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HEADLINES TODAY

NEWS IN BRIEF

Teenage girl jumps in Jhelum in Sopore, searches on

Sopore, Dec 12: A 17-year-old girl jumped in the river Jhelum in Sopore area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district on Monday even as search and rescue operation has been launched.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer that the girl, a student of 9th standard, jumped in the river near Jamia bridge.

He said following the incident, locals and police rushed to the spot to launch search and rescue operation. He added the searches were going on when the reports last came in—

Mughal Road Reopens After 4 Days Closure Due To Snowfall

M S Nazki

Poonch, Dec 12 Mughal Road, connecting twin districts of Poonch and Rajouri with Shopian, was thrown open for traffic after remaining closed due to snowfall on December 8, officials said.

DySP Traffic Rajouri Poonch Range Aftab Bukhari confirmed to HT that thoroughfare has reopened.

SMC sweeper dies in road accident in Srinagar's Soura

Srinagar, Dec 12: A sweeper working in Srinagar Municipal Corporation died in a road accident in Soura area of Srinagar on Monday. An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer that Peroz Ahmad Sheikh of Bijbehara, at present Aachar Soura, was injured after being hit by a vehicle in Soura area today.

He said the locals rushed him to SKIMS Soura for treatment, however, he succumbed to his injuries. Meanwhile, Police have taken cognizance of the incident—

4 gamblers arrested in Baramulla: Police

Srinagar, Dec 12 Jammu and Kashmir Police in Baramulla claimed to have arrested four gamblers and seized stake money from their possession.

A police spokesman in a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said that acting on specific information about gambling activities at Shalboni Hanjiwera Pattan, a police party led by SI Athar Parvazi I/C PP Mirgund raided the specific site and arrested four gamblers on the spot. They have been identified as Shabir Ahmad Bhat, son of Mohammad Yousuf Bhat, Mohammad Iqbal Sheikh, son of Bashir Ahmad Sheikh, Mohammad Ashraf Bhat, son of Ghulam Nabi Bhat and Hilal Ahmad Wani, son of Ghulam Mohammad Wani all residents of Hanjiwera Pattan.

"Officers have seized stake money of Rs 1,500 and playing cards from the gamblers. They have been shifted to the police station where they remain in custody. Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Pattan and investigation has been taken up," police said. Meanwhile, police said that persons found indulging in criminal activities shall be dealt with as per law. "Community members are requested to share information regarding the crimes in their neighbourhood with the local police units," police said—

Govt forms 3-member panel to look into 'irregularities' in F&E deptt

Srinagar, Dec 12 The Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday constituted a three-member committee to look into the allegations of irregularities in the Fire and Emergency department.

An order under number 1513-JK(GAD)of2022, dated 12-12-2022 issued by Secretary to the Government, Piyush Singla, a copy of which lies with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) reads that sanction is hereby accorded to the constitution of a Committee to look into the irregularities in the selection process of Fireman/Fireman Drivers of 2020 in the Fire & Emergency Department. As per the order, Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief

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With focus on People-First, J&K Entering into a Golden Age : LG Manoj Sinha

Pays tributes to General Zorawar Singh on his Martyrdom Day

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, DECEMBER 12: Lieu-

country proud by his unparalleled bravery & military tactics. He will continue to inspire gen-



tenant Governor Manoj Sinha today paid tributes to General Zorawar Singh on his Martyrdom Day.

"One of the greatest military commanders of the world, General Zorawar Singh made the

erations to come", said the Lt Governor. The Lt Governor was attending the event organized by General Zorawar Singh Memorial Educational and Charitable Trust.

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'Ehad-E-Kashmir' ; A Docu-Drama Released by LG Manoj Sinha

'Ehad-e-Kashmir' captures the story of Kashmir & changes it has witnessed over the years: LG

JAMMU, DECEMBER 12: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today released the docu-drama 'Ehad-e-Kashmir', produced by JK News Today, during an event held at the Convention Centre.

Appreciating JK News Today group for the sincere effort to depict the story of Kashmir, the Lt Governor said that the docu-drama captures the story of Kashmir and changes it has witnessed over the years.

The film shed lights on new dawn of development, peo-

ple's aspirations and decisive action against Pakistan-sponsored terror ecosystem, added the Lt Governor.

Reiterating the government's commitment to achieving new milestones with respect to growth and inclusive development, the Lt Governor said, all the tools of governance are working for the welfare of people. Article 370 gave secessionism, terrorism, nepotism and large scale corruption to Jammu Kashmir. Article 370 denied due rights to our brothers and sisters and it was used by Pakistan to spread terrorism. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji with its abrogation ushered a new

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Lt Governor chairs the meeting of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board



HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, DECEMBER 12: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired the meeting of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDDB) at the Raj Bhavan today.

The meeting was attended by all members of SMVDDB - Mahamandleshwar Swami Vishveshvaranand Giri Maharaj; Sh. Baleswar Rai; Dr Ashok Bhan; Sh. Kul Bhushan Ahuja; Dr Neelam Sareen; Sh. K K Sharma; Sh. Suresh Ku-

mar Sharma (Retd. Judge) and Sh. Raghu K. Mehta. Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary and Sh. Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer of the Shrine Board were present.

The Lt Governor, who is the chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, launched various initiatives to provide diverse facilities to the pilgrims and devotees. He also ascertained progress of the work for ease of

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 10

56 foreign militants killed this year, figure largest in past several years: DGP Dilbagh Singh

Says out of 109 new militants, 86 killed, 23 remaining

HT NEWS DESK

Jammu, Dec 12: Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbagh Singh Monday said that this year 56 foreign militants were killed and the figure is largest in the past several years while as out of the 109 new militants, 86 were killed and just 23 are remaining.

He also said that number of both foreign as well as local militants has been brought to just two digits only. Talking to reporters on the side-lines of a function in Jammu, DGP Dilbagh said that this year security forces achieved a major success against militancy. "This year 56 foreign militants were killed and the figure is largest if compared to past several years," he said, as per news agency—KHe said that the out of the "109 new



militants", 86 were killed in various encounters while only 23 are remaining who are on the radar of police and will be killed shortly.

Asked about the number of active mil-

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One-way traffic to ply from Srinagar along Sgr-Leh highway today: Officials

HT NEWS DESK

Ganderbal, Dec 12: Authorities on Monday decided to allow one-way traffic towards Srinagar from Kargil along Srinagar-Leh highway on Tuesday.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that in view of frost and slippery conditions of the road, tomorrow subject to fair weather and road clearance, only one way traffic from Kargil towards Srinagar shall be allowed on Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumri road.

"All these vehicles shall be allowed from Minamarg at 1000 hrs, LMVs followed by HMVs up to 1300 hrs, and Motorists are advised to carry an anti-skid chain to gain more grip on the slippery road."

Furthermore, the official said that "no vehicles shall be allowed without anti-skid chains. Security forces shall follow the same schedule. No vehicle shall be allowed before and after cutting off timings."

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Disciplinary action initiated against 92 employees for remaining absent in Anantnag

HT NEWS DESK

Anantnag, Dec 12: The authorities on Monday initiated disciplinary action against 92 employees for remaining absent from duties in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer that a district wide drive was held on the direction of Deputy Commissioner Anantnag Dr Basharat Qayoom during which 92 employees were found absent.

He deputy commissioner has issued directions to the concerned officials to initiate disciplinary action against these employees.

He added the heads of concerned offices have also

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No confidence motion against Mayor Mattu to be filed in two days: BJP Councillor

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Dec 12: Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) Councillor from Srinagar, Nazir Ahmad Gilkar on Monday said that a group of independent corporators will submit no confidence motion against incumbent City Mayor Junaid Azim Matuu in next two days.

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CS reviews progress on implementation of RDSS across J&K

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, DECEMBER 12: Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta today chaired a meeting to review the progress on implementation of Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) across Jammu and Kashmir at Civil Secretariat here.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, PDD, H Rajesh Prasad; Managing Director, JPDCL/KPDCL, Managing Director, JKPCD, DG, Budget, DG Accounts and Treasuries, Chief Engineers and other concerned officers both in person and through video conferencing. Chairing the meeting, the Chief Secretary said that the RDSS has been initiated with an objective of improving financial sustainability of Power Distribution Companies (DISCOMS) and therefore all the ongoing works under the scheme should be completed timely so that the desired



objective of scheme is achieved. He called upon the officers that unnecessary delays should be avoided and due convergence and synergy should be maintained with other departments so that any kind issues are timely sorted. While reviewing the financial position of both the corporations, Dr. Mehta emphasized upon the officers to reduce AT&C losses so that the expected re-

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JPA case: HC orders personal appearance of Registrar KU, on December 13

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Dec 12: The High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh has again directed for personal appearance of the Registrar of the Kashmir University (KU) for the second time in 15 days related to a alleged case of delay by the University in regularization of a petitioner applicants as Junior Professional Assistants (JPA).

"Registrar, University of Kashmir, shall appear in person on the next date of hearing," a bench of Justices Moksha Khajuria Kazmi and Sanjeev Kumar said in the judgment on December 5, 2022, when the Registrar of the University was already present in person in compliance with the earlier court direction of November 23, 2022.

The news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) has learnt that on November 23, a bench of Justices Rajesh Sekhri and Tashi Rabstan had directed for personal appearance of the Registrar KU on the next date of hearing (December 5) when the KU's Counsel, Mr. T H Khwaja, prayed for grant of 10 days time "to do the needful" in terms of Order dated 01.09.2022.

"We feel that the respondents are in the process of imple-

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Kashmir parties raise concern on Unique family IDs

HT NEWS DESK | (UNI)

Srinagar, Dec 10 (UNI) Kashmir centric People's Democratic Party (PDP) and National Conference on Monday raised concern over the J&K administration's proposed plan of creating unique family IDs.

While PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti termed the J&K administration's proposed plan as another "surveillance tactic to tighten the iron grip" on the lives of Kashmiris, the NC asked why is such an exercise needed in the first place.

The J & K government plans to create an authentic database of all families in the Union Territory. The plan was unveiled at a recent national conference on e-governance in Katra in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir. The administration said the objective behind the

plan was the easy selection of eligible beneficiaries of various social welfare schemes.

Mufti said the plan was em-

tactic to tighten the iron grip on their lives," the former chief minister said in a tweet.

National Conference on Mon-



blematic of the widening "trust deficit" after the 2019 abrogation of Article 370.

"Creating 'a unique family ID' for J&K residents is emblematic of the widening trust deficit esp post 2019. Kashmiris are viewed with deep suspicion & this is another surveillance

day said the issuance of unique IDs is not needed and that the government should instead focus more on effective deliverance of existing schemes.

Party's chief spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq in a statement said that there is already a web of government issued docu-

ments to people through which government agencies determine the identification and subsequent eligibility of beneficiaries for receiving various social welfare benefits and schemes.

"Why is such an exercise needed in the first place? There is already enough data available with the government agencies in terms of Aadhaar through which benefits like direct bank transfer (DBT) are reaching to end beneficiaries. It's an utter wastage of resources, time and money. At a time, when the government's attention should be focused on fixing the development deficit, administrative inertia and unemployment, it's focussing on such non-issues," he said. "Such proposed exercise should not be a priority of the government while as there are many basic

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DDMA Shopian provides Immediate Relief to fire victims of Zawoora



SHOPIAN, DECEMBER 12: On the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Assistant Commissioner, Revenue, Shopian, Shahbaz Ahmed Bodha in presence of DDC Member, Accounts Officer, Shopian today handed over immediate relief among three fire victims of Zawoora Buderhama whose residential houses got damaged in a fire inci-

dent yesterday. The Assistant Commissioner sympathized with the families and assured all possible help from the District Administration. Essential assistance in the form of bedding, furnishings and kitchen ware was provided under Distinct Disaster Management Authority Shopian as an interim relief to the fire victims.

DC Srinagar reviews construction of Migrant Transit Accommodation, additional 20 kanals of land being allotted for the purpose

SRINAGAR DECEMBER 12: In order to review the progress of Migrant Transit Accommodations, meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad at Conference Hall of DC Office Complex here on Monday. Besides, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, Syed Shabir, the meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Secretary SMC, Deputy Director SDA, all concerned Tehsildars, Naib Tehsildars, Tehsildar Relief and other concerned. At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review of the process regarding construction of Migrant Transit Accommodations of 936 flats comprising 39 blocks being executed at an estimated cost of Rs 124 crore in the District. On the occasion, the DC

asked the concerned Revenue authorities to allot additional 20 kanals of land adjacent to 93 kanals of land already allotted for the Migrant transit accommodation at Zewan. The DC also asked the concerned for exploring feasibility of another patch of land at Gasoo in Tehsil North of the City. The DC also directed the concerned executing agency to start physical work on the project by or before December 20, 2022. Later, in the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the disposal status of migrant grievances and instructed all the Tehsildars to pay special thrust on the complaints registered on the portal/offline to ensure quality redressal to the best satisfaction of the complainants. The DC further asked the officers to work with added zeal and dedica-



tion while redressing the grievances to ensure their time bound, prompt and quality disposal.

While reviewing Tehsil wise status of grievances, the DC sets Tehsil wise deadline to clear penden-

cy regarding disposal of migrant grievances related to correction of records/ demarcation and removal of encroachments/trespassing/alienation by way of fraud or distress sale, etc. He said that no laxity will be tolerated with regard to lenient way or slow pace of grievance settlement. On the occasion, the DC was informed that out of total 1864 complaints received only 271 are pending which are being addressed on fast track basis. The Deputy Commissioner also asked the Assistant Commissioner Revenue to further activate the dedicated helpline so that applicants are provided first-hand information about their registered complaints. He also asked him to monitor the functioning of the Migrant Grievance Redressal Cell to keep proper track of the registered

grievances for their timely disposal. On the occasion, the DC was informed that first hand assistance is being provided to the complainants on dedicated helpline number by the concerned Revenue staff for providing guidance to the complainants and to respond to their queries. The DC also directed the concerned executing agency to start physical work on the project by or before December 20, 2022. Later, in the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the disposal status of migrant grievances and instructed all the Tehsildars to pay special thrust on the complaints registered on the portal/offline to ensure quality redressal to the best satisfaction of the complainants. The DC further asked the officers to work with added zeal and dedication while redressing the grievances.

Commissioner SMC issues sanction for prosecution of 05 in-service officials of Corporation

SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 12: Commissioner SMC, Athar Aamir Khan today issued sanction for prosecution of 05 in-service officials of Srinagar Municipal Corporation for offences punishable under prevention of corruption act and the penal code. The sanction for prosecution will enable ACB to take further action. The officials include Ward Officers, Building Inspector and former Chief Enforcement Officer.

Animal Husbandry Bandipora organises 'Interactive Session' for Dairy farmers

BANDIPORA, DECEMBER 12: The Department of Animal Husbandry Bandipora on Monday organised an interactive session with the Dairy Farmers of Block Bandipora at Veterinary Complex, here. During interaction, CAHO Bandipora, Dr G A Lone made the dairy farmers aware about the various components under IDDS and advised them to link their farm with the recently established Milk Processing Unit at Paphan under IDDS to get optimum returns of their produce. Dr G A Lone stressed upon the importance of value addition of milk into varied products like Butter, Ghee, Khoya, Curd besides flavoured milk to yield maximum benefits in Dairy Sector. The session was also attended by BVO Bandipora, Dr M Ramzan Chopan and VAS Quil, Dr Khurshid Alam besides a huge number of Dairy farmers and the owner of KESPERIA Milk Processing Unit.

NSS Unit of GDC Pampore conducts Anti-Polythene Drive

PULWAMA, DECEMBER 13: In connection with 'My Town, My Pride' programme under the aegis of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', the NSS Unit of Government Degree College (GDC) Pampore today conducted 'Anti-Polythene Drive' in the local market of Pampore. The Drive was conducted under the supervision of Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Huda Galzai and commenced from the college campus to the local market of Pampore and Tanchibagh. The college NSS volunteers and faculty members educated shopkeepers about the ill effects of using non-biodegradable and non-reusable polythene. Prof. (Dr.) Huda Galzai while interacting with the pedestrians, shoppers, dissuaded them from using polythene bags. On the occasion, pedestrians using polythene bags were given recyclable bags and many polythene bags were seized during the drive. The rally passed through the markets of Namlabal and Kadlbal areas of Pampore raising awareness about the hazards of using polythene bags. It emphasized adopting polythene free life. The objective of the drive was to impress upon the local populace of Pampore regarding growing menace of polythene. Pertinently, GDC Pampore is a polythene-free campus and efforts are being made from time to time to make adjacent areas polythene free. A total of 22 NSS Volunteers along with faculty members participated in the said drive.

BJP appoints Ruheena Shahzad as vice president Ganderbal

Srinagar, Dec 12 (UNI) Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Jammu and Kashmir has appointed Ruheena Shahzad as vice president of Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Monday. Expressing her gratitude to the party high command for her nomination as BJP Vice President she said "It is an honor to assume such a big responsibility". In a statement she said it has been an exhilarating journey so far and she will continue to serve my party & people of my country with all my ability. "I will surely try to live up to the expectations of the party high command", she added. DC B'gam visits SDH Kremshore, Khansahab

Takes stock of healthcare facilities

BUDGAM, DECEMBER 12: The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Budgam, S F Hamid today visited Sub-District Hospital (SDH), Kremshore in Khansahab to take stock of health care facilities. During the visit, DC inspected various wards including Gynaecology, Dental, OPD, General Wards, Lab, RNTCP and other sections. He also took stock of availability of medicine and functioning of existing machinery at the health institution. During inspection of wards and OPD, the DC interacted with various patients and attendants and enquired about patient care and facilities being provided to the general public. Stressing on providing better health facilities to patients, the DC instructed concerned to ensure robust functioning of all facilities in all sections. SF Hamid also assessed the progress of registration of locals under health insurance schemes and distribution of sehat cards among the beneficiaries.

Valedictory ceremony for civil service coaching held at Kupwara



KUPWARA, DECEMBER 12: The District Administration Kupwara organized a colourful valedictory ceremony at GDC Kupwara for the civil services aspirants who completed their 6 week long free coaching course. Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Doifode Sagar Dattatray was chief guest on the occasion. Principals of Government Degree College (GDC) Kupwara/GDC Handwara, Faculty Mem-

bers, besides, civil service aspirants attended the function. Addressing the function, DC said that he is feeling proud on completion of the first free coaching programme by the civil service aspirants in the district. He said that the aspirants have climbed the first step of success by undergoing the 6 week long coaching by qualified faculty. He inspired the aspirants for chasing their dream career and asked them to continue working hard with same zeal and enthusiasm for achievement of their goal. The DC asked the aspirants to keep in touch with the faculty members and fortify the WhatsApp groups to continue their preparation for qualifying the civil services examination. He directed the coordinators to schedule weekly lectures and make action plan to facilitate the aspirants. Other speakers including faculty members also spoke and shared their words of inspiration with the students. The aspirants also spoke and expressed their gratitude towards the DC for his concerted efforts in conducting the first of its kind free Civil Services Coaching programme at district level. On the occasion, the aspirants presented gifts and mementos of gratitude to the DC.

DC Bandipora takes appraisal of progress on Transit Accommodation at Odina, Sumbal



BANDIPORA, DECEMBER 12: In order to take first hand appraisal of progress on transit accommodation, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad on Monday visited Odina, Sumbal. During the visit, DC urged officers to enhance the pace of work to complete the project within set time line. The DC directed the concerned executing agency to gear up men and machinery and speed up the pace of work on the project on war-footing basis to ensure its completion within the shortest possible time. The officers apprised the DC that transit accommodation is coming up at the cost of Rs 57.60 crores comprising 480 flats in 30 blocks. They said each block is four-storied with four flats in each storey, totalling 16 flats in each block. The officers further in-

formed that finishing work in 06 flats is in final touch which will be ready to use by the end of this month. It was further informed that work on other blocks is in full swing and shall be completed within the set timeline. Dr. Owais urged the officers concerned to pro-

Director Agriculture Kashmir visits Kulgam Says Department preparing modus operandi for upcoming Kharif Season

Farooq Rather

SRINAGAR, : The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today visited Kulgam and convened a meeting to review physical and financial progress on the implementation of centrally sponsored schemes in the district. During the meeting, different centrally sponsored schemes being implemented by the department including CAPEX, RKVY, MIDH, ATMA, NFSM, PM KISAN, Soil Health Card scheme, KISAN Credit Card Scheme etc. were discussed in detail. Addressing the meeting, the Director said that the main objective of this meeting is to chalk out a modus operandi for the upcoming Kharif season viz-aviz assured irrigation facilities, availability of seed (seedlings) and other inputs to the farmers at the right time, technical guidance etc. He said that during Rabi 2022-23 the department has brought a large area of land under the cultivation of oilseed on a mission mode to increase the cropping

intensity so that the income of farmers could be increased. He said the department is working robustly to increase the area under oilseed crops because the flowering of this crop in the months of March, April in a symbiotic manner on one hand provide flora to the honey bees and help the farmers associated with the apiculture enterprises and on the other hand these honey bees contribute to the pollination and result the increase of production and productivity of crop. He said this activity leads to the increase in the production of oilseed crops and lowers the dependence on the import of edible oils from other parts of the country. Director highlighted the importance of organic, exotic vegetable cultivation in the area. He said the department has already introduced a multidimensional marketing model where farmers are provided with the marketing facilities at their doorsteps. While talking of the expenditures under different schemes, the Director said that funds



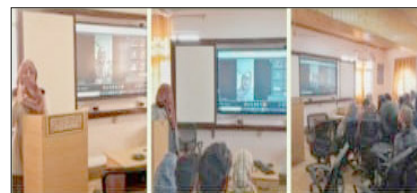
allocated must be judiciously and fully expended in a time bound manner. He reiterated the importance of maintaining the highest level of transparency during the expenditure of funds. Iqbal asked the concerned officer to work in coordination with district administration

during the implementation of different initiatives at district level. Chief Agriculture Officer, District Agriculture Extension Officer, Subject Matter Specialist, Fertilizer Inspector, Technical Officer (CAO Kulgam) and other officers/officials were present in the meeting. Director highlighted the importance of organic, exotic vegetable cultivation in the area. He said the department has already introduced a multidimensional marketing model where farmers are provided with the marketing facilities at their doorsteps. While talking of the expenditures under different schemes, the Director said that funds allocated must be judiciously and fully expended in a time bound manner. He reiterated the importance of maintaining the highest level of transparency during the expenditure of funds. Iqbal asked the concerned officer to work in coordination with district administration during the implementation of different initiatives at district level.

The department of Islamic studies Government degree college Pulwama organised one day workshop titled 'optimising mental health knowing the science of meditation'

Dr Firdous Ahmad Reshi

The Department of Islamic Studies organized one day workshop titled "Optimising Mental Health-Knowing the Science of Meditation" on 6th December 2022 in both offline and online mode. The proceedings of the workshop were carried out by Dr. Zaira Ashraf, Head Department of Islamic Studies. She also highlighted the importance of the workshop. Prof. Master Showkat Ali, Head, Department of English formally welcomed the delegates, speakers and other participants. Prof. Asma Nabi-Assistant Professor (Department of Psychology) University of Kashmir and Ms. Iram bint Safia- A certified Life Coach, USA were the Guest speakers. Dr. Asma delved deep into the psychological aspect defining the mental health and identifying the problem. She talked about the need for recognition and the importance of Self help in resolving the Mental Health



issues. The solution to that she offered would be working on the cognitive restructuring. Ms. Iram is very well versed in identifying the human behaviors and regulating them and has influenced hundreds of people. She mentioned about the Islamic perspective of articulating patience and cited the examples from the Islamic Scriptures. The event was supported by the Staff of the College, Department of Computer Application, and all those who showed their participation. It was attended by Students, scholars and academicians from across the UT. It was also attended by the people of different faiths and strongly appreciated.

One-day Workshop on 'Implementation of ORGI software for Civil Registration' held at Anantnag

ANANTNAG, : The District Statistics and Evaluation Department Anantnag and Kulgam in collaboration with Directorate of Census Operations today organised a one day training/workshop on implementation of ORGI software for civil registration system at Dak Bangalow, here. The master trainers imparted training to the participants about the operational mechanism of civil registrations. Dr Junaid and Dr Imtiaz explained the entire process to the concerned officers. They discussed 32 provisions of the RBD act with the attendees. DD Planning/DSEO Anantnag, Karishma Kudrat highlighted the importance of the registration process. She said that both certificates are required in availing various Govt benefits and are important legal documents. She said that training of officials responsible for issuing these documents is necessary for capacity building and to establish an error free simple mechanism so that the public can benefit and obtain these



documents in a hassle free manner. DD Planning/DSEO said the department is aiming at achieving complete saturation in registration of births and deaths and is confident that other departments will also cooperate in this endeavour. The training session was attended by CMO, BMOs, BDOs, EOs and other stakeholders.

Chairperson DDC Pulwama chairs Council meeting

PULWAMA: A meeting of District Development Council (DDC) Pulwama was held today under the chairmanship of its chairperson, Syed Bari Andrabhi, here.

Among others, the meeting was attended by DDC Vice Chairperson, Additional District Development Commissioner, CPO Pulwama, DDC Members and PRIs besides all District and Sectoral officers.

At the outset, DDC Chairperson apprised the Council about the guidelines for the formulation of the plans under the District Capex budget 2022-23.

The meeting discussed threadbare the development scenario of the district.

The chairperson stressed for proper maintenance of coordination between officers and the Councilors so that better results could be yielded on ground with respect to developmental works and infrastructure creation.

He also said that for the first time, proportionate funding to all three tiers of PRIs is being ensured to cater to the develop-

ment aspirations of the people through DDCs, BDCs and Panchayats.

Interacting with the council Members, Syed Bari said people have a lot of expectations from the council vis-à-vis development and prosperity of the district and sought cooperation of line departments and other PRI Members to fulfill the same. He also pledged to work and prioritize the things from the grassroots for smooth implementation of developmental and welfare schemes.

He said that they are committed to usher in a new era of development for the district.

Addressing the meeting, the Chairperson asked the DDC members to utilize the DDC grants judiciously in high priority sectors in coordination with the line departments.

On the occasion, a comprehensive discussion was held where in the chairperson stressed for ensuring public participation while formulating development plans at grassroots level. He emphasized upon the PRIs to play



a proactive role so that all the necessities are completed well within the stipulated time. Moreover, he directed to hold gram sabhas adding that all the

stakeholders should be taken on board in the formulation of development plans. Meanwhile, the chairperson took a brief appraisal of the

implementation of various centrally sponsored schemes and programmes during which he exhorted to ensure that these schemes are implemented effectively at the ground level.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chairperson informed that a special thrust has been laid on formulation of viable plans as per the guidelines issued by the Finance Department and maintaining the sanctity of the 3-tier Panchayati Raj system.

On the occasion, ADDC Pulwama, who is the Chief Executive Officer of the council, assured full cooperation and support to the council for achieving new heights of development in the district.

He also expressed full commitment for strengthening the PRIs and empowering the people at grassroots level. He further asked the DDC members to personally supervise and monitor the pace and quality of the works to be undertaken during the next financial year in their respective jurisdiction.

DLTFC approves 17 cases for financial help under JKREGP at Kulgam

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, DECEMBER 12: A District Level Task Force Committee (DLTFC) meeting was held today at the mini secretariat here under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat. A total of 17 cases were placed before the committee and all 17 cases were approved by the committee for Project cost of Rs.1.31 Crore involving margin money of Rs.45.85 lacs and providing employment opportunities to 250 educated unemployed youth.

The JKREGP scheme is being implemented by Jammu & Kashmir Khadi and Village Industries Board (J&K KVIB) to harness and divert the potential and enthusiasm of youth for establishment of productive enterprise in the micro industrial sector and to create employment opportunities for others. The bank representatives were directed by the chair to take the credit decision within 28 days from the receipt of DLTFC recommended applications from the KVIB Kulgam, also no security will be insisted upon by the bank except in agriculture & allied beyond the project cost of Rs. 5 lacs.

Chairman DLSA-Kulgam takes Suo-Moto cognizance on spread of Hepatitis-A at Turkatachloo

KULGAM, DECEMBER, 12: Taking suo-moto cognizance of the news about the spread of Hepatitis-A in Kulgam especially in village Turkatachloo of Block Qaimoo, the Chairman District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Kulgam, Mohammad Ashraf Bhat who is also Principal & District sessions Judge (PD&SJ) today asked the Director Health Services, Kashmir to take serious note of this deadly disease and ensure timely intervention into it. The PD&SJ also asked the Director Health to take necessary precautionary measures with the concerned agencies to prevent the spread of this disease in District Kulgam. It is important to mention here that so far two of the minor children have succumbed due to this disease and many infected children are under observation.

The Chairman DLSA also passed directions to Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Kulgam to constitute the expert team of doctors and technical staff governing the field and depute them forthwith to the affected area 24X7 and take all necessary steps in collaboration with District Administration to contain this disease at the very threshold. He also directed the CMO to submit the detailed report with regard to steps taken for prevention of this disease in District Kulgam within a week's time. Moreover, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) department Kulgam was directed to gear up his men and machinery for providing safe drinking water to the whole public of Kulgam especially to the affected areas forthwith with further direction that water purity tests of all the tube-wells and reservoirs used by the public of District Kulgam be conducted throughout the district to contain further spread of this disease. Tests conducted and reports prepared thereof be placed before this authority. The Deputy Commissioner and Sr. Superintendent of Police Kulgam were also requested to monitor the preventive measures taken on ground by the concerned departments to contain this disease at the very threshold. Moreover, Secretary DLSA Kulgam was directed to depute the Para Legal Volunteers to the affected areas forthwith who shall submit the detailed report on daily basis before the Secretary DLSA with regard to number of persons infected, treatment if any provided to those persons/children and the precautionary measures taken on ground by the District Administration and Director Health Services Kashmir.

VC SKUAST inaugurates fifteen day foundation cum orientation programme IRTIQA

SRINAGAR, Vice Chancellor, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST),

IRTIQA is an amalgamation of orientation, motivation, culture, entrepreneurship and soft

the country and time is not far away when we will be the topper" Prof Ganai said adding that due to the strenuous efforts of our officers and scientists, we are the leaders in implementing the New Education Policy 2020 that will be a torch bearer for rest of agricultural universities.

He lauded the efforts of Dean Students Welfare and his team for organizing such student specific programmes.

Commissioner Secretary, while speaking on the occasion, recalled his university days and exhorted upon the students to use their knowledge and skills for nation development.

Earlier, Dean Students Welfare, Professor M A A Siddiqui, gave a detailed account of the fifteen days orientation programme.

During the programme, students from Horticulture Faculty presented cultural programmes besides famous Rap kid, Arafat and the radio host and entertainer RJ Vijdhan also performed on the occasion.



Kashmir, Professor Nazir Ahmad Ganai, today inaugurated fifteen day long foundation cum orientation programme IRTIQA at SKUAST, Kashmir.

skill development course for the incoming students of the university. Further motivational speakers, celebrities and members of civil society are to take part, deliver motivational talks and perform in the orientation programme during the next 15 days.

Addressing gathering of University officers, scientists and students, Vice-Chancellor said that motive behind holding such programmes is to give students a platform to showcase and harness their hidden talents.

"We are the 6th best Agricultural University in

DC Kulgam chairs Aadhaar Monitoring Committee meet

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, : To finalize the action plan for saturation of Aadhaar cards and availability of UIDAI Centres, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting of District Level Aadhaar Monitoring Committee at DC Office Complex, here.

On the occasion, the DC held a threadbare deliberation about a mechanism to be adopted for Aadhaar saturation in all age groups and mandatory biometric update of children in the district.

The concerned officers informed the chair that the Aadhaar Enrolment process stands at 94% besides briefed him about the status of Aadhaar Seva Kendras operating in the district.

The DC asked the concerned to start intensified Aadhaar enrolment drives for children below 5 years and to get Mandatory Biometric updates (MBU) done on attaining the age of 5 years and 15



years. He called upon all concerned departments to saturate the remaining Aadhaar Enrolment in the district besides launching mass awareness campaigns in their jurisdictions to cover all population under Aadhaar enrolment.

The DC called for making coordinated efforts to cover the uncovered populace as it will facilitate the public to have access to Aadhaar linked services.

ADC, CMO, CEO, CMO, DIO, LDM, DM CSC and other Committee members and representatives

of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) attended the meeting.

He called upon all concerned departments to saturate the remaining Aadhaar Enrolment in the district besides launching mass awareness campaigns in their jurisdictions to cover all population under Aadhaar enrolment.

The DC called for making coordinated efforts to cover the uncovered populace as it will facilitate the public to have access to Aadhaar linked services.

Addl. Comm. Kashmir reviews preparations for Operation of Subsidized Helicopter Service



SRINAGAR: In order to ensure smooth operation of Helicopter Service in winter for snow bound Bandipora and Kupwara areas, the Additional Commissioner Kashmir, Abid Hussain Kira today chaired a meeting to review the preparation of stakeholders.

The meeting deliberated over the operation of service by Aryan Pvt Ltd, selling of tickets, advance list of bookings, reconciliation of bills on real-time, approved

routes, settlement of issues, requisitions, nomination of Nodal officers for cooperation and facilitation, upgradation of helipad facilities etc.

Speaking on the occasion, the Additional Commissioner exhorted concerned officers to submit the details of requisite arrangements to be put in place, highlight gaps and other issues by today evening so the administration shall ensure complete preparation for operation of service.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Additional Secretary Civil Aviation, SDM Gurez, ADC Bandipora, Assistant Commissioner Central Adil Fareed, SP Enforcement Tourism, Coordinating Supervisor of Subsidised Helicopter service, Tahir Magray.

PM-FME Awareness/ Motivational camps by Animal Husbandry Budgam concludes at Block BK Pora

BUDGAM Block wise PM-FME Awareness cum Motivational Camps organized by Department of Animal Husbandry Budgam concluded today at Block BK Pora, here.

The programme was conducted in different blocks of district viz. Beerwah, Chadoora, Khanshab, Narbal and Budgam with the aim to create awareness among the public regarding 'PM-Formalization of Micro food processing Enterprises' scheme' launched by Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MOFPI), in partnership with the State/ UT Governments, for providing financial, technical and business support for new or up-gradation of already existing



micro food processing enterprises.

These camps witnessed huge participation from the farmer community, SHGs and unemployed youth.

Speaking at the concluding event held at Block BK Pora, Officers from Animal Husbandry Department Budgam briefed about the importance of

food processing, branding and marketing of food products to enhance their salability.

The participants were encouraged to take benefit of this scheme by availing facilities like 35% subsidy maximum up to 10 lakh and easy Bank loan up to 90% of cost of Machinery and Technical Civil Works.

Officers from the other line Departments viz. Horticulture & Horticulture Planning & Marketing, Agriculture & Allied sectors and NRLM also highlighted the importance of processing in the food sector and urged the participants to establish their own small scale micro food processing units/startups in order to create employment avenues for themselves and for others by availing benefits of this scheme.

Farmers associated with Dairy, Agriculture and Horticulture, PRIs, sizable numbers of general public, women members of various SHGs attended the programme along with officials from the line department.

FCSCA conducts market checking in Kupwara 17 shopkeepers penalized, Rs 5600 fine imposed



KUPWARA, DECEMBER 12: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Doifode Sagar Datatray, the Enforcement team headed by Assistant Director Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCSCA) today conducted an extensive market checking in Kupwara Town. During the inspection of various markets, 17 defaulters (erring Shopkeepers) were penalised and a fine of Rs 5600 was imposed. Moreover 4 Quintal of substandard/rotting vegetables were also distorted on spot. Meanwhile shopkeepers were asked to display Government approved ratelists in their shops and follow Food Safety and Standard Act and consumer acts strictly.

DC Budgam visits various ULBS of Khanshab & Budgam Town Says MTMP programme meant to ensure robust development of Town areas

BUDGAM, DECEMBER 12: Continuing, post My Town My Pride visits, the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Budgam, S F Hamid today toured different Wards of Khanshab and Budgam Towns to take on spot assessment of availability of essential services and infrastructure development.

The DC was accompanied by President Municipal Council Khanshab, Irfan Ahmad Khan; President MC Budgam, Mushtaq Ahmad; Vice-President MC Khanshab, Parveena Akhtar; Vice-President Budgam, Sami-Ullah Bhat; Ward Members, district officers, concerned EOs, members of local auqaf committees and other respected and locals of Khanshab and Budgam Towns.

The DC conducted extensive tour to interior areas of these Khanshab

wards and took on spot assessment of ongoing developmental works and sanitation campaign.

He also took stock of progress of road and drainage project at Shah Mohalla and Firdous Colony- Appopore road project in Khanshab wards.

The DC also visited different wards of Budgam Town including Housing Colony Ompora, where elected representatives and members of local Auqaf Committee raised their demands with the DC.

SF Hamid instructed concerned for prompt handover and takeover of roads and other public utilities for robust development process at Housing Colony.

He asserted that proper use of public utilities including poles and other assets in all wards.

During tour of these wards, DC met



various local delegations to take direct feedback from them regarding essential services and development process.

He emphasized on speedy development and proper sanitation is maintained in all wards and works including drainage construction interior links, road development, open gym, tile works on lanes, bylanes and development of parks, bridges, culverts at all designated spots be expedited in these wards to ensure better facilities to general public.

He said besides robust development of all ULBs, post MTMP programme is being carried out for awareness of schemes and public welfare initiatives of government and the aim is to get feedback from the public.

EDITORIAL

Job Scenario: How to Tackle Unemployment, Still Continues to be Debated

Private Sector in India has witnessed tremendous growth during a couple of bygone decades and so generated ample job opportunities. Despite good number of jobs being created in private sector however government jobs continue to remain a popular choice of the majority.

What makes government job lucrative has number of reasons. Other than reasonable Salary structure a government job comes with social status, job security, health insurance, housing, and a host of other benefits. Above all is the Job Security. A government employees doesn't live in an uncertain world. The pandemic-induced layoffs and closure of private businesses further deepened the demand for government jobs.

Numerous other benefits of government jobs is based on the following major factors:

- 1. Fixed tenure and regular salaries, which are now often as good as private-sector salaries.
2. Numerous benefits include LTC every four years, a government vehicle for officers, medical coverage for family members, interest-free/low-interest loans for house construction and vehicle purchases, and so on.
3. The main reasons for the surge in the popularity of government jobs include job security and timely promotions.

Very high and ever increasing unemployment rate

According to a CMIE report is an eye opener for the contemporary regimes. The unemployment rate among graduates stood at a whopping 17.8% between the period of January and April 2022. In 2021, the number of unemployed graduates stood at 19.3%.

The gap between supply and demand is supported by official data. As per the data tabled in the parliament, the proportion of candidates selected for government jobs from applications received in the last eight years stood at a minuscule 0.07% to 0.80%.

UT of J&K is no exception and even the situation is posing a grim picture vis a vis employment generation exercise. J&K lacks an organised Private Sector has a tough challenge ahead. Although LG Manoj Sinha led UT Administration is on tenter hooks to put in place a vibrant industrial sector by working on various promotional Schemes to motivate Youth to go for fresh startups.

Mindset needs to be changed to achieve good results of these dedicated efforts. To explain that same is an example ; a delivery boy for a food delivery app earns about Rs 12,000 per month. If he clears a government clerical exam his salary increases manifold with all the benefits that government employees receive.

Sooner the better sense prevails to put the house in order as everyone has a role to play. Government is playing its role well upto the mark, however the tireless efforts will bear fruits only when we succeed in changing the mindset of our youth.

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Thrust on mitigating Climate Crisis

PROF. RASAL SINGH

On 1st December 2022 India formally took over the presidency - which rotates annually between members - of the Group of Twenty countries constituting the most powerful intergovernmental forum, known as G20. The presidency for the year 2023 was handed over to India by Indonesia in the recently concluded Bali summit. The illustrious group together account for over 80% of global GDP, 75% of global trade and 60% of the world's population.

However, the presidency came at a time of geopolitical tumult, uncertainty over post-pandemic economic recovery and the looming crisis of climate change. The Russia-Ukraine conflict has vitiated relation between Russia and the industrialised Western countries, most of which are members of the G20. The conflict and the resulting unilateral sanctions imposed by the West has upset the post pandemic global recovery, sharply impacted oil, and gas prices as well as food availability.



across the world. Because of its impressive performance in handling the shocks of the Covid-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict, India has emerged as a beacon of hope in an otherwise dark and gloomy global scenario.

Presiding G20 Forum in 2023 is a fitting aspiration and a welcome challenge for India. India should use its G20 presidency to pursue its thought leadership role and the broader goal of reducing polarisation, channelise resources in an inclusive manner, and firm up optics in favour of developmental priorities. India is committed to focusing on issues of critical importance to the world.

ing nation with an evolving democracy, holding its head high into the 76th year of its independence, India has the unique opportunity to set 'Agenda 2023' with a focus on equitable green, and resilient recovery. India will set the global economic governance agenda for the year, a unique opportunity for the country to shape the international policy discourse and align its national priorities with its global aspirations.

India figured among the top 10 high performers in the Climate Change Performance Index in 2020 whereas big polluters such as China and the United States (US) figured much below in the list. The issue of climate change and action

plan will deepen India's position in G20 and beyond. India will aspire to deliver outcomes in areas of critical interest such as integrating the climate and development agenda and accelerating progress towards achieving the SDG 2030 mandate. Quest for sustainable development is fundamental. India's net zero target of 2070, reduce the projected carbon emissions by one billion and meeting 50 per cent of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030 is most welcome.

It is an unprecedented opportunity to shape the global narrative in favour of reducing the carbon footprint and encouraging green energy and digitalisation as significant components of transfor-

mational changes. India has set a good example by taking several measures to meet its climate commitments: these aim to reach non-fossil energy capacity of 500 GW and meeting 50 per cent of its electricity requirements from renewable energy by 2030.

As the world's largest democracy, the third largest economy of the world in Public private partnership terms and 2nd most populous country of the world, India will make a meaningful contribution in the G20 to support faster, sustainable, and inclusive growth.

(The author is Dean, Students' Welfare, Central University of Jammu.)

Iran Arms sale to Russia

COL B S NAGIAL (RETD)

The US is now focusing on the alleged Iranian-Russian arms deal rather than the Iranian nuclear deal. Robert Malley, the US special envoy to Iran, said that his country will now focus on other issues rather than Iran's Nuclear Deal as Iran is dragging its feet in finalising this deal.

Iran is stepping up uranium enrichment pursuits and even hoodwinking international inspections. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) observed with concern that Iran is enriching uranium and has denied it access to the places where these activities are being carried out.

Contacts between European Union and Iran are intact and haven't been suspended so far. However, the US has now shifted its focus on Iran's arms supply to Russia and the internal uprising in Iran. It is believed that Iran has supplied Drones and Missiles to Russia.

On the other hand, Russia denies using Iranian arms. It has relied more on drones from Iran as it exhausts its supplies in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. It is believed that Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev interacted with top Iranian political leadership and officials in Tehran in the last month.

The US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said there are no indications of Russia's Vladimir Putin wanting amicable talks on a settlement. At the same time, French President Emmanuel Macron has decided to speak to



Russian President Vladimir Putin soon about civilian nuclear-related issues.

However, Mikhail Mishust in, the Prime Minister of Russia, articulated sureness that "in the new geopolitical reality, comprehensive and strategic partnership between Russia and China will fully reveal its great creative potential."

The US announced additional military assistance to Ukraine worth \$725 million in August this year, which makes to a total of \$18.3 billion in military aid to Ukraine since the start of the Russian-Ukraine conflict in February 2022.

Ukraine's second largest military aid provider is the UK, which has pledged 2.3 billion British

pounds since the outbreak of conflict. The UK also committed to providing the same help in the year 2023. NATO, as an alliance, is extending political support and coordinating all the assistance provided by the member countries. European Union also supplies lethal weapons through European Peace Facility (EPF).

Ukraine broke away from the former USSR in 1991. Since then, Russia and the West have tried to exert significant influence on the country to strike a balance of power in the region.

from the US that Ukraine would not join the NATO bloc. However, the US has failed to give such assurance. Russia is keeping the pot boiling to achieve its aims. But it is not easy to know about the intentions of Russia and stop it from pursuing those.

Sanctions on Russia have not worked effectively and could prove counter-productive also. The Russia-Ukraine conflict is threatening the delicate balance the world is in now, and escalation can have manifold impacts worldwide.

of the conflict. It will not be enough to smooth over the difficulties, but significant attention must be given to structuring the military disengagement to minimise the chances of backsliding.

India's balancing approach to the Russia-Ukraine conflict is becoming difficult. However, India has a unique position in the world, having friendly relations with Russia and the western world and could play the role of mediator.

India assumed the presidency of G-20 on Dec1, 22 for one year and has more exciting opportunities to play in world affairs. Envisaging the vision of G-20, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has remarked that today, we do not need to fight for our survival - our era need not be one of war. Indeed, it must not be one.

The Group of Twenty, or G-20, is the premier forum for international cooperation on the most critical aspects of the international economic and financial agenda.

War has an appalling effect on the health and well-being of nations. Many studies indicate that conflict situations cause more mortality and disability than any significant disease. War demolishes communities and families and, many a time, upsets the development of nations' social and economic fabric.

INDIA IS FAST EMERGING AS WORLD'S MAJOR PHARMACY HUB

NANTOO BANERJEE



Few manufacturing industries in India have done as consistently well as the drug industry over the last four decades. The Indian drug industry is currently ranked the world's third largest in pharmaceutical production by volume. The production has been increasing rapidly supported by rising domestic consumption and exports. The industry has been growing at a CAGR of 9.43 percent over the past nine years. Generic drugs, over-the-counter (OTC) medications, bulk drugs, vaccines, contract research & manufacturing, biosimilars, and biologics are some of the major segments of the industry. India also has the most number of pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities that are in compliance with the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA).

In the 1970s, Indian drug manufacturers literally struggled for a toehold in the business in the face of overwhelming competition from some 30-odd foreign controlled pharmaceutical manufacturers and importers. Mostly based in Bombay (now Mumbai), those foreign drug firms had a vice-like grip over the country's small drug market. India's annual consumption of drugs and pharmaceuticals was less than Rs.600 crore. However, thanks to a series of decisive actions by the government, led by the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the situation changed fast in favour of the domestic drug manufacturers since the mid-1970s. The industry has received support from the successive governments at the centre. Last year, the country's pharmaceutical output was worth over \$42 billion (approximately Rs.1,92,000 crore).

The Hathi Committee report, investigations into the pricing juggleries by foreign pharma firms oper-

ating in the country by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP), the listing of 'essential drugs' by the government and controlling their prices, formulation of the foreign exchange regulations act (FERA) of 1973, and incentives to domestic investors in pharmaceuticals projects in the 1970s and 1980s changed the very profile of India's drug industry in the following decades. India's drug manufacturers responded positively to the government policy. The country's pharmaceutical producers never looked back since then. Investments poured in. Lately, Hyderabad is fast emerging as India's pharma industry hub. It accounts for 40 percent of the country's total bulk drug production and 50 percent of bulk drug exports. Other major production centres include Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Ankleshwar, Vapi, Baddi, Sikkim, Kolkata and Visakhapatnam. The manufacturing network encompasses some 10,500 production units operated by some 3,000-odd pharmaceutical companies of all sizes — big, medium and small.

So strong is India's drug manufacturing network and its wide ranging production portfolio that global drug giants such as Pfizer, Bayer, Merck, AstraZeneca, and GSK have gone in for joint ventures with some of the country's major pharmaceutical producers to take advantage of the situation. These joint ventures target largely the domestic market and also export. Industry experts highlight the country's unique blend of advanced drug making infrastructure, its status as an emerging market, and strong growth potential as underlying reasons why there is interest in accessing this market as early as possible. Indians are consuming medicines like never before. The country's drug consumption is projected to grow nine to 12 percent over the next five years or so. This will lead India to become one of the world's top 10 nations in terms of medicine spending. The manufacturers are increasingly aligning their product portfolio towards chronic therapies for diseases such as cardiovascular, anti-diabetes, antidepres-

sants and cancers, which are on the rise with the changing lifestyles and increasing stress.

Today, the country's drug industry is the world's largest provider of generic medicines by volume and world's seventh largest exporter of medicines. In 2020, India exported drugs worth \$24.6 billion, running almost neck and neck with the United States (\$24.7 billion), the world's largest drug producer and consumer. India's share of the global drugs export market was 6.1 percent. Ahead of India and the US in the global drugs export market are five European countries. In 2020, Germany ranked No.1 with the export worth \$60.8 billion, representing 14.9 percent of the global drugs export, followed by Switzerland (\$48.1 billion), Belgium (\$31.1 billion), France (\$28.4 billion) and Italy (\$27.2 billion). In 1973, India's total turnover in the area of bulk drug manufacturing was only worth Rs.75 crore and drug formulations accounted for Rs. 370 crore. While the production in the organised sector was dominated by foreign

drug manufacturers, the industry's expenditure on research and development (R&D) was less than one percent of the turnover.

The Indian Economic Survey 2021 had projected a 300 percent growth of the domestic drug market in the next decade. The market is likely to reach the US\$ 65-billion mark by 2024 and further expand to reach US\$ 120-130 billion by 2030. The country's biotechnology industry comprises biopharmaceuticals, bio-services, bio-agriculture, bio-industry, and bioinformatics. The Indian biotechnology industry was valued at US\$70.2 billion in 2020 and is expected to reach US\$150 billion by 2025. India's medical devices market was worth US\$10.36 billion in FY20. The market is expected to grow at a CAGR of 37 percent to reach US\$50 billion in 2025. As of August 2021, CARE Ratings expected India's pharmaceutical business to develop at an annual rate of 11 percent over the next two years.

However, to become a truly reliable pharmacy of the world, India needs to substantially reduce its

dependence on China for the supply of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs). Official reports suggest that nearly 70 percent of all APIs and upwards of 90 percent of those APIs essential to produce critical mass-market antibiotics are imported from China. An export halt or slowdown from China can temporarily upend India's entire pharmaceutical industry. Lately, India has released three production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes to substantially reduce the country's dependence on Chinese export of pharmaceutical and medical devices. Since the implementation of the scheme, funds worth \$2 billion have been distributed to 55 different firms to help production of 35 of 53 APIs upon which India has substantial import dependence. India also needs to take steps to control pollutant-heavy API refinement processes. China's industrial drug parks that offered cheap municipal disposal solutions and higher risk-tolerance for polluting industries readily took over the dirtier precursor industries as well.

A Nikkei report clearly indicates that China's near monopoly on precursors stems from a massive flight of Western pharmaceutical providers to China in the early 2000's. While the Indian industry should act fast to expand production of APIs and key starting materials (KSMs), the government should take a page out of Beijing's playbook to ensure that the manufacturers take full care of pollutant chemicals and harmful residues generated in the process. The self-reliance on APIs will help India realise its effort to become the pharmacy to the world producing cheap, high-quality drugs at every junction of the global value chain. This will help expand both the domestic market and exports by doubling the market size by 2030.

IPA SERVICE

NEW ERA FOR CONGRESS HAS JUST BEGUN FROM HIMACHAL WIN

DR. GYAN PATHAK

Throwing out BJP from power in Himachal Pradesh by bagging 40 seats in 68-member Vidhan Sabha was indeed a spectacular performance of Congress, but far more remarkable feat achieved by the party leadership was after the results were out. Dexterity of the high-command melted its factionalism giving way for consensus over selection of Chief Minister candidate at a time when there were at least three strong aspirants.

It may prove to be a beginning of a new era in Congress, which has been suffering from severe factionalism spanning its entire vertical across the country for sometime now. Factionalism has bogged the party down giving the other political parties opportunities of poaching the disgruntled elements within the party. The Himachal consensus building exercise of the Congress might have disheartened all anti-Congress political parties. It must be noted in this background that Congress has lost 6 states to the BJP since Narendra Modi took over the reigns of country in 2014 only due to engineered defection in the backdrop of factionalism.

Even in case of Himachal Pradesh, some of the BJP leaders were claiming that they could form the government in the state with the help of one or the other faction of the Congress and others. They have done this in the past in other states, despite Congress winning majority seats or becoming largest political party. People were, therefore, in suspense because of existence of three factions in the state.

Election results of Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha election were out on Thursday, December 8, and there were at least three claimants for the post of the Chief Minister — the Himachal Pradesh Congress president Pratibha Singh, former state party chief Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, and outgoing Congress Legislature Party leader Mukesh Agnihotri. They have also staked their claim for the CM post.

The suspense over the CM post has deepened because Pratibha Singh had even told the media at her residence on Friday, "The party cannot neglect this family. This election has been fought in his name. It is not possible that you use his (Virbhadrar) name and face, and then neglect him after the results. This is something that the party high command will not do."

This very statement shows how difficult it was to have a consensus candidate for the CM post. The difficulty was manifest even during the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting on Friday. The factions and claimants were not willing to recede from their respective positions, and therefore they had to agree on the decision of the Congress high-command. Consequently, a one-line resolution had to be passed authorising the party high-command to decide on the new chief minister of Himachal Pradesh. The CLP meet was held at the party office in Shimla.

Congress Himachal Pradesh in-charge Rajeev Shukla, Congress's central observer and Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel, another observer former Chief Minister of Haryana Bhupinder Singh Hooda, former CM of Himachal Pradesh Jairam Thakur and some other party leaders had to undergo hard times to build the consensus. Since Sukhu had successfully headed the party's campaign committee, he had an opportunity to establish very good rapport among the party leadership as well as majority of Himachal Pradesh Congress leaders and workers. It went strongly in his favour.

Congress leadership on Saturday named Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu as Himachal Pradesh's new Chief Minister and Mukesh Agnihotri as Deputy Chief Minister. The decision of the Congress high-command was announced during a meeting of the CLP in Shimla. Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge later announce the same day the new Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister will swear in on Sunday.

The best part of this whole exercise of consensus building was of its being a 'democratic decision' rather than imposed by the central leadership. It augurs well for the party since it instils hopes in the party rank and file to rise to the top on their own merit and ground work rather than by mere sycophancy of the party high-command and simply favourable proximity to them.

This process even not passed unnoticed. A senior Congress leader Anand Sharma, while congratulating Sukhu, said he was grateful that the party leadership has taken a 'democratic decision' and chosen one who has risen through the ranks. In a tweet he said it "a matter of pride that the son of an ordinary family will be out CM, thanks to our leadership, Smt Sonia Gandhi, Mallikarjun Khargeji, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi for leading a spirited campaign."

The process of consensus building was conducted in such a good manner that even one of the strongest claimant of CM post and Himachal Pradesh Congress chief Pratibha Virbhadrar Singh said that she and her supporters accept the decision taken by the party high-command. Her statement is all the more important because Sukhu is known as a detractor of Congress veteran six-time chief minister of the state. It shows the ever more mature dealing of infighting by the Congress high-command. Another claimant of the CM post, Mukesh Agnihotri, who has been made Deputy CM, has also assured that he would work as a team.

Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu had joined the Congress student wing NSUI and was elevated to its president in the state organisation. He contested for the first time during the Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha election in 2003 from the Nadaun Vidhan Sabha constituency and won it. He repeated his win during 2007, and 2017 Vidhan Sabha elections from the same seat.

IPA SERVICE

RISHI SUNAK HAS TAKEN FEW POSITIVE STEPS IN STOPPING ECONOMIC DOWNSLIDE

ARUN SRIVASTAVA

Six weeks are certainly not the sensible time frame to judge a new prime minister's performance, that is too in the case of United Kingdom, which has been suffering economic malaise that has turned endemic during the decade with Conservatives in the power. But still Rishi Sunak, the first Prime Minister of Indian origin in Britain is under scanner. During this short tenure of Sunak, interest rates have started settling down, the financial markets have been reassured, a sense of stability has returned to government economic policy, painful memory of Liz Truss's inept handling of the governance gradually fading away and Sunak giving every impression of being comfortable in power. However, a section of the Conservative MPs have raised the issue of failure of Sunak to cope with the situation. Incidentally most of the members owe their loyalty to Boris Johnson.

Sunak's government is facing rebellions from backbench MPs on issues as varied as easing planning laws to allow more houses to be built, to promoting on-shore wind turbines to ease reliance on fossil fuels. He had to face bitter criticism from these people for his inability to attend the climate change conference in Egypt as at that point of time he was too busy to leave the country.

Though by and large people think him as a competent and honest ruler, the problem with Sunak is he doesn't have much time. With general election -knocking at the door—two years from now— he has to salvage the situation before the dateline and catch the imagination of the people through his performance. The failure to win the election would wrought havoc for him. He would go down in the history of the Conservative party as the most horrific performer. On his part he does not like to be remembered as a failure.

Inflation, strikes and opinion polls have dented the image of the Conservative Party to such an extent that the next election

could spell the end of Conservatives' long run in office. Inflation remains high at over 10%; wages are not rising at the same rate, which means that most people are poorer; nurses, train drivers and postal workers are staging strikes to demand higher pay.

As in India the electoral success of a political party is the index of its viability and relevance. The Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn was dumped since he could lead his party to an electoral victory in 2019. Even his own party comrades treated him like a pariah. Sunak's economic understanding and his administrative skill came under scanner after his party lost the by election.

The by-election for the parliamentary constituency of Wakefield was held on 23 June 2022. It was triggered by the resignation, on 3 May 2022, of MP Imran Ahmad Khan. He got elected as a Conservative at the 2019 general election and resigned following a criminal conviction for child sexual assault. Ahmad Khan was subsequently jailed for 18 months.

The election was won by Simon Lightwood of the Labour Party, and was the first by-election gain made by Labour since 2012. It was held on the same day as the Tiverton and Honiton by-election in Devon, which the Conservatives lost to the Liberal Democrats. This marked the first time since the 1991 Kincardine and Deeside and Langbaugh by-elections that a British government had lost two seats in by-elections on the same day.

Conservatives have been in power since 2010 and have won four successive general elections. No doubt the Wakefield result could not be construed as a referendum on the performance of Sunak, the Conservative MPs are using it to shake his confidence. Nonetheless the recent polls have been shockingly bad for Sunak. Ironically these MPs do not blame Boris or Liz Truss for damaging the Conservative brand. These people also do not question the wrong economic policies followed and implemented by Boris and Truss. If the political experts are to be relied the Conservatives



had no real chance of winning. But the party didn't just lose, it got its lowest share of the vote in the constituency since 1832.

What is most shocking has been that these leaders instead of lending their support have been involved in pulling his leg. The Conservatives themselves have begun to give up hope of winning the next election. Already a move has been initiated inside the party to choose the new face who will lead the party to the polls. News of some members not willing to face the election have also started floating the political circle.

It is irony that these members are not willing to share the information that Rishi Sunak, inherits a UK economy that was headed for recession even before the recent turmoil triggered by Liz Truss. "The economic decline simply gathered momentum in October. The heightened political and economic uncertainty has caused business activity to fall at a rate not seen since the global financial crisis in 2009 if pandemic lockdown months are excluded.

With Sunak seen as bringing stability to markets, sterling rose and yields fell Monday, "Investors clearly hope Sunak will stabilise the economy and the political situation — though it's hard to work out at this point which is the harder

task," said AJ Bell financial analyst Danni Hewson. He also said "As well as the recovery in sterling and the reduced cost of government borrowing (as yields drop), Sunak will be pleased to see European gas prices falling." With UK inflation at a 40-year high above 10 percent, the Bank of England is set to unveil another bumper interest-rate hike at a regular policy meeting next week.

Meanwhile in a significant development Shevaun Haviland, director general of the British Chambers of Commerce has urged Sunak to also help out businesses struggling with huge energy bills. "The political and economic uncertainty of the past few months has been hugely damaging to British business confidence and must now come to an end," she said. Her confidence got manifest in her remark "The new prime minister must be a steady hand on the tiller to see the economy through the challenging conditions ahead. "This means setting out fully costed plans to deal with the big issues facing businesses; soaring energy bills, labour shortages, high inflation, and climbing interest rates."

Sunak's problems have been complicated further for his moves to keep the rightist forces happy. He knows that it would be tough to survive without their help. Stella Braverman's appointment made it clear Sunak's desire to keep a noisy right-wing faction outside as he seeks to rebuild party unity and make some difficult economic decisions.

This he has to resort to as in the Tory circle he is perceived as a relative moderate. Barely weeks in power, Sunak unfortunately has to spend too much of his energy and time on fending series of crippling rebellions from within his own party. This has been happening at a time when he is needed to devote his attention to the wave of industrial challenges. Unions representing railway workers, teachers, postal workers and, most political dangerous of all, doctors, nurses and ambulance workers are threatening to withdraw their labour before Christmas. The unions are

BRIEFLY NEWS

Malaika Arora has a fangirl moment with Post Malone at rapper's Mumbai show

Diva Malaika Arora got a chance to get clicked with American rapper Post Malone, who was performing at a concert in Mumbai.

Malaika took to Instaram and shared pictures of her with Malone, who was seen sharing a laugh with Malaika. The two seemed to be indulging in a fun chat right after the concert.

Malaika wrote, "U were awesome @post-malone !!! Ur music is heart emoji #feedingindiaconcert."

The Indian diva looked drop-dead-gorgeous in a black top and pants with her hair down.

The concert took place at Mumbai's Mahalaxmi Race Course on Saturday. The 'Sunflower' hitmaker made his debut performance in India. Others who went for his concert included names like Ibrahim Ali Khan, Palak Tiwari, Mrunal Thakur, Malaika Arora, Mallika Dua, singer Armaan Malik and VJ Anusha Dandekar.

Vijayendra Kumeria joins the cast of new show 'Teri Meri Doriyaann'

TV actor Vijayendra Kumeria has been roped in to play the lead role in the new show 'Teri Meri Doriyaann'. He gets candid about his role and how this show is different from the usual daily soaps.

He says: "I always try to take up roles which I have never done before. This one for obvious reasons is different. Not only the character but the look of the character is something that I have never donned. The moment I got to know that it's a Sikh guy who is a sharp businessman who loves his family, I got excited and I said yes for it. There is one more reason to take this one up. I want to dedicate this to my late father-in-law who was a Sardar and like a friend to me".

Starting his television journey in 2011 with 'Chotti Bahu 2', Vijayendra has done a good number of shows. Over the years, he has done shows such as 'Tumhari Paakhi', 'Shastri Sisters', 'Naagin 4', 'Aapki Nazron Ne Samjha', and 'Mose Chhal Kiye Jaaye

He adds what makes the show different saying: "Teri Meri Doriyaann' is not a run-of-the-mill story with fixed ingredients of a daily soap. It's more about interpersonal relations among all the characters. I think the story has more relatability compared to the drama quotient that we see on TV. I must add that the look and feel of the show is beautiful".

It is a story of two families and how the next generation from both of them falls in love with each other. It is about three couples and how their lives get entangled and the question raised in the mind of the audience is who is going to get along with whom as a partner.

'Teri Meri Doriyaann' will be airing soon on Star Plus.

Big B teaches 'KBC 14' contestant how to whistle

Megastar Amitabh Bachchan taught how to snap fingers and whistle to 'Kaun Banega Crorepati 14' contestant Anshuman Pathak who appreciates the host for his impressive voice and says that nobody can follow it.

Anshuman tells him that he wants to learn whistling and the host replies that it is not tough.

The 9-year-old contestant says: "When the episode ends and I want to go home, I snap my fingers and go home. Then if I forget something at home or forget to do something, I can snap my fingers, even to go to different countries".

The host made many attempts to teach him how to whistle but he failed to do it. At the end, he says: "I will learn it when I get my power."

His father also tells the host that Anshuman has been a big fan of Big B since he started watching the show.

'KBC 14' airs on Sony Entertainment Television.

'Ghum Hai Kisikey Pyaar Mein': Couple competition creates differences between the lead characters

The show 'Ghum Hai Kisikey Pyaar Mein' keeps the audience hooked because of the love triangle between Sai, played by Ayesha Singh, Virat, portrayed by Neil Bhatt and Paakhi, played by Aishwarya Sharma. As the differences between the three are increasing, Paakhi uses sarcastic remarks for her husband Virat as she feels he hardly knows her choices.

In the recent episodes it was seen that Virat takes his daughter Savi with him for the school picnic. During the trip, Virat learns how his ex-wife Sai has built a very positive image in Savi's mind about her father.

The latest promo dropped by the makers brings out an interesting twist as the teacher plays a game in which she asks Paakhi to tell about her husband's favourite colour, sports and other choices. She answers all of them and later when the teacher asks Virat to answer the questions about his wife, Paakhi says: "Iski zarurat nahi, kahi aesa na ho mai apne pati ki wajah se haar jau" (This is not needed, as I don't want to lose the game because of my husband.) Paakhi thinks that Virat hardly knows about her choices as he is still in love with Sai.

How all these changes are going to bring twists in the lives of Sai, Virat and Paakhi will be seen in the coming episodes.

'Ghum Hai Kisikey Pyaar Mein' airs at 8 p.m. on Star Plus.

Actor Nora Fatehi files defamation lawsuit against Jacqueline Fernandez

Bollywood actor Nora Fatehi has filed a defamation case against actor Jacqueline Fernandez, alleging that the latter made defamatory allegations against her for malicious reasons.

According to Fatehi, Fernandez sought to criminally defame her in order to destroy her career to further her own interests, since they are both working in the same industry and have similar backgrounds, amongst other reasons.

On December 2, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had questioned Fatehi regarding common Sukesh Chandrashekhar's Rs 200 crore money laundering case.

Both Fernandez and Fatehi had recorded their statement as witness in the case.

Earlier, fixed deposits worth Rs 7.2 crore belonging to Fernandez were attached by the ED, which termed these gifts and properties as



proceeds of crime received by the actresses.

In February, the ED filed its first supplementary prosecution complaint against Chandrashekhar's aide Pinky Irani, who introduced him to Bollywood actresses.

It had been alleged in the

charge sheet that Irani used to choose costly gifts for Fernandez and later used to drop it at her house after the payments were made by Chandrashekhar.

In December last year the ED filed the first charge sheet in this matter before

the court of Additional Sessions Judge Praveen Singh.

Chandrashekhar has spent around Rs 20 crore on different models and Bollywood celebs. A few had, however, refused to take gifts from him.

Shah Rukh Khan visits Vaishno Devi temple before 'Pathaan' song launch



A video of superstar Shah Rukh Khan visiting the Vaishno Devi temple to seek blessings ahead of the release of his song 'Besharam Rang' from 'Pathaan' has gone viral.

A video of Shah Rukh making his way late at night to the temple surrounded by police officials

is doing the rounds on social media. He made sure that people do not recognise him and chose an all black outfit. According to reports, SRK performed puja.

Directed by Siddharth Anand, 'Pathaan' also stars Deepika Padukone and John Abraham. The spy thriller revolves around RAW agent Pathaan. It will

also see a cameo by superstar Salman Khan.

Shah Rukh even performed Umrah in Mecca after he finished the shooting schedule of his film 'Dunki' in Saudi Arabia.

Directed by Rajkumar Hirani, 'Dunki' marks the first collaboration between Shah Rukh and the director.

Sukriti, Prakriti took inspiration from Preity Zinta's 'Jiya Jale' look for 'Kya Say'



Playback singing twins Sukriti and Prakriti Kakkar, who are enjoying the response to their song 'Kya Say', have revealed that they took the inspiration for the song from Bollywood actress Preity Zinta's look from 'Jiya Jale' which was crooned by Lata Mangeshkar and composed by A. R. Rahman.

The music video of 'Kya Say', which also features rapper Badshah, paints a

dreamy picture with its picturesque backdrop.

When asked about what inspired their look in the music video, Sukriti Kakkar said, "As we were brainstorming on what outfits would fit the vibe of the song, we remembered the song 'Jiya Jale' and Preity Zinta's look in the song, it instantly struck a chord. We were definitely inspired and made up our mind that we wanted to take inspiration from her

beautiful outfits throughout the song."

To that Prakriti Kakkar added, "Preity Zinta has been one of our favourite actresses. Taking inspiration from such a legendary look of hers was an honour. The outfits are amazing as ever and surely go with the vibe of the song."

'Kya Say', produced by Chamath Sangeeth and written by Badshah is available to stream on VYRL Studio's YouTube Channel.

Ram Charan, wife Upasana expecting their first child

Pan-India star Ram Charan, who received unanimous praise for his blockbuster movie 'RRR', and his wife, Upasana are expecting their first child.

Ram's father, Telugu megastar Chiranjeevi, took to his Twitter handle on Monday to share the happy news with his fans and followers. He tweeted, "With the blessings of Shri Hanuman ji - We are delighted to share that Ram Charan and Upasana are expecting their first child. With Love & Gratitude: Surekha & Chiranjeevi Konidela, Shobhana & Anil Kamineni."

Ram retweeted his father's tweet with a heart and prayer emoji.

Ram and Upasana tied the knot on 2012, a year before his Hindi debut in the form of 'Zanjeer' which didn't perform well at the box office.

He was most recently seen in an extended cameo in 'Acharya' which starred his father in the lead role.



Reena Agarwal says her on-screen character all set to bring a major twist in 'Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 2'

'BADE ACHHE LAGTE HAIN 2' actress Reena Agarwal, who is playing the role of Vedika in the show, reveals about the upcoming track and how her character is going to create differences between the leads of the daily soap.

In the previous episode, it was seen that both Ram (Nakuul Mehta) and Priya (Disha) met with an accident due to which Ram lost his memory and he no longer remembers that Priya is his wife. Now, to be with him always and take proper care of Ram, Priya will apply for the post of his PA in his office with the name Lovely.

Meanwhile, Nandini (Shubhaavi Choksey) and Vedika (Reena Agarwal) come to know that Lovely is in reality Priya and they try everything to keep Ram away from her and their daughter Pihu.

Reena says: "Just when Vedika and Nandini thought they had succeeded in keeping Priya away from Ram they got a big shock. All this while they have been trying all possible ways to keep Priya away but were not aware that Priya has



already managed to get back into Ram's life."

Reena, who made her TV debut with 'Kya Mast Hai Life', and also did 'Talaash: The Answer Lies Within', 'Agent Raghav - Crime Branch', shares further about her on-screen character and how she is trying to get the attention of Ram in the show.

"Now that Priya is back in Ram's life Vedika is making sure to keep Ram emotionally attached to her and at points makes him feel guilty for being with Priya. The forthcoming episodes promise to be interesting and keep viewers hooked to their TV screens with a fascinating storyline," she adds.

'Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 2' airs on Sony Entertainment Television.

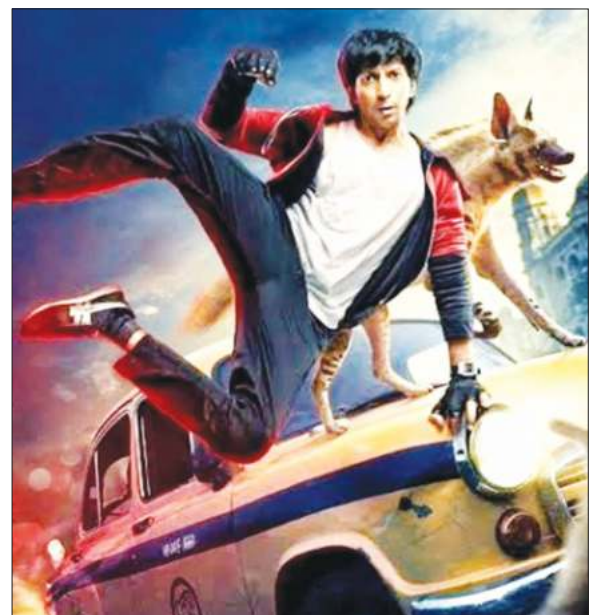
'Lakadbaggha' to screen at South Asian International Film Festival New York, KIFF

Action-thriller film 'Lakadbaggha', which stars Anshuman Jha, Ridhi Dogra and Milind Soman in principal roles, is heading to the South Asian International Film Festival New York where it will have its world premiere. In addition, it'll also be screened at the 28th edition of the Kolkata International Film Festival.

The film tells the story of a vigilant animal lover who becomes the voice of the voiceless.

Anshuman Jha, who got the opportunity to train with Tsahi Shemesh (trained the Avengers cast for 'Falcon' and 'The Winter Soldier') for the film said, "Animals and action films are two of my biggest passions. I am grateful that our film, which is set in Kolkata, will have its India premiere at KIFF 2022 and it's world premiere at the pet capital of the world, New York City."

'Lakadbaggha' is the story of an ordinary boy on an extraordinary journey for the love of animals & being



ordinary is my superpower. So I am glad we have made this film & the journey has taken 18 months of my life", he added.

French DOP Jean-Marc Selva has shot the film while Kecha Khampakdee (the stunt team behind 'Ong-Bak') has designed the action.

The film promises to bring the Israeli martial arts form of Krav-Maga to India. Directed by Victor Mukherjee and produced by First Ray Films, the film is expecting a worldwide release in early 2023.

Kaveri Priyam on how tough it was to break through the industry wall

Kaveri Priyam, who gained a lot of appreciation for playing a negative character in the show 'Yeh Rishtey Hain Pyaar Ke', has now bagged the lead role in the show 'Dil Diyan Gallaan'. She talked about not getting typecast and how tough it was for her to get a break in the industry.

She said: "I got my recognition and a breakthrough in

my career through a character which was a grey shaded character. But over a period of time I learned that actors easily get typecast on TV than on any other platforms.

I didn't let this thought linger in my mind, rather I believed in the fact that if you can show the range in you as an actor, things will work out for you some day."

"I believe if someone can play a grey shaded character

well, then positive roles are much easier. But the whole point is about the way you want to be projected," she added.

She recalled how tough it was for her to get her first project: "I would say, everything is a part of the journey. If you are passionate about your career and keep your eye on the aim, then the journey becomes a lot easier. I have always been passion-

ate about acting and when I got the opportunity I started giving auditions."

She continued to say about her initial years of struggle, saying: "I gave a number of auditions, even got rejected in many, but I considered that as a process of learning and struggle. Of course it took me some time to get my big project in 2018, this journey was difficult but enriching at the same time."

When asked, if she was always passionate about acting, the actress told IANS: "Absolutely, acting was always there on my mind. I was a very creative child, but at the same time I came from an academically affluent family. My parents did have certain academic expectations from me, and I did well at it too."

"To take out time for my creativity, I used to explore

and write my own plays. I also participated in a lot of plays and curricular activities in school. And I have been blessed with parents who have always been very supportive and encouraging as well, at the same time parents have their own apprehensions about this industry and field. I convinced my parents and came here to pursue my career in acting," she said.

DC inspects civic amenities, works in Ramban town

RAMBAN, DECEMBER 12: Deputy Commissioner, Musarrat Islam today visited several wards and inspected shops and other business establishments in Ramban town during a field visit conducted under the public outreach program.

The DC was accompanied by the President, Municipal Council, Sunita Sumbria, Councillor MC, Khalid Wani, Executive Engineer, PWD Abhishek Gupta, Tehsildar, Rafiq Ahmed, CEO MC Ramban, Sudarshan Kumar

The Deputy Commissioner resolved the water logging issues in ward no 1 of the Municipal Council Ramban and directed the Executive Engineer PWD to prepare a DPR for improving the drainage system in the area.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the CEO MC Ramban to implement orders issued regarding the door-to-door collection of garbage besides ensuring collection of monthly Rs 100 sanitation fees from each household and Rs. 200 from business establishments to strengthen the sanitation infrastructure and manpower.

The DC directed the officers of JPDC to inspect the surprise inspections of houses and business establishments to curb the menace of power theft which is the main cause of frequent power



breakdowns in Ramban town and other areas of the district. He also warned the sellers and users of banned heating appliances to stop the illegal practice to avoid legal action under extant rules.

Taking cognizance of un-managed water connections which is affecting the lane and drain system in town Ramban, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Engineers of Jal Shakti Department to take necessary action to

streamline the system of water supply connection, besides regularizing the un-authorized connections in the town within the prescribed time.

The DC also directed the officers of MC Ramban, to ensure proper maintenance and cleanliness of the drainage system in the town. He also suggested the Municipal Council should focus on their revenue generation programmes, besides outsourcing the door-to-

door garbage collection system to make the town neat and clean. The President, Councillor, and other prominent citizens raised various issues of public interest like the maintenance of the drainage system near Cafeteria Morh, Bus stand District Court Complex, Higher Secondary School, Ramban, and the major drainage system of ward numbers 4 and 5, the Deputy Commissioner issued on-the-spot directions to concerned officers to immediately take action to resolve the issues on a priority basis.

While inspecting various shops, the Deputy Commissioner directed the officers of enforcement departments to regularly check the quality and rates of grocery items, especially fresh supplies to ensure the quality of products available in the market. The DC also directed the officers of MC Ramban, to ensure proper maintenance and cleanliness of the drainage system in the town. He also suggested the Municipal Council should focus on their revenue generation programmes, besides outsourcing the door-to-door garbage collection system to make the town neat and clean.

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DC Rajouri reviews disposal of public grievances on Revenue, Satark & INGRAM Portals



RAJOURI, DECEMBER 12: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal on Monday chaired a meeting of the concerned officers to review the disposal of public grievances received on Revenue, Satark and INGRAM portals.

The Deputy Commissioner during the meeting reviewed department-wise disposal of grievances and obtained to-date status wherein the concerned officers briefed about grievances disposed of and pending with each Department.

Speaking at the meeting, the DC urged the officers to take necessary steps to ensure the prompt, efficient and effective reso-

lution of the public issues in order to mitigate their sufferings.

The Deputy Commissioner impressed upon the officers to work with dedication and zeal for delivering public services in a smooth and transparent manner. He also directed the officers to ensure the time bound redressal of public grievances.

Officers who attended the meeting were ADC Rajouri, Sachin Dev Singh; ADC Sunderbani, Vinod Kumar Behnal; ADC Kalakote, Krishan Lal; ADC Koreranka, Surinder Mohan Sharma; ADC Nowshera, Kartar Singh; PO ICDS, Shoket Mahmood Malik;

SDM Thanamandi, Vikas Dhar; CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; ACD, Vijay Kumar and other concerned officers. The Deputy Commissioner impressed upon the officers to work with dedication and zeal for delivering public services in a smooth and transparent manner. He also directed the officers to ensure the time bound redressal of public grievances.

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Awareness program on revised Contract Carriage J&K Permit rules held at Reasi

REASI, DECEMBER 12: Assistant Regional Transport Officer Reasi Rajesh Gupta along with his team of officials organised an awareness program to educate the transporters and general public about the recent amendments in Contract Carriage J&K Permit rules. Drivers and Transporters from all over the district attended the programme. The ARTO said that the aim of amendments was to make the process easy and pro people wherein the J&K UT has decided to omit the grant of Letter of Authority which was earlier mandatory for registration of commercial vehicles. The permit procedures have been simplified as now onwards an applicant can apply directly for the permit online on the transport department website after registration of vehicles under contract carriage segment. Earlier, the applicant had to apply for a Letter of Authority after the approval of RTA/STA, which was mandatory for registration of vehicles and subsequent issuance of Route Permit under any commercial segment. As per latest amendment in J&K Motor Vehicles Rules, the applicant can directly approach any concerned dealer, along with requisite formalities for registration of any commercial vehicle in compliance with BSVI Emission norms (Approved Models Only) under Contract Carriage Segment (for Built up Vehicles). In case of registration of Vehicles with drive away Chassis, the registration will be done by concerned RTO/ARTO Office. After the registration of vehicle under Contract Carriage segment the applicant can apply for issuance of permit online with Domicile Certificate, Registration Certificate of the vehicle for which Route Permit is sought, Present Address Proof, Character Certificate from concerned Police Station, Copy of Driving License of Owner or any person proposed to be engaged as driver, Declaration in an affidavit with regard to the number.

Government ITI Doda organises Apprenticeship Mela

DODA, DECEMBER 12: To provide real time employment training with required standards of skills in industries and other sectors, Government Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Doda on Monday organized "Apprenticeship Mela" at its campus.

A large number of aspiring candidates and over a dozen local establishments took part in the Mela.

The programme was aimed to educate unemployed Youth about the apprenticeship Scheme and its benefits. ITI Doda has also set up Help Desk to facilitate Industrial units as well as aspiring candidates to register them online on the apprenticeship portal.

Er. Ravinder Singh Bhatti, Superintendent ITI Doda elaborated in detail about the apprenticeship scheme. It was also briefed that Apprentices Act was

enacted with the objective of regulating the program of training of apprentices in the industry/establishment by utilizing the facilities available therein for imparting on-the-job training. Govt. ITI Doda being the nodal ITI of the District played a key role in creating a platform between aspiring Candidates and Establishments. As per the scheme guidelines, All establishments having workforce (regular and contract employees) of 30 or more are mandated to engage Apprentices in a range from 2.5% to 15% of its workforce, for establishments having a workforce between 4 and 29 this is optional and Establishments having a workforce of 3 or less are not permitted to engage apprentices.

Besides, the apprentices are also entitled stipend under this scheme. Upon the completion of apprentice training, the appren-



tic Besides, the apprentices are also entitled stipend under this scheme. Upon the completion of apprentice training, the apprentice will appear at an All India Trade Test in designated trade. Successful apprentices will be awarded National Apprentice Certificate (NAC), which is a recognized qualification for employment for both in Government and Private Sector.

Hon'ble Vice Chairperson, District Development council Doda madam Sangeeta Bhagat was the Chief Guest on the occasion who spoke in length and encouraged the aspirants to take benefits of the scheme and excel in their lives. Ashraf wani DIO Doda was the Guest of the honour who is also a mentor under SANKALP-MGNF district Doda. Representatives from District Employment Doda also participated and spoke on the employment.

PSPS Govt PG College for Women inaugurates One Week FDP on "Govt Web Portals and IT Tools"

JAMMU, DECEMBER 12: The IT Committee and Department of Computer Applications, in Collaboration with IQAC of Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Govt. PG College for Women inaugurated One Week Faculty Development Programme on "Govt. Web Portals and IT Tools" here today in the College Auditorium.

The Programme started with the formal welcome of the Chief Guest, Prof. Minu Mahajan, the Principal of the College, Dr. Yash Paul, Coordinator IQAC and Convener of the Programme, Deans of Arts, Science and Commerce, Senior faculty members and the galaxy of intel-

lectuals as participants. It was followed by the lighting of a traditional lamp symbolically marking the inaugural of this Literary Enterprise. Prof. Rohit Gupta, HOD, Deptt. of Computer Science enlightened the participants about the theme and road map of FDP.

Prof. Minu Mahajan, the Principal of the College applauded the team for taking this initiative to hold hands and be digitally literate to handle all the Govt. Portals in a successful manner. She also encouraged the participants to keep the spark in them ignited and take utmost benefit from this FDP. Amit Sharma,

Assistant Professor Computer Applications, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu was the Resource Person for the 1st Session and he deliberated on the Google tools. Prof. Ankush Raj, Assistant Professor of Computer Applications, GDC Doda, the Resource Person for the 2nd Session of the Day -1 of the FDP enlightened us about SPARROW Portal, Online System Based Comprehensive Performance Appraisal aided with hands-on training. Dr. Yashpaul, Convener of the Programme presented the formal Vote of thanks for the inaugural session. The proceedings of the pro-

gram were carried out by Prof. Suman Bala and Prof. Sugandha Mahajan along with other members of organizing committee Prof. Aran Kumar, Prof. Rahul, Prof. Ashok, Prof. Javaid, Prof. Abhinav Sharma and Prof. Ruchi. It was followed by the lighting of a traditional lamp symbolically marking the inaugural of this Literary Enterprise. Prof. Rohit Gupta, HOD, Deptt. of Computer Science enlightened the participants about the theme and road map of FDP. Prof. Minu Mahajan, the Principal of the College applauded the team for taking this initiative to hold hands and be digitally.

Forest Department organizes workshop on implementation of Forest Rights Act, 2006

JAMMU, DECEMBER 12: The Forest Department organized a training workshop for implementation of the Forest Rights Act, 2006 for the Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers under the chairmanship of Commissioner Secretary Forest, Ecology and Environment, Sanjeev Verma.

During the workshop, spokespersons interacted with the Tribal groups and various stakeholders including FRC Chairman and members, PRI members and officials of Revenue, Forest and Tribal Affairs department.

The training focused on duties including roles and functions of district level, sub-division level and Gram Sabha level Forest Rights Committees as per the Act and rules made thereunder. The implementation of the Act involves recognition and vesting of the forest rights on Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers who have been residing in forests for generations but whose rights could not be recognized.

The Act provides a framework for recognition and recording of rights so vested and the nature of evidence required for such recognition and vesting in respect of forest land. The framework for recording the rights involves



procedures and process to be implemented through the Gram Sabha, sub-divisional level and the district level committees as per Section 4 of FRA, 2006 and Rule 11 and 12 of FRA Rules, 2008.

The nature of evidence required are recorded in detail in the rules and also involves field verification by the Forest Rights Committee comprising 10-15 members to be elected among its members by the Gram Sabha as per the relevant rules in this regard.

The Government has already notified constitution of District Level Committee headed by the Deputy Commissioner, Sub-Divi-

sional Level Committee headed by the Sub Divisional Magistrate and comprising officers from Forest, Tribal Affairs and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department besides non-official members who are nominated by District Panchayat at the level of District and Sub-Divisional Level. Speaking on the occasion, Sanjeev Verma spoke in detail on history of FRA 2006, key provisions of Act besides discussing in detail in context of its implementation in Jammu and Kashmir. He gave a brief background of Individual and Community rights. The FDSTs who were residing

prior to 13th December 2005 and OTFDs who were living for three generations prior to 13th December 2005 alone are eligible.

Sanjeev Verma also elaborated the role of various institutions particularly Gram Sabha, Forest Rights Committee, SDLCs and DLCS as well as procedure involved in processing of the claim. He informed the participants about tribal community that the Forest Department has stopped the auction process of Minor Forest Produce (MFP), a process which was there since last 70-80 years, due to the implementation of Forest Rights Act in J&K.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Chowdhary, Secretary Tribal Affairs department explained that the FRA, 2006 will bring change in the livelihood of Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers and help building of community infrastructure by utilizing the funds under CAPEX- Plan as well as from Ministry of Tribal Affairs, GoI.

He said the Act apart from recognizing the rights also gives various kinds of duties to holders of forest rights to protect the wildlife, forest and biodiversity of the area. In order to improve the process rate of the claims, he stated that Tribal Research Institute is planning training.

Progress of Jal Shakti & I&FC sector works reviewed at Rajouri

RAJOURI, DECEMBER 12: District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal today chaired a meeting and took a comprehensive review of the performance of Jal Shakti and I&FC sector.

During the meeting, threadbare discussion was held regarding the progress achieved under Jal Jeevan Mission, District Capex Budget, SSY, BADP and Minor Irrigation.

The meeting was informed that out of 110 schemes proposed for Nowshera Subdivision, the tenders for 103 have been allotted, while out of 183 schemes, the work on 44 schemes has been allotted in Rajouri subdivision. It was also appraised that work on most of the schemes was in progress.

The progress of 18 works taken up under the District Capex Budget was also reviewed by the DDC. He asked the concerned officer to expedite the progress and ensure timeline completion of works. Regarding SSY projects, it was informed that 2 approved works and both are complete, while out of 2 BADP works one has been completed.

Taking the review of the progress of works under Minor Irrigation, it was informed that out of 08 projects, two projects have been completed and the work



on the rest was in progress. The DDC asked the concerned officers to bring in the issues impeding the project work, if any, in the notice of the administration so that the same can be resolved to avoid any delay in execution of the projects.

Officers who attended the meeting were CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; ExEn Jal Shakti Rajouri; Adarsh Kalsotra; ExEn Jal Shakti Nowshera; Vipin Kumar; ExEn I&FC Nowshera, Sunil Seith and ExEn I&FC Rajouri, Asrar Ahmed Khan.

England beat Pakistan by 26 runs to win 2nd Test, seal series

Mark Wood grabbed four Pakistan wickets to give England a hard-fought 26-run win on Monday in the second Test in Multan and take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

The fast bowler finished with 4-65 as Pakistan were dismissed for 328 about 50 minutes after lunch, having been set a challenging 355-run target.

Wood, who missed England's 74-run win in the first Test in Rawalpindi with a hip injury, turned the match in England's favour with the wickets of Mohammad Nawaz (45) and Saud Shakeel (94) in the space of just 12 balls and one run.

Pakistan slumped to 291-7 at lunch, and after the break Agha Salman (20 not out) and Abrar Ahmed (17) tried to hit out for an unlikely win to keep the series alive.

Pakistan's Zahid Mahmood clean bowled by England's Mark Wood (not pictured) during the fourth



day of the second cricket Test match between Pakistan and England at the Multan Cricket Stadium in Multan on December 12. — But James Anderson had Ahmed caught, Wood

dismissed Zahid Mahmood without scoring and Ollie Robinson ended the match with the wicket of number eleven Mohammad Ali for zero, sparking celebrations in the En-

gland camp.

Anderson and Robinson took two wickets apiece.

Shakeel and Nawaz's wickets proved the most consequential for England.

Shakeel, who hit eight boundaries in his 314-minute vigil, added 80 runs with Nawaz as England found wickets hard to come by on a Multan pitch that slowed considerably as the game progressed.

In a last-ditch effort, skipper Ben Stokes brought in Wood before lunch and was instantly rewarded with Nawaz caught by wicketkeeper Ollie Pope.

In his next over, Wood forced Shakeel to play a pull off a short ball that caught his glove, with Pope taking a diving catch to his left.

Resuming on 198-4, Pakistan had lost Faheem Ashraf in the sixth over of the day for 10, caught at slip for spinner Joe Root's 50th wicket.

With Eye On WTC, Stand-In Skipper KL Rahul Says India Need To Be Aggressive



A spot in the World Test Championship final at stake, a depleted Indian team has no option but to play an aggressive brand of cricket against Bangladesh in the two-match series starting Wednesday, stand-in skipper KL Rahul said on Monday. The Indian team will be without three key players -- Jasprit Bumrah, Ravindra Jadeja and regular skipper Rohit Sharma -- due to injuries. Having already lost the ODI series, the Indian team will need to win its next six Test matches (two in Bangladesh and four vs Australia at home) to remain in contention for a top-two spot in the World Test Championship points table. As of now, Indian team is placed fourth in the table with 52.08 percentage points while Australia (75 percentage points) and South Africa (60 percentage points) are placed first and second. Sri Lanka, with 64 percentage points, is third in the list. "There is a Test championship (final) qualification so we will also have to be aggressive. We know where we stand and what we need to do to qualify for the final," said Rahul during a media conference after the unveiling of the trophy. "Each day, each session we will assess what is required for the team in that particular moment and give our best." The season-ending World Test Championship will be held in June, 2023 at the Oval in London. Flexibility in mindset is the order of the hour and a key recipe for success. "We won't go in with any set mindset. Yes, there is a certain history of a venue, you look at the numbers and take some pointers from that. At least for us we will go there and try to be aggressive and brave, try and get a result. "The game is played over five days so it is important to break it down to smaller targets. In every session, the demands would be different but one thing is sure that you are going to see a lot of aggressive cricket from our side," the skipper assured.

A lot of this talk of aggressive intent has come watching England team's radically different ultra-aggressive approach, which has caught the imagination of cricket fans.

Jos Buttler, Sidra Ameen Win ICC Player Of The Month Awards For November



England's T20 World Cup-winning captain Jos Buttler was on Monday named ICC men's Player of the Month for the first time following his stupendous show in November. Pakistan's Sidra Ameen became the second successive winner of the women's Player of the Month award from the country, thanks to her brilliant performance in the ODI series win over Ireland. One of the most fearsome batters in world cricket, Buttler had produced a Player of the Match performance in the dramatic 20-run victory over New Zealand in Brisbane to start the month with a bang. Making his 100th T20I appearance, the opener smashed 73 from 47 balls to provide some much-needed momentum to England's campaign at the T20 showpiece. After England had secured their passage to the knockout stages, Buttler demonstrated his full array of strokeplay in smashing 80 from 49 balls.

Portugal's next step to be without Ronaldo



DOHA: Cristiano Ronaldo is staying back in Qatar for now. The 37-year-old was one of 10 members of the Portuguese squad that didn't opt to go back with the side to Lisbon after their quarter-final exit at the hands of Morocco at the World Cup in Qatar. It was finally on Sunday evening, almost 22 hours after it all happened at the Al Thumama Stadium — the 1-0 loss having left him with another failed attempt at winning the trophy that has eluded him, that Ronaldo finally broke his silence in an Instagram post that hinted he was calling it a day.

"Winning a World Cup for Portugal was the biggest and most ambitious dream of my career," he wrote. "Fortunately I won many titles of international dimension, including with Portugal, but putting the country's name on the highest foot in the world was my biggest dream. I fought for it. I fought hard for this

dream. In the five appearances I scored in World Cups over 16 years, always by the side of great players and supported by millions of Portuguese, I gave my all. Left it all out on the field. I never turned my face to the fight and I never gave up on that dream.

"Sadly, yesterday the dream ended. It's not worth reacting in the heat of the moment. I just want you all to know that much has been said, much has been written, much has been speculated, but my dedication to Portugal has not changed for a moment. I was always one fighting for the objective of all and I would never turn my back on my colleagues and my country. Not much more to say for now. Thank you Portugal. Thank you Qatar. The dream was nice while it lasted... Now, it's to hoping that time will be a good advisor and allow each one to draw their own conclusions." Ronaldo had skipped walking through the mixed zone

Morocco's miracle run continues, instilling belief they can win it all

WALID Regragui, the Moroccan coach scripting history at the World Cup in Qatar, has an infectious smile that lights up the room. His joy knew no bounds on Saturday night; Morocco continuing their miracle run at the World Cup by ousting yet another European heavyweights Portugal and, in his own words, dreaming of glory now. Two more wins would do that.

If Regragui manages to make Morocco the first African team to win the World Cup, it would be some year for him. In May, the 47-year-old France-born former Morocco international led Casablanca's Wydad to the CAF Champions League title; the most prestigious club crown in Africa. Now, the biggest title in the sport is almost within reach. "When you are a small team you need to dream and believe," Regragui told a news conference, only minutes after he was tossed in the air by his



players as they celebrated their 1-0 win over Portugal in the quarter-final at the Al Thumama Stadium. "We haven't come to the World Cup to play only three games and make up the numbers. Football is the best sport in the world because it allows you to dream. That's my message to the team and to the continent [of Africa]. I think the world is now with Morocco." Smiling now, Regragui had been in tears in the final few

minutes of the match as his players were giving their all to protect a precious lead given to them by Youssef En-Nesyri in the 42nd minute. Regragui's eyes welled up after Morocco's immovable object in front of goal, their goalkeeper Yassine Bounou — named player-of-the-match — had saved a first-time shot from Cristiano Ronaldo as Portugal relentlessly chased an equaliser.

"I think it is the first time I cried in a match," stated Regragui, not in any way hiding his fears. "I tried to control my emotions but sometimes it's too much. I was afraid of Ronaldo. You know he can score out of nothing and is one of the best players in the world, but Yassine is a great goalkeeper. The emotions come out and it is impossible for Moroccans to control them." Morocco's belief stems from their impregnable defence. The only goal they've conceded at the tournament.

Girl's maiden Volley Ball Coaching Camp Organised at Manjakote

M S Nazki

Rajouri: A Girls Volleyball Coaching camp had been org in association with J&K sports council wef 01 to 12 Dec 2022 to prepare them for selection into National Volleyball Team. A total of 20 girls participated in the camp and 04 coaches were made avbl for trg by J&K sports council. Trg was planned scientifically, wherein girls understood the technicalities of game and fine tuned their indl skills and coord as a team. Phy fitness and endurance being bed rock of any trg was emphasized upon and to enhance their str and stamina, girls were provided with protein rich diet ev-



eryday. One divyang girl was also part of the gp of 20 girls and was the most outstanding player. With her spl abilities, she was able to grasp the technicalities of game faster

than others. On the final day of camp, Brig P Acharya Cdr 13 sect RR was the chief guest among other civil dignitaries were Mr Tariq Ahmed, Distt President, Volleyball Association(Rajouri). The camp concluded with appreciation and duly acknowledging efforts of girls by distr them with sports kits incl tracksuits, tee-shirts & sport shoes. Medallist of J&K boys volleyball team who had come to motivate the girls and share their experience of playing in Nationals had also been felicitated. Everyone present incl coaches, players and staff ack the efforts of the Ind Army and congratulated for successful conduct of Girls Volleyball Camp.

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