeastern Ukraine is the largest nuclear power plant in Europe.

"If we take up a position and voice our views, I don't think countries would disregard that, and that we were visible in a meeting between my Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) and President (Vladimir) Putin," he said, referring to the

meeting between the two top leaders in Asthana on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) on September 16.

He also talked about India's aspiration to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council, saying big problems of the day cannot be solved by one, two or even five countries.

"And when we look at the reforms, we have an interest in becoming a permanent member of the security council. It is also because we think in different ways and we voice the interests and aspirations of a broad set of countries," he said.

He spoke about climate change and the Covid pandemic to highlight the discriminatory policies.

"If you travel today, especially to South Africa, there is a very strong sense of anger about how they have been treated during the pandemic. And today that sense of frustration that the world is not listening to, I see in

respect of issues like food and fuel," he said.

He said there is a feeling that their inability to deal with the daily necessities of life is disregarded by more established or powerful nations around the world.

"We have tended to look naturally at Ukraine to some degree as a kind of an East-West issue. I think there is a north-south aspect to the consequences of the Ukraine conflict," he added.

"For us when you look at reformed global architecture, we say very clearly that India should be in the reformed security council. But we say equally strongly, that the entire continent of Africa has been excluded, and Latin America has been excluded," he added.

Somewhere the system has also to cater not necessarily to the big guns if there has to be a larger legitimacy, Mr Jaishankar added.

There is a larger issue here, there is an aspect of fairness and justice.

On ties with New Zealand, he said: "Opportunities to work together are far more realistic and practical." "We need to look at each other very objectively, creatively and positively and what are the strengths we should play and try to build a stronger relationship," he said.

He said one area of focus in bilateral ties with New Zealand would be business.

## India, New Zealand "Must Form Post-Colonial Order": S Jaishankar

Auckland: Nations like India and New Zealand have a particular responsibility of forging a post-colonial order that will provide global prosperity and stability, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Thursday, as he discussed pressing issues like the security situation in the Indo-Pacific and the consequences of the Ukraine conflict with his New Zealand counterpart.

Mr Jaishankar, who is in Auckland on his first visit to New Zealand as the External Affairs Minister, held "warm and productive" talks with his New Zealand counterpart Nanaia Mahuta.

"Warm and productive talks with New Zealand Foreign Minister @NanaiaMahuta this afternoon. Two societies, respectful of tradition and culture, are seeking to forge a more contemporary relationship," Mr Jaishankar tweeted after the meeting.

"Appreciated the exchange of views on (issues of) international concerns such as the Indo-Pacific and the Ukraine conflict. Value our working together in multilateral forums including the UN and Commonwealth," he said.

"I see this, not just as a visit, but really an endeavour by two countries very respectful of each other's traditions and culture, very conscious of their diverse nature, to forge a more contemporary relationship, and a more contemporary one," Mr Jaishankar said at a joint press interaction with Mahuta.

"I think we do recognise today that countries like India and New Zealand have a particular responsibility in forging a post-colonial order, which is fairer, which is more equitable, and which will provide the prosperity and stability to large parts of the world with which we are historically linked," he said.

He said a large part of his conversation with Mahuta went to strengthening our bilateral relationship.

"The sum and substance of it was really an understanding that we should play to each other's strengths, which specif-

ically meant business, education, technology, digital world, agricultural trade, talent, and most of all people to people connect because that's at the heart of both our societies," he said.

There was also a very open discussion on how India and New Zealand together will shape the larger region, the Indo-Pacific region, he said.

"There was a discussion on some current, some pressing issues like the security situation in the Indo-Pacific, the consequences of the Ukraine conflict," he added.

India, the US and several other world powers have been talking about the need to ensure a free, open and thriving Indo-Pacific in the backdrop of China's rising military manoeuvring in the resource-rich region.

China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all claim parts of it. Beijing has built artificial islands and military installations in the South China Sea. China also has territorial disputes with Japan in the East China Sea.

India has repeatedly emphasised on the immediate cessation of hostilities in Ukraine and the need to resolve the ongoing conflict through dialogue and diplomacy. "...and naturally we spent some time on the major global issues, most of all climate action, climate justice," Mr Jaishankar said.

He mentioned some of the initiatives which India has been sponsoring over the last few years - the International Solar Alliance, the Coalition for the Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, the Initiative for the Resilient Island States.

He also highlighted the "importance of collaborating not just bilaterally, but with other countries to deal with contingencies like pandemics, which we know will surely recur at some point in time and, of course, other common concerns, maritime security for example."

"We spoke a bit about the need for better air connectivity," he said.

## UK Home Secretary Doubts Trade Pact With India Over 'Open Borders'

London: Britain's India-origin Home Secretary, Suella Braverman, has cast doubts over a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) with India over the issue of migration and branded Indians as the "largest group of people who overstay" their visas in the UK.

Expressing concerns over what she feared would be an "open borders" migration policy in an interview with 'The Spectator' on Thursday, the senior minister seemed to indicate that she would not offer Cabinet backing to a trade deal that offers India greater visa concessions.

It would pitch her in a possible clash with British Prime Minister Liz Truss, who wants an FTA with India - now in the final round of negotiations - within the Diwali deadline set by her predecessor Boris Johnson.

"I have concerns about having an open borders migration policy with India because I don't think that's what people voted for with Brexit," Ms Braverman told the British weekly news maga-

zine. Asked about visa flexibility for students and entrepreneurs under an India-UK FTA, she said: "But I do have some reservations. Look at migration in this country - the largest group of people who overstay are Indian migrants." "We even reached an agreement with the Indian government last year to encourage and facilitate better cooperation in this regard. It has not necessarily worked very well," the 42-year-old minister said.

Ms Braverman was referencing the Migration and Mobility Partnership (MMP) clinched between her predecessor in the Home Office, India-origin former Home Secretary Priti Patel, and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in May last year. "This landmark agreement with our close partners in the government of India will provide new opportunities to thousands of young people in the UK and India seeking to live, work and experience each other's cultures. This agreement will also ensure.



On way to Immersion, Kolkata. Oct 5, 2022. H.T. Photo SOURAV DUTTA

## West Indies Player Blasts Unbeaten 205 Off 77 Balls In T20 Match In USA

Rahkeem Cornwall, the West Indies cricketer, achieved one of the rarest feats as he slammed a double century in a T20 game in the USA. Cornwall blasted 22 massive sixes to remain unbeaten on 205 off just 77 balls while playing for Atlanta Fire in a tournament called Atlanta Open T20 Cricket Tournament.

While videos have been circulating on social media of the innings, the information was confirmed by reputed statistician Mohandas Menon in a tweet. "West Indian Rahkeem Cornwall, while playing for Atlanta Fire, blasted an unbeaten 205 in just 77 balls (SR 266.23) that included 22 sixes and 17 fours in an American T20 competition known as the Atlanta Open. A prize money of \$75,000 is available to the winning team." West Indian Rahkeem Cornwall, while playing for Atlanta Fire, blasted an unbeaten 205 in just 77 balls (SR 266.23) that included 22 sixes and 17 fours in an American T20 competition known as the Atlanta Open. A prize money of \$75,000 is available to the winning team..

## India bowlers must start delivering in final overs: Dravid



NEW DELHI: India's T20 bowlers need to lift their game in the final overs, head coach Rahul Dravid has said, after pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah's injury ruled him out of this month's World Cup. Rohit Sharma's men have haemorrhaged runs at the tail-end of their recent T20 series against both South Africa and Australia, conceding 73 in the last five overs of Tuesday's loss to the Proteas at Indore. "We have to look at how we can get better," Dravid told reporters after the match. "Certainly that's an area that we would like to improve and get better at because margins can be really small in these big tournaments, and every boundary can matter." A back injury to Bumrah, who is known as "yorker king" for his ability to bowl the toe-crushing deliveries, has been a big blow to India ahead of the showpiece T20 tournament in Australia, which starts on Oct 16. Dravid said the team will miss the speedster but are in no hurry to name his replacement. "Bumrah's absence is a big loss, he's been a great player but it happens, it's an opportunity for someone else to stand up," Dravid said. The head coach added that Mohammed Shami would be an "ideal" replacement but it was too soon to tell whether the pacer had recovered from his recent bout with Covid. "We have to get reports as to how he is recovering and what's his status... and we will take a call," he said. Shami, Deepak Chahar and Mohammed Siraj are seen as the front-runners to replace Bumrah. While Siraj and Chahar were part of India's 2-1 T20 series win over South Africa, Shami has been out of action after failing to recover in time. "Shami obviously is someone who's in the standbys, but unfortunately for us, he couldn't play this [South Africa] series, which would have been ideal from that perspective," Dravid told reporters. Shami is undergoing recovery at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru. The Indian team management and selectors have until Oct 15 to name the replacement. Captain Rohit Sharma said the team would be looking at players who have previous experience of bowling in Australia. "I don't know who that guy is yet. There are a few guys in the reckoning for that, but we'll make that call once we reach Australia," he added. Top-ranked India's World Cup squad will depart for Perth on Thursday to get used to local conditions.

## My Youth My Pride Wheelchair Basketball camp commences in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: Wheelchair Basketball Federation of India (WBFI) is organizing Training and Selection of Indian Wheelchair Women Team from 6th October to 1st November 2022 and the Voluntary Medicare Society (VMS) has teamed up with J&K Sports Council to host the event.

16 Female wheelchair players selected by WBFI from different states of India including 2 women players from J&K will be part of the Camp. Besides, two national coaches including renowned basketball coach George will impart training to the players. Secretary J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul presided over the inaugural function as chief guest. Speaking on the occasion, Secretary Sports Council said that she was overwhelmed to see the enthusiasm of the participants in spite of physical shortcomings they are chasing their dreams and that the government shall



provide all possible help to them in realizing their potential and fulfilling their dreams. Dr. Mir Mohammad Maqbool, President VMS presented the welcome address while Coach George presented vote of thanks for the cooperation ex-

tended by authorities to VMS Management for the smooth conduct of this event. Medical Superintendent SKIMS Medical College and Hospital, Dr. Shifa while speaking on the occasion appreciated the efforts of J&K Sports Council and VMS in promoting the sports activities for special athletes.

Training and selection process shall continue at multipurpose indoor hall Shadipora Bandipora for twenty five days.

In the meantime, J&K Sports Council in collaboration with J&K Yogasana Sports Association is organizing a UT Level Yogasana Sports Championship in Sher-I Kashmir Indoor Stadium Srinagar. 15 Districts of the UT are participating in the two day event which shall culminate tomorrow.

More than 370 athletes and 50 officials including judges from other districts and Sports Authority of India will officiate and monitor the event.

## Ukraine joins Spain and Portugal in 2030 World Cup bid

NYON: War-torn Ukraine has joined Spain and Portugal in their bid to host the 2030 FIFA World Cup, the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) and the Portuguese Football Federation (FPF) said on Wednesday, in what they hailed as an act of European solidarity.

They said the decision, announced at a news conference at the Swiss headquarters of UEFA, had the full support of European football's governing body and also of the Spanish, Portuguese and Ukrainian governments.

The original proposal was made public two years ago but has been given a political impetus by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"The institutional headquarters are in Madrid, the administrative headquarters are in Lisbon. Now the Ukrainian delegation will unite with us," RFEF president Luis Rubiales said.

"Our bid is not an Iberian bid anymore, it's a European bid. I'm convinced that now our bid is much better than before. Football is universal and if it is capable of changing the life of people in so many ways it should also be used for doing good.

"In the coming months, we will come to work on practicalities," he added. The Spain, Portugal and



Ukraine bid for the 2030 tournament will compete against other candidacies such as a collaboration between Egypt, Greece and Saudi Arabia, and a joint South American proposal from Uruguay, Argentina, Paraguay and Chile. "We are convinced that by 2030 we will have peace in Europe and that Ukraine will be able to host it (the tournament) in the best way possible," said FPF president Fernando Soares Gomes da Silva.

The head of Ukraine's football federation, Andriy Pavelko, also attended Wednesday's news conference.

Russian forces invaded Ukraine on Feb 24 in the largest military operation seen in Europe since World War Two. Tens of thousands of

people have been killed during seven months of fighting, millions have fled and cities and towns have been reduced to rubble.

Moscow calls its action a "special military operation" to disarm and "denazify" Ukraine, while Kyiv and its Western allies say it is an illegal land grab.

RFEF, which organised the 1982 edition, said in a statement the idea was backed by UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin.

"The Royal Spanish Football Federation and the Portuguese Football Federation (FPF) have incorporated the Ukrainian Football Association (UAF) into the Iberian Bid to organise the 2030 World Cup," RFEF said.

"With the full support of Aleksander Ceferin, the

Iberian bid incorporates the federation chaired by Andriy Pavelko in order to build bridges and project a message of unity, solidarity and generosity from all of European football.

"The candidacy strengthens ties with Europe by generating hope and providing reconstruction tools to the Ukrainian people, who have expressed their pride and gratitude for participating in this project."

Portugal held the 2004 European Championship while Ukraine was a joint host with Poland of Euro 2012.

"The example of tenacity and resilience set by the Ukrainian people is inspiring," the FPF said.

"The FPF added that the joint bid "aims to contribute through the power of football to the recovery of a country undergoing reconstruction".

It added the terms of Ukraine's role in the bid "will be discussed and defined in due course".

The 2026 edition has already been awarded to three countries — Canada, Mexico and the United States.

More than half of the 21 World Cup finals already staged have been in Europe but later this year Qatar will host the finals, the first time they have been played in the Middle East.

## Thailand Women Register Historic Win Over Pakistan In Women's Asia Cup 2022

Half-century from Natthakan Chantham helped Thailand register their first-ever victory against Pakistan by four wickets in their Asia Cup match at Sylhet International Cricket Stadium on Thursday. With this win, Thailand have climbed to the fifth position in the Asia Cup points table, with two points and one victory in three matches. Pakistan are in the second position in the points table with four points and two victories in three matches. In the first innings, Pakistan posted 116/5 in 20 overs. Sidra Ameen scored a brilliant half-century, scoring 56 off 64 balls. Sorannarin Tippoch took 2/20 in her quota of four overs. Other bowlers also bowled economical spells putting brakes on Pakistan's run flow. The target of 117 was chased down by Thailand with four wickets in their hand, thanks to 61 by Chantham.

Chasing 117, wicketkeeper-batter Nannapat Koncharoenkai and Chantham gave a solid start to Thailand, amassing 40 runs for the first wicket. However, twin strikes from spinner Tuba Hassan (2/18) sent back Koncharoenkai (13) and Chanida Suththiruang (0), reducing Thailand to 40/2.

Then, captain Naruemon Chaiwai joined Chantham to take the chase forward. The duo kept the scoreboard ticking for a while. Medium pacer Kainat Intiaz broke the 42-run stand between the duo by sending back Chaiwai for 17 off 23 balls. Thailand was at 82/3.

At this point, Thailand needed 35 runs in 27 balls. Following this, Chantham brought up her half-century and kept braving the fall of wickets from the other side. She fell to spinner Nida Dar for 61 off 51 balls. Thailand was 105/6 in 18.4 overs, needing 12 runs in eight balls.

Nattaya Boochatham (3\*) and Rosenan Kanoh (9\*) took Thailand across the finishing line, with a ball to spare and four wickets in hand.

Tuba Hassan (2/18), Nida Dar (2/26) were the standout bowlers for Pakistan. Nushra Sandhu and Kainat Intiaz took a wicket each.

Earlier, Pakistan opted to bat first. Thipatcha Puthawong trapped Muneeba Ali for 15 off 14 balls, leaving Pakistan at 25/1. captain Bismah Maroof was run out for 3, leaving Pakistan at 43/2.

Sidra Ameen and Nida Dar then kept the scoreboard going, stitching a stand of 41-runs before Nida was dismissed by Tippoch for just 12.

Ameen kept one end steady, bringing up her half-century. Ayesha Naseem was dismissed by Tippoch for 8 and the bowler got her second wicket of the match. Ameen was also run out in the final over.

Pakistan ended their things at 116/5 in 20 overs.

## Team India's T20 World Cup-Bound Squad Departs For Australia

Rohit Sharma-led Team India departed for Australia for the upcoming ICC Men's T20 World Cup in the early hours of Thursday morning. The 2007 champions will look to win the crown this year after failing to make the semi-finals last year. Before the World Cup, Team India managed to gain some momentum after defeating Australia and South Africa in the respective bilateral series and one now hopes that India are able to go all the way in the tournament. The official social media handles of BCCI posted the picture of the entire Team India contingent departing for the T20 World Cup. "Picture perfect, let's do this #TeamIndia. @cricketworldcup here we come." India might have won the T20I series against Australia and South Africa on home soil, however, there are some big concerns as the team gears up to take part in the T20 World Cup in Australia. If the side wants to win the marquee event, all three departments of the game need to work in unison, which has not happened for Rohit Sharma and co off late. Stars like Virat Kohli, Hardik Pandya and Suryakumar Yadav also shared pics of the squad departing for Australia. Death bowling has emerged as one of the biggest concerns for the side, and with Jasprit Bumrah being ruled out of the tournament, one does not know how the side can fix the problem that is quickly turning out to be their achilles' heel. There is no like-for-like replacement for Hardik Pandya in the squad, and if the premier all-rounder gets injured midway during the tournament, the balance of the side will go haywire and the management will be left with a severe headache. The official social media handles of BCCI posted the picture of the entire Team India contingent departing for the T20 World Cup. "Picture perfect, let's do this #TeamIndia. @cricketworldcup here we come." India might have won the T20I series against Australia and South Africa on home soil, however, there are some big concerns as the team gears up to take part in the T20 World Cup.

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