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HEADLINES TODAY

NEWS IN BRIEF

17 injured as bus turns turtle in Rajouri

Rajouri, 05-Dec: At least 17 persons were injured in a road accident in Rajouri district on Monday morning. As per reports, the accident took place when a bus, carrying wedding guests turned turtle near Tarkundi LoC road. Soon after the accident, massive rescue operation was launched and the injured were immediately evacuated to a nearby hospital. Officials said that seventeen people were injured in the accident with four of the injured having serious injuries. (CNS)

Two drug peddlers held with heroin in Kishtwar

Kishtwar, 05-Dec: Police in Kishtwar apprehended two notorious drug peddlers at Model Naka Drabshalla and recovered Heroin from their possession. In a statement issued, Police spokesman said that, Kishtwar Police developed a specific information and leads from pervious information and accordingly Model Naka Drabshalla was activated led by Insp Mohd Naseer assisted by PSI Happy Choudhary and arrested 02 notorious drug paddler and recovered Heroin (chitta) Like substance weighing about 12gms & arrested on spot. The arrested persons were identified as Kamran Ahmed son of Abdul Rashid Sheikh Resident of Linkroad Kishtwar & Toyeb Parvaiz son of Parvaiz Ahmed Kandoo resident of Umar Mohalla Kishtwar. Accordingly a case FIR No. 297/2022 stands registered at PS Kishtwar under relevant sections of law and investigation has been taken up.

Father-in-law of Editor Good Morning Kashmir passes away

Srinagar, Dec 5 : The father-in-law of Editor Good Morning Kashmir Javed Shah passed away on Monday afternoon at CD Hospital. Family sources said Nooruddin Khan, a resident of Baba Demb Srinagar was not keeping well for some time and had undergone treatment at CD Hospital. A large number of people participated in his funeral. [KNT]

Grid Station Partially Damaged In Fire Incident

SRINAGAR: A grid station in Hiller area of Qazigund in south Kashmir's Anantnag district was partially damaged in a fire incident on Monday morning. Quoting an official of the news agency KNO reported that the fire broke out in the grid station, located close to Pir Panchal Tunnel, today morning. He said soon after the incident fire tenders rushed to the spot and after hectic efforts fire was put off. "The grid station suffered partial damage and the loss was being estimated," he said.

Govt orders transfer and posting of JKAS officer

Srinagar, 05 Dec, Jammu and Kashmir Government on Monday ordered transfer and posting of JKAS officer Mr. Ata-ul-Munim Tak. According to an official order issued by General administrative department. In the interest of administration, Mr. Ata-ul-Munim Tak, JKAS, Personnel Officer in the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir, is hereby transferred and posted as Deputy Secretary to the Government, Health and Medical Education Department, with immediate effect, it reads

Two Punjab residents give Rs 9.12 lakh to Kashmiri man after apple cartons from his truck stolen

Chandigarh, Dec 5: Two samaritans from Punjab on Monday came forward to help a Kashmiri man whose cartons of apples were stolen after his truck overturned in Fatehgarh Sahib district. Rajwinder Singh from Patiala and Gurpreet Singh from Mohali gave a cheque of Rs 9.12 lakh to Shahid, a resident of Sopore in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir, to compensate for the loss he suffered. As many as 1,200 cartons of apples were stolen by villagers and passersby after the fruit-laden truck overturned on the Delhi-Amritsar highway in Fatehgarh Sahib district on Saturday. The truck was coming from Srinagar and heading to Bihar. The video of cartons of

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At minus 3.4 degree Celsius, Srinagar records coldest night of season

Night temperatures continues to settle below freezing point at majority of weather stations

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Dec 5 Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded the coldest night of the season on Monday at minus 3.4 degree Celsius. The minimum temperature continues to settle below freezing point in the Valley as majority of stations recorded sub-zero temperature. News agency Kashmir News Observer (KNO) reported that the minimum temperature at world famous ski-resort, Gulmarg was recorded at minus 3.2 Degree Celsius last night while Kupwara in north Kashmir recorded a temperature of minus 2.7 Degree Celsius.



A man sells fire pots (Kaangir) on a cold day in Srinagar on Monday. PHOTO UNI

The mercury in Koker-nag in South Kashmir settled at minus 1.4 Degree Celsius while in Qazigund the minimum temperature was recorded at minus 3.4 Degree Celsius. As per the details, Pahalgam also recorded lowest temperature at minus 4.4 degree Celsius. The Meteorological Centre here said a fresh western disturbance is likely to affect Jammu and Kashmir and adjoining areas from December 9. There could be light snow over the

plains and lower reaches, and light to moderate snow over middle and higher reaches. The weather will mainly remain dry with haze till December 8. Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded the coldest night again on Monday with the minimum temperature plunging to minus 3.4 degrees Celsius against minus 2.2 degrees recorded the previous night. Major parts of the Kashmir Valley including Boulevard road, Dal Lake, Nishat, Shalimar, Foreshore Road and other parts of Srinagar were engulfed by thick fog coupled with

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CS interacts with Prabharis of Jammu division under MTMP

Digitisation of services vital for better public service delivery: Dr Mehta

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, DECEMBER 05: Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta today held a marathon live interaction with the visiting officers (Prabharis), President's and representatives of different Municipal Wards and Councils of Jammu division under My Town My Pride Programme (MTMP) at Civil Secretariat here. During the interaction, the Chief Secretary held detailed deliberations on different deliverables with the officers and took on spot assessment from them about the participation of general public in the MTMP. While interacting with the officers and representatives of Municipal Wards, the Chief Secre-



tary impressed upon them to encourage maximum participation of general public in the programme so that the prime objective of this festival of development is achieved. He asked them to involve educational institutions in the celebrations of MTMP and organise events under this programme so that a

much larger awareness is generated among the public about different government beneficiary schemes. Dr. Mehta enjoined upon the officers to involve common masses into the MTMP activities and hold events of such nature which create interest and enthusiasm among

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Dr. Farooq Abdullah regains NC presidentship

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Dec 5 (UNI) The National Conference on Monday re-elected Farooq Abdullah as the party president unopposed.

Eighty-five-year-old Abdullah was unanimously elected the NC chief at the party's delegate session held near the mausoleum of party founder Sheikh Abdullah at Naseem Bagh here.

After his re-election for the next term, Abdullah said he wasn't willing to continue as president.

"But my people in the party insisted that I cannot leave at this crucial juncture, so I agreed. But I suggest they should prepare the next generation for leading the party in future," he told the party delegate session after getting re-elected. Abdullah had last month informed



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DDC Polls: Around 43% Voter Turnout Recorded In Hajin, Drugmulla

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR: Around 43 % voting was recorded in the two District Development Constituencies which went to the re-poll in the Kashmir Division of the Union Territory.

53.33 voter percentage was recorded in Hajin -A Constituency in Bandipora District whereas 32.73 % was recorded in Drugmulla Constituency Kupwara District which went to the polls today. 42 polling stations were set up for DDC Drugmulla which recorded a percentage of 32.73. 10724 votes were polled against total electorate of 16026. 5624 Males and 5100 females exercised



their franchise. 141 Migrant votes were also cast at Special polling Stations for Kashmiri Migrants set up at GMS Jagti, GGS Patta Bohri and GMS Model Higher Secondary school

Udhampur. Similarly in Hajin-A, 53.33 % voting was recorded in 57 polling Stations. 8669 Electors out of the total 16313 cast their votes.

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Fear among PM package employees after leak of credentials

HT NEWS DESK

Jammu: Terrorist threat from "Kashmir Fight" to the PM Package Employees serving in Kashmir with the release of their credentials with their postings details and names has spread fear among the Kashmiri Pandits. Already, the migrant Kashmiri Pandits were holding protests in Jammu under the banner of All Migrants Employees Association, Kashmir seeking their relocation from Kashmir to Jammu due to security reasons. The fresh threat has created panic among them and they have threatened to intensify their agitation. "When Rahul Bhat was killed, the

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Earning out of Trees: Kulgam woman earns her living from a Tree Nursery

HT NEWS DESK

Kulgam, Dec 05: At a time when many people are struggling to earn their livings, Shameema Banoo, (45), from South Kashmir's Kulgam district has managed to sustain her income by running a tree nursery where there are various varieties that fetches her Rs 6 lakh annually. Shameema, a resident of Nowpora, Akhtran in this southern district of Kulgam, while talking to news a said that she has been associated with this business for the last several years and is earning a handsome annual income.

"I have almost all kinds of tree varieties available at the nursery and with each passing year, new varieties are being added which are directly increasing my earning", she beamed. "This business remains at its peak in winter months and this year as usual, the sale of different varieties of apple trees and other trees have already begun. My business is going nice and thanks to Almighty." Shameema said that she has been managing herself and her husband has been supportive. "We are earning around Rs 6 lakh annually and have been managing their family affairs and education of children on this business only," she said. In a message Shameema said: "I am not highly educated. I have studied upto class 10 and earned my livelihood very

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Corporal punishment to transfer woes, DSEK receives 400 complaints this year

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Dec 05: The Directorate of School Education (DSEK) has received over 400 grievances this year varying from corporal punishment to transfer woes.

An official said the grievance cell receives complaints and grievances of different nature from employees as well other stakeholders of the department including parents as well. As per the official figures available with the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the directorate has been able to resolve 40 percent of the grievances and the complaints received from different quarters while 60 percent grievances are under process at different stages.

"We try our best to resolve the grievances and dispose of the cases in a time bound

manner but there is no end to receiving complaints. That is why the number goes on increasing with each passing day," the official said.

Notably, the directorate has been receiving grievances wherein the nature of complaints vary from corporal punishment to transfer woes of the teachers besides deployment of teachers. "We mostly receive complaints pertaining to collection of fees by private schools. At times there are grievances regarding appointment under SRO-43," the official said. Notably, the issue of collection of fees by private schools has been a persistent problem across J&K as parents always complain of being fleeced by the private schools. "But at times we are unable to take the cases to a logical end as parents do not

always cooperate with us. Most of the parents register complaints against private schools and later do not want to be identified," the official said.

The directorate has also received complaints about unauthorised absence of teachers as well fake appointment of ReT teachers by the previous regimes. "There have been many instances when the directorate received complaints about the fake appointment of ReT teachers. All such cases are referred to the crime branch for thorough investigations," the official said. "At times we receive some cases from ACB wherein the report is sought about different matters. Such complaints are either of corruption or fake appointments," he said. Besides other complaints, the grievance cell has

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DDC Re-Polling: 105-year-old woman votes for development of her village in Hajin

HT NEWS DESK

Bandipora, Dec 05: Braving the cold weather, a 105-year-old woman cast her vote at a polling station in Hakbarara area of Hajin-A constituency in north Kashmir's Bandipora district on Monday.

The 105-year-old Azee Begum of Hakbarara village told the news agency—that she cast her vote for the benefit of her locality, which was being ignored by the authorities in terms of the development. She also said she has been a regular voter and didn't want to miss her chance even today with the hope to see her village developed. Meanwhile, the Hajin-A constituency polled 21.38 per cent votes till 10 am. The polling began at 7 am and will ended at 2 pm—

Azad congratulates Dr Farooq for her re-election as NC President

HT NEWS DESK

Jammu, Dec 05: Chief of Democratic Azad Party and former chief minister, Ghulam Nabi Azad on Monday congratulated Dr Farooq Abdullah for being re-elected as National Conference president.

In a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer, Azad said that he prays for the good health of Farooq Abdullah and his long spell in Jammu Kashmir politics. "I congratulate Farooq Abdullah for being re-elected as his party president," he said. "Since he has again been elected as party president, I am sure Jammu Kashmir politics will thrive and will expand the democratic space," he added—

On World Soil Day, experts sound caution about excessive use of pesticides, chemicals

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Dec 05: Due to the excessive use of fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals, soil is fast losing its health paving way for catastrophic impact on soil as well as humans, experts said on Monday.

They suggested people to act very responsibly and preserve soil besides could help land managers to increase the soil-ability.

Dr Zulfiqar Siddiqui, an expert told news agency—Kashmir News Observer that the over exploitation of soil on unscientific lines is one of the main reasons behind its deterioration. He said that the pressure of population explosion and all sorts of pollution is responsible for the deteriorating condition of the soil as well.

"We must be conscious and act responsibly so as to preserve soil for future generations," suggested Dr Siddiqui. Dr Parvaiz, another expert, told KNO that soil is under

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Insha Bashir Succeeds in Dropping DIS with her ABILITY

Wheelchair Basketball champion from Kashmir receives National Award from Prez Murmu

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar: She does not need easy. She just needs possible. Turning her physical disability into her strength and overcoming every adversity, Wheelchair Basketball champion, Insha Bashir Saturday added another feather to her cap when she received the National Award from President Droupadi Murmu in New Delhi.

Inshah of Beerwah, Budgam, received the National Award for Individual Excellence 2022 'Shrestha Divyangjan' - Locomotor Disability - on Saturday at a glittering function held in New Delhi.

On the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, President Murmu as part of the National Awards for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities for 2021 and 2022 felicitated 52 such



people for their laudable contributions in various fields. Among them was Inshah Bashir from Kashmir who has been a shining example of courage and determination. President Murmu on the occasion stressed on the maximum

use of technology to remove language-related barriers in education and to make education more accessible to children with disabilities. Inshah, who after the 2009 accident lost her ability to stand, has been active in Wheelchair Basketball since

and has been making J&K and the country proud at the international level.

She has represented India in international competitions including one in the USA.

"I am currently captain of the National Women's Wheelchair Basketball, J&K. I met with an accident when I was studying in class 12th, which injured my spine at L1 vertebra. This damages the control communication between the brain and legs," Inshah said.

"Even today I could not stand on my feet. This incident shattered me for a while but I still continued my studies though on a wheelchair and focused on my goal," she said.

Inshah joined basketball in 2017 and is the first female wheelchair basketball player from J&K to have represented India.

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My Town My Pride Programme Observed with fervour across Baramulla

Dr Sehrish visits MC Sopore; Directs Officers for successful conduct of MTMP

BARAMULLA, DECEMBER 05: In continuation to ambitious programme of the government, 'My Town My Pride', the District Development Commissioner (DDC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar today visited Sopore and inspected stalls installed by various departments. During her visit, Dr Sehrish directed the officers to ensure doorstep delivery of services and successful conduct of the My Town My Pride programme. After inspection of stalls, the DDC held interaction with the Public Representatives, civil society members, Prominent citizens of Sopore and discussed various issues pertaining to the development of the town.



On the occasion, the DC sensitized the participants about measures taken by the government to fulfil the developmental requirements of the town under different sec-

tors. On the occasion, the DDC also heard the issues and grievances of the public and PRIs. After listening to the grievances and issues of

the general public, the DDC issued on spot directions to the concerned officers of line departments to look into the issues of the people so that they are redressed on priority. The PRIs also raised various demands of their pursuits during which the Dr Sehrish assured that all their genuine demands shall be taken up for redressal. Senior Superintendent of Police Sopore Shabir Nawab, President Municipal Council Sopore, Masarat Kar, Additional Deputy Commissioner Sopore Parveez Sajad, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Peerzada Mumtaz Ahmad, Chief Executive officer MC Sopore Tariq Ahmad, and officers were present on the occasion.

District Admin Srinagar provides immediate assistance to fire victims of Bagiyas Chattabal

BARAMULLA, DECEMBER 03: As part of ongoing Jan Abhiyan, prelude to 'My Town My Pride' programme, a series of activities were held today across the district. On the occasion, awareness cum training programmes, seminars, plantation drives, special sanitation drives, water sample testing, anti encroachment drives and other activities were carried out by various departments across all municipal areas of the district. As part of this ambitious programme, Unite

Kashmir, a Youth organisation, in collaboration with Sub-District Hospital Sopore also organised a daylong awareness camp on 'Ethics of Hospitality' at SDH Sopore here. The awareness camp was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar as chief guest. Senior Superintendent of Police Sopore, Shabir Nawab, President, Municipal Council Sopore, Masarat Kar, functionaries of health department, students and various stakeholders were present in the awareness

camp. At the outset, the DC handed over Cheques to Self-Help Groups and Street Vending Certificates to the concerned beneficiaries. Maternity Kits were also provided to the lactating mothers. On the occasion, the concerned authorities of the organizing body highlighted the aims and objectives of the organization towards society. The DC while speaking on the occasion appreciated the initiative of the NGO for organizing Mega Awareness Camp aimed to benefit the general peo-

ple. She asserted that the need of an hour is to contribute towards society and urged the people to make a commitment for ensuring the welfare of the society as volunteers. Dr Sehrish said that affordable and accessible healthcare to all segments of the district is our topmost priority but Healthcare professionals need to evolve the best Doctor-Patient relationship. She said that people should also be sensitized with regard to their duties towards Hospital besides their role in maintaining its hygiene.

'My Town, My Pride' aims to deliver public services at doorsteps: Talat Parvaiz

PULWAMA, DECEMBER 05: Secretary, Hospitality and Protocol, Talat Parvaiz Rohellah, today inaugurated "My Town My Pride 2.0" programme in Municipal Committee, Pulwama. "My Town, My Pride", aims to deliver public services at doorsteps, build developmental initiatives on the feedback, cooperation and participation from people and strengthen strong and vibrant local self-governance," Commissioner maintained.



"It is the responsibility of every officer to ensure integrated development concepts and its execution," he observed. During the Shehri Jan Abhiyan, Commissioner said that the government is determined to take due care of interests of Youth for which a number of measures have been initiated. He said that "My Town My Pride 2.0" programme is aimed at to improve service delivery and redress the public grievances within the shortest possible time and achieve cent percent saturation of beneficiary oriented schemes. He added that the purpose behind B2V is to strengthen the roots of good governance in J&K and empower the common people in all respects. He was accompanied by District Development Commissioner Pulwama, Baseer Ul Haq Choud-

hary, SSP Pulwama, Ghulam Jeelani, ADDC, Pulwama, Dr Sheikh Abdul Aziz besides other district officers. Commissioner inspected the stalls installed by different departments and enquired about the benefits being provided by these departments to the general masses under their respective schemes. He enquired about the grievances redressal mechanism being adopted by them to satiate public aspirations. He interacted with the people and listened to their issues and grievances. Later, he distributed PMAY cheques, Age certificates, Land passbooks, Golden cards, income and domicile certificates besides giving away baby kits to newly born girl children under BBBB. He also distributed hearing aids, UDID cards among the beneficiaries.

On the occasion, school children displayed various sports activities like Cultural programmes, Punjabi songs, Skit regarding sanitation, Ban on polythene etc. PRIs, social activists, trader unions, central auqaf committee Pulwama and local welfare committee members met the visiting officer and raised their demands and issues. They demanded beautification of the town, management of dumping sites, upkeep of slaughter houses, maintenance of street lights besides beautification of Dhoobi Khul. Commissioner assured the delegations that the administration is committed to work for decongestion, rejuvenation and beautification of the cities. Together, with active participation of public, we can transform cities into vibrant urban economic centres," commis-

sioner said. Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner said that the Shehri Jan Abhiyan has been organized to spread awareness among the people regarding various government initiatives in place for the welfare of the citizens, assess needs for planned development of urban areas. He apprised the visiting officer that every effort is being made to ensure delivery of public welfare services and the district administration is committed to ensure 100 percent coverage of eligible genuine beneficiaries. DC said that inputs of the public under the overall supervision of PRI members and in consultation with the departments will be the basis of formulation of resource mobilization plans. Pertinently, "My Town My Pride 2.0" programme was held in all five municipalities of the district like MC Khrew with visiting officer, Mohammad Younis Malik, Joint Financial Commissioner Agrarian Reforms, MC Tral with visiting officer Dr Firdous Ahmad Giri, Secretary J&K BOPEE, MC Pampore with visiting officer Purnima Mittal, Director Animal husbandry Kashmir and MC Awantipora with visiting officer Ahsiq Hussain Lily where detailed discussion was held with the said Visiting officers.

My Town My Pride: Visiting Officers preside function at Dak Bungalow, Baramulla

BARAMULLA, DECEMBER 05: In connection with 'My Town My Pride', Inspector General of Registrations Jammu and Kashmir, Sheikh Arshad Ayoub, Director General, Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir, Bashir Ahmad Khan today paid visit to Dak Bungalow Baramulla as Visiting Officers where they jointly presided over the function and took part in various activities under My Town My Pride. Senior Superintendent of Police Baramulla, Rayees Mohammad Bhat, President Municipal Council Baramulla, Touseef Raina, Joint Director Planning M Yusuf Rather among other concerned were also present on the occasion.

At the outset, the Visiting Officers inspected various stalls installed by Health Department, Education Department, Social Welfare Department, Animal Husbandry, Horticulture Department, Youth Services and Sports.

These stalls were meant to provide every service to the people at their doorsteps besides disseminating necessary information and services rendered to the concerned stakeholders.

After inspection of stalls, Inspector General of Registrations Jammu and Kashmir while addressing the gathering said that My Town, My Pride, aims to deliver public services at doorsteps, build developmental initiatives on the feedback, cooperation and participation from people and strengthen strong and vibrant local self-governance. He emphasized that Jan-Bhagidari is the key pillar of development and essential for economic and cultural rejuvenation of the cities.

Director General, Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir also spoke on the occasion and said that as part of the program, various services of different departments are being provided to the people in Municipalities at their doorsteps along with organisation of multifaceted activities. He further mentioned that the thrust is to ensure that the benefits of different Govt schemes and programmes percolate to the beneficiaries in the urban areas, more effectively. The Visiting Officers also handed over certificates and letters, land pass books and other equipments to beneficiaries. Meanwhile, the Visiting Officers also discussed various issues pertaining to the development of Baramulla town with public representatives, besides sensitising the participants about measures taken by the government to fulfil the developmental requirements of the town under different sectors.

International volunteers Day celebrated in Srinagar

SRINAGAR DECEMBER 05: To mark the International Volunteers Day, the District Red Cross Committee, Srinagar in collaboration with Kashmir Harvard Educational Institution today organized a grand Programme here in the auditorium of Kashmir Harvard School with the theme "Solidarity through Volunteering".

The Additional Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, Dr Syed Haneef Balkhi over the function.

Chairman, Kashmir Harvard Tariq Ahmad Bakto, Vice Principal Mukhtar Ahmad Kant, besides District Social Welfare Officer, Srinagar, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, BMO Hazratbal, Dr Farah and other concerned were also present in the programme.

The International Volunteers Day is celebrated across the globe to recognize and appreciate volunteers of Red Cross Society for their selfless services for the betterment of humanity.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Syed Haneef Balkhi congratulated the volunteers who have been continuously serving humanity irrespective of colour, caste, creed and religion. He highlighted the role of volunteers during natural calamities, accidents and other emergencies. He appreciated the volunteers for rendering services for the noble causes to be more effective during natural calamities.

The ADC said the day is observed to offer an opportunity for volunteer-involving organizations and individual volunteers to promote volunteerism, encourage Government to support volunteer efforts and recognize volunteer contributions to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals at Local, National and International levels.

The ADC stressed on promoting spirit of volunteerism in society and said that the young generation should be prepared from the very beginning toward this noble cause to infuse the spirit of empathy among them towards those who need help in the difficult times.

Chairman, Kashmir Harvard, Tariq Ahmad Bakto also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the importance of celebrating International Volunteers Day.

While speaking on the occasion, BMO Hazratbal, Dr Farah laid focus on the importance of volunteerism. Earlier, Vice Principal, Kashmir Harvard, Mukhtar Ahmad Kant welcomed the dignitaries and other participants.

On the occasion, famous Blood donor, Shabir Hussain Khan who has donated 180 points of blood was also felicitated. The ADC stressed on promoting spirit of volunteerism in society and said that the young generation should be prepared from the very beginning toward this noble cause to infuse the spirit of empathy among them towards those who need help in the difficult times.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR JAMMU & KASHMIR SERVICES SELECTION BOARD

Hema Complex, Sector -3, Channi Himmat, Jammu/Zamzam Complex
Rambagh Srinagar. (www.jkssb.nic.in)

Notice

GENERAL CANDIDATE INSTRUCTIONS

- The candidate must reach the Examination Centre at the time notified in the Admit Card. 2. No candidate shall be permitted to enter the Examination centre after the Gate Closing Time. (9:30 AM in case of First Shift and 02:00 PM in case of Second Shift).
- No candidate shall be permitted to leave the Examination Room/ Hall before the completion of the Examination.
- Upon completion of the examination, please wait for instructions from Invigilator and do not get up from your seat until advised. The candidates will be permitted to move out, one at a time only.
- All candidates are required to download the instructions and read them carefully, and strictly adhere to them.
- The Admit Card consists of two pages- Page 1 contains the Candidate and Centre Details & Page 2 has "Important instructions for candidates". The candidate has to download both pages. THE PRINTED ADMIT CARD IN ORIGINAL SHALL BE BROUGHT ALONG TO THE EXAMINATION CENTRE AND KEPT AVAILABLE. THE SCANNED OR PHOTOCOPIES OF ADMIT CARDS SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED/ENTERTAINED.
- THE CANDIDATE SHALL KEEP 02 COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS WITH HIM/HER.
- The Admit Card is provisional and is subject to satisfying the eligibility conditions as given in the advertisement notification.
- The Admit Card is valid only for the stipulated date, time and shift specified thereon.
- The Candidates are advised to verify the location of the Test Venue, a day in advance so that they do not face any problem/inconvenience in accessing it, on the day of the Test.
- NO REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN EXAMINATION CENTRE OR SHIFT SHALL BE ENTERTAINED.
- No Candidate would be allowed to enter the Examination Centre, without Admit Card and Declaration, Valid ID Proof, and proper frisking. Frisking through Handheld Metal Detector (HHMD) will be carried out.
- The Candidates will be permitted to carry only the following items with them into the examination venue:
 - Personal transparent water bottle,
 - Personal hand sanitizer (50 ml)
 - A simple transparent Ball Point Pen or Pencil.
 - Admit Card along with Self Declaration (Undertaking) downloaded from the JKSSB website (a clear printout on A4 size paper) duly filled in.
 - 02 Additional passport size photographs for pasting on the Admit Card and Attendance sheets.
 - Original valid ID proof.
- Before reaching the Centre, candidates must enter the required details in the Self Declaration (Undertaking) in legible handwriting and paste the Photograph at the appropriate place on the Admit Card.
- The Candidates must carry "Any one of the valid Photo Identification Proof in original issued by the Government" - PAN card/ Driving Licence/ Voter ID Card/ Passport/ Aadhaar Card (With photograph)/ Employee ID (Govt./PSU)/ College/Univeristy ID. Any Identification Document/Photocopies of Identification Document even if attested shall not be entertained.
- The Facility of Scribe shall be available as per the provisions laid down in the Advertisement Notification(s) and an extra time of 20 minutes per hour shall be granted to the candidates, eligible for facility of Scribe.
- The Candidates are NOT allowed to carry any other personal belongings including electronic devices, or mobile phones to the Examination Centre. Officials deployed at the Exam centre will not be responsible for the safekeeping of personal belongings and there will be no facility for their safe storage. Besides, possession of books, notes, bits of papers, geometry/ pencilbox, plastic, pouch, scale, writing, pad, eraser, cardboard, watch/ wristwatch, wall et, goggles, handbags, microphones, camera, headphones, pendrives, pager, Bluetooth devices, calculator, debit/ credit cards, electronic pen/ scanners, food and beverage, arms/ weapon, hair pins/ clips, jewellery/ ornaments etc and any objectionable items is strictly prohibited in the examination premises/ centre and possession of any such item shall be considered as a case of unfair means, non compliance of which shall lead to cancellation of candidature besides action under law.
- The Candidates may be debarred and disqualified from the examination for any of the following reasons:
 - Attempting the examination for someone else, that is, impersonation;
 - Giving or receiving assistance in any form to/ from other candidates or outsiders;
 - Tampering or attempting to tamper with the computer system or posing hindrance in the smooth conduct of the examination;
 - Leaving the test Centre without permission;
 - Exchanging any papers, documents or any other material with other candidates or found to change the Seat allotted; Using prohibited items not allowed, such as:
 - Communication / pervasive devices like mobile phone, camera, digital watch, smart watch, Bluetooth device, ear phone, microphone, pager, health band;
 - Printed or handwritten material, bits of paper, Calculator, Pen Drive, eraser, Log Table, electronic pen or scanner;
 - Attempting to copy/ download examination questions or answers (in any format) from another candidate or from the computer.
 - Attempting to access any unauthorized software/ program during the examination.
 - Failing to follow instructions given by invigilators or is found indulging in any unfair means.
 - Perform any type of activity causing obstruction in the smooth conduct of exam.
 - Shoes/ footwear with thick soles and garments with large buttons are NOT permitted.
 - Blank paper sheets for rough work will be provided in the examination Hall/Room. The Candidates must write their name and Roll Number at the top of each of the sheet(s) and must submit the sheet/s to the invigilator without fail, after the conclusion of exam before leaving the Examination Hall/Room. Failure to do so may result in a non-evaluation of your answers.
 - Duly filled in Admit Card must be submitted to the invigilator before leaving the examination Hall/Room. Failure to do so may result in the non-evaluation of your answers.
 - No Candidate should adopt any unfair means or indulge in any unfair examination practices. All the Examination Centres are under surveillance of CCTV. Resorting to such practices shall result in cancellation of the candidature in respect of the examination and debarring from future examinations.
 - The candidate should ensure that the Question Paper available on the computer screen is as per his/her applied post indicated in the Admit Card. In case, in case of any mismatch, the same may be brought to the notice of the Invigilator concerned.
 - The Candidates are advised to check updates on JKSSB website, i.e. www.jkssb.nic.in regularly. They should also check their mailbox on the registered e-mail address and SMS in their registered Mobile No. for the latest updates and information regarding the exam.

DIPK-14623/22

Controller of Examinations
Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board

Nasir Hussain condoles demise of Mother of the Jassm Muzaffar, renowned social activist and the chairman of the NGO Ali Asgar Blood Bank Care Foundation J&K

Srinagar: Social Activist and the President of the NGO, Helping Hands Care Foundation, Nasir Hussain has expressed grief and sorrow over the demise of Mother of Jassm Muzaffar, Renowned Social activist and the chairman of NGO Ali Asgar Blood Bank Care Foundation J&K from area of Shalimar srinagar, she was passed away Today. In a condolence message, Nasir Hussain said the deceased was a noble soul, Known for his pious and hospitable nature. He added



that everyone has to leave this temporary and transitory world. Nasir Hussain prayed for external peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss. Nasir Hussain expressed his deep sympathies and solidarity with Jassm Muzaffar and his brother Shabir Hussain and his bereaved family as well as and also prayed for strength to the bereaved to bear this irreparable loss.

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DAR GANIE GUND

DC visits polling stations in DDC constituency Drugmulla

Expresses satisfaction over smooth conduct of election



KUPWARA, DECEMBER 05: Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Doifode Sagar Dattatray, who is also District Panchayat Election Officer, Kupwara today visited various polling stations in DDC constituency Drugmulla to personally monitor the polling process. He was accompanied by SSP Kupwara, Yougal Manhas and other concerned officers. The DC visited polling station Bohipora, Gushi-A, Gushi-B, Gulgam-A, Gulgam-B, Gulgam-C. DC interacted with the staff and agents and enquired about the polling

process.

He expressed satisfaction over the arrangements made for smooth conduct of DDC election. At Gulgam-C, the DC was informed that 178 votes including 107 male and 71 female voters have cast their vote till 11.45 AM out of total 878 votes.

At Gulgam-A, the DC was informed that out of 696 votes, 123 votes including 77 male have polled till 10.55 AM.

Likewise at Gulgam B, the DC was informed that 140 votes including 112 male have polled out of 1014 votes till 11AM.

'My Town My Pride' kick-starts at Anantnag

Massive public participation witnessed

ANANTNAG, DECEMBER 05: 'My Town My Pride' programme kick-started today at 10 Urban Local Bodies of Anantnag with Visiting Officers allotted to various ULBs inaugurated the programs at respective locations.

At Anantnag Town, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Special Secretary to the Government, Finance Department (addl. charge CEO, JK Era and Mission Director, Jai Jeevan Mission) was the visiting officer accompanied by Manzoor Ahmad and Ahmad Hussain, Deputy Labour Commissioner, Kashmir.

Dr Abid, in presence of Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag; SSP Anantnag and President MC Anantnag inaugurated the programme at Dak Bunga-

low, Anantnag.

The team inspected the stalls setup by various departments including ICDS, Health, Agriculture, Horticulture, Industries and ITI among others for dissemination of information among the public regarding various public schemes in vogue, eligibility criteria and benefits under the scheme.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Abid said that the face-lifting of Anantnag made possible by sincere efforts of Deputy Commissioner and President MC Anantnag has shown visible improvements in the town.

He said that the Government is fully committed to ensuring 100% coverage of beneficiaries under various welfare schemes. Highlighting the role of



PRIs and officials in ensuring people exercise their right, he said people have the most important role in development plan

formulation and added that PRIs and officers must facilitate them. He said PRIs are a bridge between institutional mech-

anisms and the people. Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Dr Basharat Qayoom said that 7 plans are being formulated as part of the 'My Town My Pride' program aimed at planned development of the urban areas.

He said that during the Jan Abhiyan held as a prelude to the MTMP, 338 awareness camps were organized, 242 beneficiaries of PMAY (U) completed Grah Pravesh, 179 licenses were issued under PM SVANidhi, land for Solid Waste management was identified at 8 locations and 561 potential youth were identified for linking with self-employment schemes. President MC Anantnag, Er Hilal Shah said that several projects have been completed by MC recently and dedicated to the public import-

ant among them being multi-level car parking, operationalization of 4 KLD sewage treatment plant at Mehdi Kadal, water reservoir at KU South Campus, Joggers Park bypass and community hall Ashajipora. He said that the Library cum Community Hall at KP Road, Community Marriage Hall and Clock Tower are under execution and will be completed soon. He said that the MC is committed to the overall development of the Town and inputs of the public through the various plans under formulation will form the basis of future development. The visiting dignitaries distributed sanction letters under the MUMKIN scheme, scholarships, golden cards, etc among beneficiaries on the occasion.

One-day Farmers' Awareness Camp on PM-FME held in Block Narbal

BUDGAM, DECEMBER 05: A daylong Farmers' awareness camp under PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PM FME) was organized by Department of Animal Husbandry Budgam at Block Narbal.

The participants were briefed about the scope of Food Processing Industry in District Budgam and they were encouraged to get financial cover under the scheme, where handholding will be provided by the Department of Animal Husbandry Budgam.

Speaking on the occasion, the SDVH Budgam, Dr Javed Ahmed said that unemployed youth can set up their own Food Processing Units, like Milk Processing, Juice and Jam unit, Bread making unit, Tomato ketchup unit, along with poultry and Cattle feed unit, under PMFME 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.

He also informed the partici-



pants about the assistance and hand-holding support provided by the Department to the interested applicants and the various training provided to help and guide them at each level.

Dr Javed spoke about the importance of registering food processing enterprises, branding and marketing aspects to enhance the salability of the food products. Dr Zahoor Ahmed Sofi, Block

Veterinary Officer Narbal threw light on poultry meat processing which includes addition of ingredients, and/or heat treatment to poultry meat to create a variety of value added products.

He informed participants about the major product forms which can be made from poultry meat including designed poultry meat, patties (breaded or roasted), nuggets, tenders, fillets, wings,

drums, and thighs, prepared and either par-fried (partially cooked in oil for less than a minute) or cooked in many different possible forms.

Bashir Ahmed, Marketing officer Department of Horticulture (Planning & Marketing) briefed about the marketing and branding of processed food products as an important intervention for sustainable development of the food industry.

Officers from different allied departments like Horticulture, Agriculture and Sheep Husbandry also participated. The camp witnessed huge participation of unemployed educated youth and other farmer groups and many farmers showed their interest to establish micro food processing units under the PMFME Scheme. Officers from different allied departments like Horticulture, Agriculture and Sheep Husbandry also participated. The camp witnessed huge participation of unemployed educated youth and other farmer groups and many farmers showed.

JKSSB: DC Baramulla inspects Examination Center at Buchoo Pattan

BARAMULLA, DECEMBER 05: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar accompanied by various other Officers today paid visit to Examination Center Cryptech Digital Academy Rinji Buchoo to take stock of facilities and arrangements put in place for smooth and transparent conduct of Computer Based Test being held by Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board.

Pertinently, Control rooms for every designated centers had been established for the ease of the aspirants besides CCTV cameras and biometric had also been ensured in all the Centers for the smooth conduct of the examination.

After expressing satisfaction for the arrangements, the DC directed the Centre Observers, Magistrates and Superintendents to ensure better coordination for fair and



smooth conduct of the examination in the district.

Meanwhile, Magistrates were deployed at all the examination centers and district police had also been put in place for all necessary security arrangements for conduct of the said examination.

Moreover, the DC also interacted with the aspirants and enquired from them about the facilities and arrangements made by the district administration during which the aspirants showed satis-

faction and thanked district administration over the arrangements made for the convenience of the aspirants. Pertinently, Control rooms for every designated centers had been established for the ease of the aspirants besides CCTV cameras and biometric had also been ensured in all the Centers for the smooth conduct of the examination.

After expressing satisfaction for the arrangements, the DC directed the Centre Observers.

SKUAST-K, KVK Budgam celebrate 'World Soil Health Day'

BUDGAM, DECEMBER 05: SKUAST-K and KVK Budgam today celebrated the 'World Soil Day' with the theme "Soils, Where Food Begins", with farmers of the district and Extension functionaries.

The Senior Scientist and Head KVK Budgam, Dr. Bilal Ahmad Lone in his inaugural speech gave thrust upon the importance of natural resources (soil) and how to preserve it for future generations.

Sharik Ahmad, JAEO soil testing lab Budgam spoke about the importance of soil in our lives and judicial application of fertilizers.

Dr. Aamir from DARS SKUAST-K interacted with farmers regarding Soil Health Management, while Dr. Shazia Ramzan briefed the audience about scientific methods of soil sampling

Basharat Ahmad, who has been running a Private Soil Testing Laboratory at Khag, in the district, for the last two years, shared his personal experience of Soil Testing as a profitable employment opportunity in the District.

The event was attended by more than 60 farmers of the district and scientists of this Kendra. 50 Soil health cards were distributed on spot to the farmers on the occasion.

LCMA conducts demolition drive in various Srinagar areas

SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 05: The Enforcement Wing of Lake Conservation & Management Authority (LCMA) today undertook a demolition drive in the areas of Lashkari Mohalla Friends Colony Chandpora Harwan Batpora Ishber Nishat and Saida Kadal.

During the drive, 04 Plinth, 04 Single storeys, 01 3rd storey and 03 2nd storeys were demolished/ removed. Moreover, illegal earth filling dumped in the area of Saida Kadal was also removed on spot.

Further, legal action against the violators was also initiated.

People in these areas have been warned not to resort to any illegal construction/ encroachments and were asked to get proper building permission from the competent Authority before taking any construction in hand.

KVK-Gurez celebrates 'World Soil Day'

BANDIPORA, DECEMBER 05: KVK-Gurez on Monday celebrated 'World Soil Day' at Kanzalwan, Gurez under the theme "Soils: Where Food Begins". The programme was attended by a huge gathering of farmers and farm women. BDC Chairman Bagtor, Mukhtar Ahmad Lone interacted with the participants and stressed upon them to take full advantage of the initiatives taken by KVK-Gurez. He further asked the participants to adhere to the technologies developed by SKUAST-Kashmir which are being promoted and disseminated by KVKs. The incharge head of the Kendra, Dr Bilal Ahmad Bhat gave detailed account of the role of soil health management practices under the current changing climatic scenario, indiscriminate use of chemicals, mismanagement of applied inputs which adversely affect the soil health as is evident from increased land degradation, ground water imbalances, impaired soil health and soil pollution etc.

PCCF J&K visits South Forest Circle; reviews Plantation & development works

ANANTNAG, DECEMBER 05: The PCCF & HoFF J&K, Dr. Mohit Gera today inspected different Forest areas of Lidder Forest Division and reviewed the ongoing Greening and development works.

DDC Chairman Anantnag, Mohd. Yousf Gorski also accompanied the PCCF. The PCCF was accompanied by T. Rabi Kumar, APOCF Kashmir, Irfan Ali Shah, Conservator of Forests, Kashmir South Circle, Mehraj Ahmad Sheikh, and other forest officers and officials.

The PCCF kick-started plantation drive in Compartment 55 B/L Benard Lidder Forest Division which is an adapted patch as per Government of India guidelines. On the said occasion school children, members of Panchayati Raj Institutions, civil society members, NGO Representatives, members from media fraternity participated in the plantation drive.

In his address, PCCF informed that forests provide ecological services to humans, which has further become significant as

they combat the adverse effects of climate change through carbon sequestration and climate amelioration. He said forests are the lungs of our planet earth and its effective conservation requires a state of harmony and balance between ecology and development needs.

He also visited a proposed site identified for development of Nagar Van at Munjhadan Mahind falling in the vicinity of Bijbehara Municipal Committee and issued several directions for overall development of the area through implementation of Nagar Van Scheme.

He inspected the site for development of Forest Conference Hall in Forest Complex Bijbehara. He also inspected Central Nursery Bijbehara where he directed for the introduction of Root trainer technology and development of mother beds.

The PCCF directed for maintaining and raising of quality planting material in the nurseries.

Later, PCCF inspected a proposed site for development of Biodiversity Park in Pampore

Range of Awantipora Forest

Division where he gave direc-

tions for submission of DPR.

He informed that projects like these help to develop a connection with the local people, aid in biodiversity conservation and also have recreational and educational benefits. Further, he said Development of Biodiver-



sity Park in Pampore is a part of Ecotourism development plan for South Circle and will attract a large number of tourists and visitors and will help in supporting local livelihoods as well. The PCCF kick-started plantation drive in Compartment 55 B/L Benard Lidder Forest Division which is an adapted

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He inspected the site for development of Forest Conference Hall in Forest Complex.

Awareness prog. on 'Maintenance & Welfare of Parents & Senior Citizens Act' held at DCC Moominabad, Srinagar

SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 05: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar, under the aegis of JK Legal Services Authority and in collaboration with National Institute of Social Defense, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India and Anugraha Regional Resource & Training Centre on Ageing today organized one day Awareness Programme on "Maintenance & Welfare of Parents & Senior Citizens Act" at the Conference hall of ADR Centre District Court Complex Moominabad, here.

The Programme started with the speech of Bisma Khan, Advocate (Resource Person) who spoke on Sociological aspects of Ageing with dignity and Constitutional Provision for the Senior Citizens.

This was followed by Syed Sibtain Rizvi, Advocate (Resource Person) who highlighted the Provisions of Maintenance under Section 125 Cr. PC for the Senior Citizens in Particular. Malik Fahad, Advocate (Resource Per-

son) Spoke on Maintenance & Welfare of Parents & Senior Citizens Act 2007, while Suhaila Ali, Advocate (Resource Person) highlighted the role of DLSAs in welfare of Senior Citizens.

At the conclusion of event, Fozia Paul Sub-Judge/Secretary DLSA Srinagar thanked all the resource Persons, Participants for participating in the programme and Anugraha Regional Resource & Training Centre on Ageing for organizing such an event for senior citizens which is the need of the hour. The Programme started with the speech of Bisma Khan, Advocate (Resource Person) who spoke on Sociological aspects of Ageing with dignity and Constitutional Provision for the Senior Citizens.

This was followed by Syed Sibtain Rizvi, Advocate (Resource Person) who highlighted the Provisions of Maintenance under Section 125 Cr. PC for the Senior Citizens in Particular. Malik Fahad, Advocate (Resource Person) Spoke on Maintenance & Welfare of Parents .

KHEI, DRSC observe 'International Volunteers Day'

SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 05: Kashmir Harvard Educational Institute (KHEI) in collaboration with District Red Cross Committee (DRSC) Srinagar today observed 'International Volunteers Day'. The day is observed to offer an opportunity for volunteer-involving organizations and individual volunteers to promote volunteerism, encourage governments to support volunteer efforts, and recognize volunteer contributions to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at local, national, and international levels.

Dr. Syed Hanief Balkhi, Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Srinagar was the chief guest on the occasion. At the outset, Vice Principal, Mukhtar Ahmad Kant welcomed the chief guest and other dignitaries. Chairman of the school, Tariq Ahmad Baktoo welcomed all the guests and highly appreciated Shabir Hussain Khan (Blood donor of Kashmir) who has donated 180 points of blood. Dr Farah, BMO Hazratbal spoke on the occasion and focused on the importance of volunteerism. Earlier, the programme started with the recitation

of the holy Quran and then students threw light on the importance of volunteerism and its need in this dog eat dog world.

The speakers spoke about the importance of volunteerism in our society and focused that the young generation should prepare from the very beginning toward this noble cause. It infused in them the spirit of empathy towards those who need help in the difficult times. The speakers spoke about the importance of volunteerism in our society and focused that the young generation should prepare from the very beginning toward.

'My Town My Pride' 2.0 begins at Hajin with overwhelming public participation

BANDIPORA, DECEMBER 05: 'My Town My Pride', government's unique initiative commenced here on Monday at Hajin witnessing overwhelming public participation.

Special Secretary Skill Development, Mohammad Ashraf visited Hajin to assess public issues and concerns besides taking stock of development scenarios in the town.

The two-day long programme, an initiative for the Municipal areas, is being conducted in Urban Local Bodies, during which camps for public service delivery are being set up.

Students on occasion performed various cultural programmes and other competitions were held to enthral the participants.

Special Secretary, Skill Development, the Visiting Officer for Municipal Committee Hajin convened a joint meeting of officers, councillors and senior citizens at Municipal Committee Hajin and discussed the devel-

opment issues of the town.

He said the main aim of this programme is to reach out to the urban population to redress their grievances. He took feedback from the Councillors and asked concerned officers to redress the grievances of the people in a time bound manner.

President, Municipal Committee Hajin, Irshad Ahmad Wani briefed the visiting officer about the development profile of the town besides projecting some important issues concerning growth and development of the area.

The visiting officer met various delegations who projected their demands and problems regarding their development requirements. He heard them patiently and assured them that their demands will be projected for redressal to authorities.

The Visiting Officer also distributed land Passbooks, Golden Cards under Ayushman Bharat, Cheques to PMAY beneficiaries and baby kits under



various individual beneficiary Oriented Schemes on the occa-

sion.

He along with MC Chairman Hajin, SDM Sumbal, Executive Officer, and ZEO later toured Hajin town and inspected various ongoing projects in the town.

The event was attended by Chairman Municipal Committee Hajin Irshad Ahmad Wani, Executive Officer Hajin, Traders Federation, Transport Association, Civil society and other senior citizens of the area. The visiting officer met various delegations who projected their demands and problems regarding their development requirements. He heard them patiently and assured them that their demands will be projected for redressal to authorities.

The Visiting Officer also distributed land Passbooks, Golden Cards under Ayushman Bharat, Cheques to PMAY beneficiaries and baby kits under various individual beneficiary Oriented Schemes on the occasion.

PIAs organize Job Fairs under HIMAYAT Mission

SRINAGAR/ JAMMU, DECEMBER 5: Project Implementation Agencies organized two job fairs under Himayat Mission Management Unit (HMMU) one each in Jammu and Anantnag.

A total of 70 candidates in Jammu and 103 candidates in Anantnag trained under Himayat Programme took part in these Job Fairs.

Representatives of 15 Companies participated in the event including Airtel, SBI Card, La Pinoz Pizza, Pizza Milano (Anantnag) Dominos, V-mart, employers from Hospitality Sector and Telecom like Kyber Resorts and SPA, Raddison (Pahalgam), Tenon FM outsource, Hotel Hill Top (Gulmarg/Pahalgam), Ecom Express, The Chin and others.

Pertinently, Himayat DDUGKY is a flagship skill development cum placement program of Union Ministry of Rural Development. The scheme is being implemented in Private-Public-Partnership (PPP) mode

by Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) empaneled with the Union Ministry of Rural Development. The objective of the program is to impart skill training and employment to unemployed youth of J&K.

Job Fair at Jammu was inaugurated by Sajad Chowdhary, State Project Manager, HIMAYAT and at Anantnag the event was inaugurated by Javed Iqbal, Principal, Government Polytechnic, Larkipora.

While speaking on the occasion, they appreciated the employers present on the occasion for providing employment opportunities to the youth. They also urged upon them to engage maximum number of Himayat trained candidates in future recruitment drives in their respective agencies/companies. They added that these type of job fairs provide an opportunity to the trained candidates from all streams to access various career options.

State Project Manager, HIMAYAT, congratulat-

ed all the shortlisted candidates and encouraged them to take placement opportunities outside the state of Jammu & Kashmir as well.

Speaking on the occasion of the Job Fair at Anantnag, Adil Ashraf Tanki, State Project Manager, HIMAYAT, expressed gratitude to all the employers for their contribution in supplementing the efforts of Himayat Mission Management Unit as regard to provide the employment opportunities to youth.

On the occasion, employers were felicitated with mementos.

Besides, the events were also attended by the representative from the Department of Employment, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, Sarpanch, Lukhawan (PRI member) State Project Managers (Himayat), Project Officers (NIRD&PR), District Programme Manager IBCB and Livelihoods, UMEED JKRLM and representatives of various Project Implementing Agencies.

Additional Secretary, SWD visits Sumbal; distributes sanction letters for establishment of Sheep, Dairy Units

BANDIPORA, DECEMBER 05: The second phase of My Town, My Pride started today with much fanfare at Sumbal subdivision of the district where Additional Secretary, Social Welfare Department (SWD) visited as Visiting Officer on a two day mission.

The officer early in the morning inspected the stalls showcasing the different programmes and products of the govt. He thereafter interacted with frontline workers of the departments and was apprised about the various development initiatives taken up.

Later, delegations, prominent citizens, and the public put up issues of public importance confronting the town ranging from better drainage systems, public amenities to building sports infrastructure for the youth.

On the occasion, cultural activities enthralled the massive public which participated with great enthusiasm.

Day one also witnessed speeches about drug addictions and painting competitions which in-



formed the masses about the harmful ramifications of the drug addictions and role of the multi sectoral initiatives in curbing the same. Sports activities, especially Tug of War, were also held by the department of education. Sanction letters for establishment of various Sheep dairy units were provided to beneficiaries along with distribution of land passbooks by the Visiting officer.

Nodal Officer Coordination, Mohd Ashraf Hakak; SDM Sumbal Bashir Ahmad Lone; DIO, Showkat Hussain Ganie; DSWO, Ubaid Ul

Khazir among other district and sub divisional level officers and officials were present. Later, delegations, prominent citizens, and the public put up issues of public importance confronting the town ranging from better drainage systems, public amenities to building sports infrastructure for the youth.

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Day one also witnessed speeches about drug addictions and painting competitions.

Special Secretary School Education Department visits Langate, Participated in Mega event MTMP Langate

DR.AB QAYOOM

Langate, Dec.05: Special Secretary, School Education Department, Naseer Ahmad Wani, designated Visiting Officer for Municipal Committee Langate today participated in the My Town My Pride function at Town Hall Langate. Chairman Municipal Committee Langate, Shah Nawaz Abdullah, CEO Kupwara, Abdul Hameed Fani, EO MC Langate, Imtiyaz ul Haq and other concerned officers attended the function. Addressing the function, the Special Secretary said that the ambitious programme 'My Town My Pride' has been launched to address the issues of the people living in the towns, like back to village 4 was held for rural people. He said during MTMP programme, officers gave detailed awareness about the government schemes to the people living in towns. He inspected the Stalls established by



various departments and interacted with the stall holders. The Special Secretary kick started plantation drive by planting some plants in the premises in presence of the Chairman MC Langate and other officers. The Special Secretary distributed Soil Health Cards among the beneficiaries. A cultural programme was also held at the occasion. Later, the Special Secretary in the evening visited SDH Langate and distributed Blood Donation Certificates among Asha Workers.

Samoon participates in MTMP mela at Town Hall Kupwara Distributes sanction letters under PMMSY, PMEGP, KVIB

KUPWARA, DECEMBER 05: Principal Secretary Skill Development Department, Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon today said that My Town My Pride 2.0 (MTMP) programme has shown a right direction to refine the new vistas of development in towns, adding that development of town is top most priority of JK Union Territory Government.

Principal Secretary, who is also Mentor Secretary for Kupwara district, said this during inspection of stalls established by various departments at Town Hall Kupwara in connection with MY TOWN MY PRIDE programme.

Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Doifode Sagar Dattatray; Chairman Municipal Council Kupwara, Reyaz Ahmad Mir; Vice Chairman DDC Kupwara, Haji Farooq Ahmad Mir were present at the occasion. EO MC Kupwara, Anees Ahmad Chowdhary, besides other



district officers also attended the function.

Principal Secretary said that My Town My Pride programme is envisaged to provide awareness about various government schemes to the people living in towns. He said creation of employment opportunities is paramount to infrastructural development and added that Deputy Commissioners have been directed to ensure identification of educated unemployed youth in all villages and towns for

their proper training in their field of interest and trades so that they shall be able to set up their own self employment units, for which government is always ready to handhold them. He said skill development and self-employment are interconnected fields on which the government is focusing with utmost priority.

Earlier, Dr. Samoon inspected stalls installed by various departments including Youth Services & Sports, ITI/Skill Development, Social Welfare,

ICDS, Revenue, NRLM, Sheep/Animal Husbandry, Ayushman Bharat, Handicrafts, Fisheries, District Industries Centre, Social Forestry, Agriculture, Horticulture, J&K Bank, Grameen Bank and SBI.

Dr. Samoon interacted with the stallholders and beneficiaries and enquired about their schemes.

On the occasion, Dr. Samoon distributed sanction letters among the beneficiaries under PMMSY, PMEGP and KVIB.

Dr. Samoon interacted with the Citizen Forum Kupwara who presented their memorandum to him about the developmental issues of the Kupwara town. In his address, Deputy Commissioner Kupwara said that the Jan Ahiyan activities under the ambitious programme 'My Town My Pride' were held in the town during last one week in all the 3 municipalities of the district.

Staff of AA&M Kashmir condole with Director on demise of his father

SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 05: A condolence meeting was today held in the memory of Late Sardari Lal, father of Pardeep Kumar, Director, Archives, Archaeology & Museums (AA&M), J&K in the Directorate of Archives, Archaeology and Museums, Srinagar.

All the employees of the Department (Kashmir Division) participated and conveyed their heartfelt and deepest condolences to the bereaved family. They prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss with fortitude.

"SAY NO TO DRUGS , YES TO LIFE"

Kulgam Police held Anti-Drug awareness rally under the banner of Nasha Mukht Abhiyan



Farooq Rather

Kulgam; 05th December 2022 District Police Kulgam in collaboration with civil society and local media organized an awareness rally under the banner of "Prevention of Drug Addiction". The rally was attended by students/ teaching & non teaching staff of different schools of Kulgam, members of media fraternity, Municipal Committee Members, youth and other respectables of the Kulgam district. The awareness rally was flagged off by SSP Kulgam Dr. G.V Sundeep Chakravarthy-IPS along with DySP Headquarter Kulgam Shri Gh Mohammad Bhat-JKPS, SHO Kulgam & other officers of civil administration and Police also witnessed the rally. The rally passed through Main Market Kulgam and Culminated at Ganta Ghar Kulgam. The main aim of the rally was to spread awareness about ill effects of drug abuse and its consequences. SSP Kulgam, on the event appealed the general public to join hands with Administration and Kulgam Police in curbing the abuse of drugs & related substances to eliminate this social evil from society. Students/Staff members were holding banners and placards in their hands with messages against substance abuse and raised slogans against the social evil and pledged to join their hands to eradicate this menace from the society. "Don't let Drugs Ruin your world"

My Town My pride begins in all four ULBs in Kulgam

Farooq Rather



KULGAM, DECEMBER 05: Ambitious programme launched by the government 'My Town My Pride' began here today in all four Urban Local Bodies (Municipal Council and Municipal Committees) in Kulgam district.

On first day of the programme, the Visiting Officers listened to issues and concerns of the people besides taking stock of development scenario in these areas.

Commissioner Secretary Revenue, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, who is the Visiting Officer for Municipal Council Kulgam visited Kulgam where he interacted with the people to listen to their issues for redressal. He was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner, Kulgam, Dr Bilal-Mohi-Ud-Din-Bhat, SSP, Dr. G V Sandeep, President Municipal Council, Kulgam, Muneeb Ahmad and other Councillors and officers.

He also inspected stalls installed by different departments to aware people about their schemes and programmes. Registration counters were also setup to provide on spot registration facilities to the beneficiaries here at Rest house Chawalgam Kulgam.

Later, Commissioner Secretary distributed sanction letters, golden cards, domicile certificates among the beneficiaries besides giving away landpass books to the land owners. Besides, the beneficiaries were also provided advance mobilization payment under PMAY-U. Earlier, a plantation drive was kick started by planting a sapling of Conifer at Rest house Kulgam.

On the occasion, colourful and mesmerizing cultural programmes were also presented by the professional groups and schools students.

Mayor Srinagar, Principal Secretary HUDD launches events under 'My Town My Pride 2.0'

SRINAGAR DECEMBER 52: Mayor Srinagar, Junaid Azim Mattu and Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban Development, Department, Dheeraj Gupta, today kick started various events and programs in and around Srinagar city under 'My Town My Pride 2.0' being organized by Srinagar Municipal Corporation at SK Park, Srinagar. Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Aijaz Assad and Commissioner SMC and VC, LCMA, Dr. Bashir Ahmad Bhat were also present during launch of the events.

During the programme, Principal Secretary interacted with corporators, frontline government functionaries, members of NGOs and prominent citizens.

Dheeraj Gupta inspected about 30 stalls set up by different departments for on spot delivery of services. He also inaugurated a plantation drive in the park launched by DFO Urban Forestry and DFO LCMA.

Earlier, during the program, Junaid Azim Matoo and Dheeraj Gupta distributed letters, cheques and certificates among beneficiaries under various schemes.

Principal Secretary also visited Ganta Ghar, Polo View, Jhelum Bund ABC/ARV Centre Tengpora, and Community Centre Batamalo and took detailed stock of the ongoing projects in these areas.

Later, a 'Nukkad Naatak' was organized to spread the public ser-



vice message and open discussion on 'Nasha Mukht and Bhastachar Mukht J&K' was also organized by Department of Youth Services and Sports, J&K.

Mayor Srinagar and Principal Secretary also visited Kothibagh Higher Secondary School and took pledge for 'Nasha Mukht Kashmir' along students, teachers.

After the pledge taking ceremony, Mayor Srinagar and Principal Secretary inaugurated a volley ball match and a basketball match in the school.

They also inspected various projects undertaken under Smart City and also took on spot status of the undergoing projects being developed under Smart City at Ganta

Ghar and Residency Road. Mayor Srinagar and Principal Secretary along Deputy Commissioner Srinagar and Vice Chairman LCMA also visited parking complex at press enclave and took the detailed review of works undertaken.

The two day programme was simultaneously launched from different locations across the city by the Corporation. A number of designated dignitaries, concerned officials from various departments and general public attended these programmes. The two day programme was simultaneously launched from different locations across the city by the Corporation. A number of designated dignitaries, concerned officials from various departments.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO REVERSE FATTY LIVER?



FARHA AKRAM

Fatty liver is a condition that occurs when too much fat builds up in the liver cells. It can lead to the liver becoming enlarged and swollen. In severe cases, fatty liver can lead to liver cirrhosis and failure. Luckily, fatty liver is reversible. One of the most praised qualities of the liver is its ability to heal and recover from diseases. You may even wholly reverse fatty liver with early diagnosis and timely treatment. However, the type of fatty liver you're suffering from can determine how long it may take to reverse the disease.

There are two types of fatty liver conditions, alcoholic and non-alcoholic, that show different healing timelines and treatment protocols.

Fatty Liver Disease: An Overview

Most people with a fatty liver are unaware of their liver problem due to the vague and non-specific symptoms, especially during the early stages. Therefore, determining the type and underlying cause of your fatty liver disease is the first step in the reversal process.

Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (ALD)

As the name suggests, chronic alcohol consumption or alcohol abuse leads to alcoholic fatty liver disease. Since your liver and kidneys are your body's primary detoxifying systems, they take the most hit from alcohol dependence.

In addition, long-term alcohol consumption weakens liver cells, which causes extensive inflammation and impairs the liver's ability to function normally.

ALD can cause nausea, vomiting, fever, jaundice, abdominal discomfort, and alcoholic cirrhosis. Cirrhosis is the accumula-

tion of liver fibrosis, or scar tissue, which ultimately results in liver failure that can be fatal. A person has a higher chance of recovery in each stage if they refrain from drinking alcohol.

Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD)

A more comprehensive range of factors, like fatty buildup from a poor diet, inactivity, genetic susceptibility, or health disorders connected to metabolic syndrome like obesity and type 2 diabetes, can contribute to non-alcoholic fatty liver disease.

It can be challenging to reverse non-alcoholic fatty liver disease since there are many potential reasons, with no one more or less relevant than the others. However, patients with NAFLD must reduce their general body weight, eliminate excess body fat, and enhance their insulin sensitivity and blood sugar regulation.

The most extreme variation of NAFLD is non-alcoholic steatohepatitis or NASH. Like an alcoholic fatty liver disease, NASH increases the risk of fatality by exposing one to cardiovascular diseases and develops into fibrosis (liver tissue scarring), cirrhosis, liver cancer, or liver failure. It can also cause early death if one fails to receive a timely liver transplant.

How Long Does It Take to Reverse Fatty Liver Disease?

How long it takes for a compromised liver to return to normal depends on your condition, diet, adherence to treatment, age, and genetics. However, on an average, it is possible to reverse fatty liver in as little as six weeks. Sometimes, an otherwise healthy person can attain a complete reversal of fatty liver in under two months.

Alcoholic hepatitis progressed from alco-

holic fatty liver disease is reversible, but there are chances of leftover damage. The recovery period will depend on the severity of your alcohol dependence.

It will take at least six months of alcohol abstinence to recover. Sometimes, a liver transplant is necessary to reverse or treat the disease effectively. In other cases, anti-inflammatory medications, steroids, and cholesterol medication can help reverse the effects in about nine months to 1 year.

Note

The recovery timeline depends on the kind of fatty liver disease you have, the stage, and whether or not you suffer from any other health conditions. An average period of 6 weeks to 2 months is an expected timeframe to recover from fatty liver disease. However, lifelong adherence to particular diet and lifestyle changes may be necessary to prevent relapse. However, ensure that you plan these sits under the supervision of a qualified dietitian.

Ways to Reverse Fatty Liver Diet

The fatty liver diet eliminates refined carbohydrates, artificial flavours, and processed sweeteners like fructose. Instead, it favours a diet low in carbohydrates made up of foods like whole grains, fruits, and vegetables, as well as fish, nuts, and seeds that consist of omega-3 fatty acids that assist you in controlling levels of inflammation. Abstaining from consuming alcohol is also crucial in reversing alcohol-induced fatty liver disease.

Medication

There are no medicines prescribed particularly to treat NAFLD. However, your

doctor may suggest some drugs and supplements based on your medical conditions. For prevention against hepatitis A and B, which might harm your liver, you might require vaccinations. Additionally, it's critical to receive an annual flu shot.

Natural supplements may be better than medicines that increase the burden on the liver when treating fatty liver, but be sure to see your doctor before taking any new supplement. You can take amino acids, turmeric, milk thistle, and vitamin E.

Rest

Studies show that stress worsens inflammation in the body resulting in increased adverse effects of fatty liver. Rest involves obtaining regular, high-quality sleep and prioritising stress-relieving activities, such as yoga in the morning, watching movies with friends or doing fun things with your kids on the weekends.

Taking charge of your schedule to make time for relaxing activities can help lessen inflammation in the body just as much as taking supplements or medications.

Conclusion

Reversing fatty liver disease before it results in chronic and irreparable liver damage could prevent fatal health events. Remember that a complete reversal of fatty liver disease for an otherwise healthy person falls between six weeks to two months.

Maintaining a healthy liver is crucial even if you do not currently experience issues with liver function. A healthier lifestyle will not only help you lose weight from your liver, but it will also enhance your general well-being. In addition, it may minimise the risk of developing fatty liver and other obesity-related diseases.

NEWS

Alarming rise in sudden heart attacks among Indians post-Covid, docs worried

As people took to social media about rising heart attacks in the young and seemingly fit people - on the street, at the dance floor, in the wedding and at the gym - leading cardiologists on Monday reiterated that long-term Covid could possibly be responsible in some cases and people must stop unaccustomed heavy exercise regimes.

The hashtag #heartattack has been trending on Twitter for the past 2-3 days, with several examples of sudden heart attacks in those who were otherwise healthy and fit.

"A 23-year-old girl (Josna Cotha) failed and died suddenly (heart attack) at a wedding reception. Tragedy happened while dancing," tweeted a user, along with posting a video.

Another Twitter user posted a video: "A young man died due to a heart attack while walking".

According to the cardiologists, the steep rise in people dying unexpectedly of heart attacks is alarming.

"Though we do not have sufficient data and evidence to prove whether this is a covid induced phenomenon, definitely this has increased post covid. Long term Covid sequelae could possibly be responsible in some cases," Dr. Samir Kubba, Director-Cardiology, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Vaishali, said.

Last month, TV actor Siddhaanth Vir Suryavanshi, who acted in popular shows such as 'Kkusum' and 'Kasautii Zindagi Kay', died from a heart attack at age 46. He was working out in the gym when he suffered the attack.

Earlier this year, comedian Raju Srivastava also collapsed in the gym while on the treadmill and after several weeks in hospital, passed away.

In 2021, southern superstar Puneeth Rajkumar, also 46, died after he had a cardiac arrest while working out in the gym.

According to Dr Sanjeev Gera, Director and Head, Cardiology, Fortis Hospital Noida, Covid or long Covid may cause persistent inflammation in heart vessels.

"This can rupture silent blockages and cause a heart attack, especially after an unaccustomed exercises like heavy weight lifting or walking on a treadmill or running in a cold weather and the risk increases when there are risk factors for heart disease like high BP, Diabetes, high cholesterol, Smoking or obesity," Gera said.

Indians are anyway at higher risk of heart attacks, that too at a younger age than the westerners because of the dietary habits, high incidence and prevalence of diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, genetic factors, increasing prevalence of obesity and sedentary lifestyles and smoking etc.

"The atherosclerotic plaque can develop in the coronary arteries early in life and can suddenly become unstable with unaccustomed heavy exercise especially if done without proper guidance and supervision," said Dr Kubba.

Also, most of the cases of sudden death are due to heart attacks but every sudden death is not due to a heart attack.

It can also be due to arrhythmia (abnormality in heart rhythm). The latter could be because of myocarditis (infection of heart muscle), silent cardiomyopathy (weakness in heart muscle) and certain genetic disorders.

"We advise a proper screening - especially of the high-risk population (diabetics, hypertensives, smokers, people with a strong family history of heart disease, people with high cholesterol, sedentary and obese people etc.) before they hit the gym, participate in a marathon, or do a sudden unaccustomed high intensity activity," Dr Kubba said.

The screening may include a good clinical examination, ECG and possibly an echocardiogram. Also the exercise regimen must not be supervised.

"No harm in carrying 300-325 mg of aspirin which can be chewed, in case of a suspected heart attack," he advised.

The risk of death from heart attack or failure after Covid-19 is very high within the first 30 days of infection, but remains heightened for some time afterwards, a new research has revealed.

The large UK Biobank study, published in the journal Heart, linked Covid to a heightened risk of poor cardiovascular health and death, particularly among those whose infection is severe requiring hospital admission.

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HEADLINES TODAY

EDITORIAL

Reservations in Education, Jobs Continue to Mar the Merit

The Issue of Reservation in Education and Government Jobs continue to be debated with heated arguments, however all the time these movements cool down in one way or the other, amid the heat of Political interests.

Pertinent to start with the Supreme Court's landmark judgement last time which sought to know during the Maratha quota case hearing, that for how many generations would reservations in jobs and education continue. SC also raised concerns over "resultant inequality" in case the overall 50 per cent limit was to be removed.

A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan was vehemently told by senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Maharashtra, that the Mandal judgement on capping the quota needed a re-look in changed circumstances.

He said the courts should leave it to states to fix reservation quotas in view of the changed circumstances and the Mandal judgement was premised on census of 1931.

Arguing in favour of the Maharashtra law granting quota to Marathas, Rohatgi referred to various aspects of the Mandal judgement, also known as Indra Sawhney case, and said the Centre's decision to grant 10 per cent quota to people from economically weaker section also breached the 50 per cent cap.

"If there is no 50 per cent or no limit, as you are suggesting, what is the concept of equality then. We will ultimately have to deal with it. What is your reflection on that... What about the resultant inequality. How many generations will you continue," observed the bench, which also comprised Justices L. Nageswara Rao, S. Abdul Nazeer, Hemant Gupta and S. Ravindra Bhat.

Rohatgi said there were many reasons for the re-look of the Mandal judgement which was premised on the census of 1931 and moreover, the population has increased many fold and reached to 135 crore.

The bench said 70 years have passed since independence and the states have been carrying on so many beneficial schemes and "can we accept that no development has taken place, that no backward caste has moved forward".

It also observed that the purpose of reviewing the Mandal judgement was that those who have come out from backwardness must be eliminated.

"Yes, we have moved forward. But it is not that backward classes have gone down from 50 to 20 per cent. We still have starvation deaths in this country... I am not trying to say that Indra Sawhney is completely wrong, throw it in the dustbin. I am raising issues that 30 years have gone by, the law has changed, the population has grown, backward persons may also have increased," Rohatgi said.

He referred to amendments made in the Constitution and said they are the indicators that the country has not reached "anywhere near the emancipation" it required for its backward classes.

"The fact of the matter is Parliament should know what is going on in the country. If Parliament knows it is more than 50 per cent and has given 10 per cent to a class of economically backward section, no warrant from court should say it cannot go over 50 per cent," he argued.

When a number of states have reservations exceeding 50 per cent and in this situation, it cannot be said that this is not "a burning issue" and does not require a relook after 30 years, he said.

The arguments in the case remained inconclusive and would resume on Monday.

On Thursday, Attorney General K. K. Venugopal had told the apex court that the 102nd amendment to the Constitution does not deprive state legislatures to enact law determining the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) and conferring benefits on them.

The 102nd Constitution amendment Act of 2018 inserted Articles 338B, which deals with the structure, duties and powers of the National Commission for Backward Class (NCBC), and 342A dealing with power of the President to notify a particular caste as SEBC as also of Parliament to change the list.

On Wednesday, the top court was told that Marathas have been dominant "socially and politically" as almost 40 per cent of MPs and MLAs of Maharashtra are from this community and the entire hypothesis that they have been left behind, faced historical injustice is completely flawed.

The top court has been hearing a clutch of cases challenging the Bombay High Court verdict which upheld the grant of quota to Marathas in admissions and government jobs in the state.

Protect soils to boost production

DR. VIVAK M ARYA, TAMANNA SHARMA

Soil is the natural medium for the growth of plants, consisting of layers (horizons) that are composed of weathered mineral materials, organic material, air and water (FAO). Soil is the result of the cumulative effects of climate, topography, organisms (including flora, fauna, and humans), and parent materials (original rocks and minerals) throughout time. The significance of soil can be traced back to our Vedas. One of the quote from our vedas said "Soil is my mother, I am her son" - Vedas Sanskrit scripture. This filial allegiance confirms that soil and humanity have evolved together. In fact, if there is life on the planet Earth, it is because there is a thin layer of soil on its top. It's impossible to rank the importance of distinct soil functions because they're all important to our well-being in some way. However, it is crucial for the maintenance and expansion of human life on this planet that support food and agriculture globally.

The maintenance of natural and planted vegetation, including our diverse forests and grasslands and the vast array of crop species and varieties that are cultivated or managed for their diverse food, fibre, fodder, fuel, and medicinal products in relation to the local climate, landscape, and soil type and in accordance with societal needs, is also primarily dependent on soil. The soil is vital for maintaining plant development and the diversity of above-ground animals, such as wild animals and domesticated livestock. The importance of soil in determining the quality and sustainability of our water supply is becoming more widely acknowledged. World's soils serve as the largest terrestrial carbon sink, and are key in mitigating climate change. It acts as a source and sink of most of the nutrients. Soil organic matter, primarily composed of carbon, also supports soil fertility and water filtration, ecosystem services that provide food and water security for mankind. The preservation of the earth's history and cultural legacy is dependent on soil. It is widely acknowledged that one of the most



significant worldwide issues for food security and sustainability is soil nutrient loss, a significant process of soil degradation that threatens nutrition. The amount of vitamins and nutrients in food has severely reduced over the last 70 years, and it is believed that 2 billion people worldwide suffer from micronutrient malnutrition, sometimes known as hidden hunger due to its concealed nature. Some soils become nutrient depleted and lose their ability to support crops as a result of soil degradation, whereas other soils have nutrient concentrations that are so high that they create a toxic environment for plants and animals, contaminate the environment, and leads to climate change. Globally, 33% of soils are degraded. By addressing the increasing challenges in soil management, raising soil awareness, and motivating societies to improve soil health, World Soil Day 2022 (#WorldSoilDay) and its campaign "Soils: Where Food Begin" seek to increase awareness of the significance of maintaining healthy ecosystems and human well-being. Sustainable soil management could increase food production by up to 58%.

The world's population is forecasted to increase to around 9.6 billion by 2050, after which the growth is expected to stabilize (United

Nations, 2013). Ninety-five per cent of global food is produced in soils. Soils have the capacity to store, transform, and recycle nutrients that people need to survive. Of the 18 nutrients essential to plants, 15 are supplied by soils - if they are healthy. One of the key global soil risks is defined as soil nutrient imbalance, which is brought on by the improper, excessive, and underuse of nutrients. The excessive use or the misuse of fertilizers also have negative effects on ecosystems and contribute to climate change, including through biodiversity loss, fertility loss and greenhouse gas emissions. Unfortunately, due to decreased soil fertility, many vegetables and fruits are not as rich in vitamins and nutrients as they were 70 years ago. Despite using improved cultivars, low crop yields are the result of significant soil degradation, particularly low SOM reserves and poor soil structure, which exacerbate drought stress.

No-till, residue mulch and cover crops, integrated nutrient management, biochar used in connection with improved crops (genetically modified, biotechnology-based cropping systems), and energy plantation for biofuel generation are all examples of recommended technology. However, a variety of biophysical, social, and economic constraints leads to limited accep-

tion of these technologies. To adapt to the changing climate and meet the demands of expanding populations for food, fodder, fuel, and fabrics, improved soil management strategies must be used. Food security, as well as world peace and stability, depend on soil restoration and sustainable management. Soil degradation has been defined as a "global pandemic", as it affects the entire world. In agricultural areas with high population densities, soil degradation has become a very serious issue. The overall effects of soil degradation pose a major threat to food security especially in poor regions. FAO emphasises that there is a direct link between poverty and land degradation. Soil degradation can occur through the following processes: physical (i.e., erosion, compaction), chemical (i.e., acidification, salinization) and biological (i.e., loss of soil organic matter, loss of biodiversity).

Therefore, it is critical to take action to halt soil degradation and implement measures to enhance soil health because such degradation reduces the long-term ability of soils to provide the complex multitude of services upon which the very survival of humanity is dependent. In J and K, soil is naturally subjected to various losses such as water erosion, wind erosion and partly due to flooding and

waterlogging due to its topographical features, climatic conditions and faulty management practices. Various anthropogenic activities contributing towards degradation and loss of soil includes deforestation, forest fires, illegal encroachments, overuse of fertilizers, exhaustive cropping systems etc. Of all these aforementioned factors, erosion is the major cause of soil loss. Authors have quantified soil losses in Shivaliks and it was estimated that approximately 27 to 30 tonnes of soil is lost in a year from one hectare area of land. The need of the hour is to minimize the losses and reclaim the soils as much as possible.

The simplest and easiest way to control erosion is through planting vegetation. Erosion from barren land is more, grasses reduce the flow of water, thereby controlling runoff and soil loss. Soil erosion can be controlled by various agro-engineering measures like cultivation along the contour, strip cropping, contour bunding, terracing etc. As far as the anthropogenic activities are concerned awareness and strict regulations will help. The current situation demands the awareness and education among farmers in relation to soil health and various scientists from SKUAST-J are working on it. Various camps, workshops etc have been organized in remote villages to provide solutions regarding various issues concerned with soil productivity and health.

Conclusion: Soil forms the foundation of the Water-Food-Energy nexus. The inclusion of "soil" in the Water-Soil-Food-Energy nexus highlights the fact that soil degradation reduces the long-term ability of soils to provide the complex multitude of other services that are essential for the survival of humanity. Food production is almost entirely dependent on soil to produce food for the growing human population. Of key importance is the need to recognize that soils are a finite resource, and that the degradation of soils leads to a clear economic loss of services. Hopefully, by creating awareness we will be able to protect soils which will boost the productivity and sustainability of our planet.

(The authors are from SKUAST-J)

Global climate governance and India's role

ARYAN GANDRAI

The IPCC in its 6th assessment report says that human activities are causing climate change and the earth is warming by 1.5 degrees Celsius and if it is business as usual then it would be 2-6 degrees by the end of the century, the UN secretary general has called this "code red for humanity" having geographical, socio-economic and political consequences. The climate catastrophe is a reality and a truly global threat, the largest security threat seen in contemporary times. The solution sought was a global effort through the institution of UN framework convention on climate change (UNFCCC) based on the ideals of "sustainable development".

Yet, even after 50 years of Stockholm conference and 30 years of UNFCCC (Rio summit) the nations have not acted in "concert". The crisis is proliferating, the "lip service" and the "lofty goals" at the climate high table are not yielding any significant changes on ground as seen in the failure of the recent COP-27 at Egypt in devising a strong joint statement. The world is divided between the "developed and developing countries".

The Issues inhibiting global environmental governance are manifold first being, Climate justice, the question is "who is responsible for the damage and who ought to contribute towards its mitigation?", the developing countries take the view of common but differentiated responsibility (CBDR) and historical responsibility of the developed countries, having ushered into industrial growth first and damaging the environment, squeezing the "carbon budget". The developed, while accepting the gravity of situation maintain that since it was not known back then, there should be shared responsibility of all towards climate change mitigation and adaptation specially those like China and India, the fast-growing economies and the largest emitters (1st and 3rd respectively)

Second, the developed countries in order to make their economies clean and green have practiced "carbon shifting", the shifting of greenhouse gas (GHG) emission intensive industries to developing economies having liberal regulations. At the same time, access to



new age cutting technology have enabled developed nations to make profits out of "carbon fixing". It is an ongoing unequal exchange of "green washing" veiled as climate action.

Third, the bone of contention is not just the acceptance of responsibility but also capacity to undertake mitigation and adaptation measures, which requires finance and technology specially to the developing countries both (SIDS) facing the brunt of sea level rise and other economies to build climate resilient infrastructure and adopting new clean-green sources of energy. In this respect, the promise of 100 billion dollars made at Copenhagen summit 2009 is not just unfulfilled but also insignificant given the "trillions of dollars" required not just in adaptation and mitigation but also "loss and damage" (compensation) as highlighted in the recent COP 27.

Fourth, the failure of Kyoto protocol as a top-down mechanism was sought to be rectified with intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs) based on a "ratchet mechanism" (incremental) at the COP 21 (Paris) is now being seen by experts as going against a binding effort, a luxury the world cannot afford given the laxity being shown in the achievement of these targets. Whereas long term "net zero" targets are mirages, the need is to devise achievable, quantifiable, incremental and binding targets in the short run.

Fifth, the main drivers of climate change and global warming are the fossils like coal, petroleum and natural gas. Different countries with different levels of economic

development, energy needs and geoeconomic interests have taken conflicting stands. In the COP 26 at Glasgow India was instrumental in revising the "phase out" coal to "phase down" reflecting the needs of the developing world whereas in the COP 27 this year India's call for gradually phasing down all types of fossils and not just coal was resisted by not just European nations (gas dependent) but also China and Saudi Arabia (oil sale). At the same time, given the impact of Russia Ukraine war, countries like Germany are going for "carbon backsliding", reopening closed coal mines.

Sixth, a "denialism" of climate change by few world leaders is one of the most pressing factors inhibiting any global governance. The most recent example was the withdrawal of USA from the Paris deal in 2017 under its then president who described climate change as "hoax".

ROLE OF INDIA

Being a 'post-colonial state' with absolute as well as relative poverty, economic development is 'sine qua non' making India the 3rd largest emitter of GHGs, yet despite hosting 17% of the global population its share in global emissions is only 5% (per capita CO2 emission at 1.2 tonnes, China - 7 tonnes and USA - 15 tonnes). India is ranked 7th in the global climate risk index, it understands the varied and voluminous impacts of climate vulnerability.

Former PM Indira Gandhi, at the Stockholm conference in 1972 remarked that "poverty is the biggest polluter", India's approach has been consistent that it seeks climate action and at the same time

socio-economic growth in the spirit of "sustainable development." As leader of the global south, India has been collaborating with likeminded developing countries (LMDCs) and BASIC (Brazil, India, South Africa and China) putting up a united front against the developed nations in terms of desisting any form of abdication of responsibility and at the same time India has shown willingness to contribute towards climate financing as seen in the COP 27.

According to the climate performance index India is ranked at 10, despite its lack of capacity it undertook ambitious targets at the Paris summit and achieved most of them, finally updating them. The "Panchamrit" unveiled by PM Modi at COP 26 Glasgow and subsequent incremental revision of its INDCs with a carbon "net zero" target by 2070 shows India's willingness to be both an example to the developing world, to undertake climate action as well as to the developed world of being an achiever. At the forefront of building climate action institutions India is bringing both developed and developing nations on a platform through which substantive actions, futuristic and innovative ideas can usher into heightened co-operation among nations achieving real changes on ground. Institutions like coalition for disaster resilient infrastructure (CDRI) and the international solar alliance (ISA) are aimed at strengthening the climate adaptation and mitigation capacity of the poorest nations yet involve developed nations like USA, France UK displaying India's willingness to build a consensus for global governance.

PM Modi has given the idea of

"LiFe" (lifestyle for environment today) as a global mass movement. It is about a pattern of development which is economically prudent, socially desirable and environmentally wise. It involves banking on traditional practices like 'zero budget natural farming'; ushering into a "circular economy"; of modern technology harnessing renewable energy sources; an emphasis on "one health approach" and an overall reduction in consumerist tendencies. India's own experience with the "swachh bharat Abhayan" shows that institutional dikats can only bring changes if the people join, it is about "Jan bhagidaari", the prime minister has appealed to the people of the world to inculcate environmentally sustainable behaviour as a way of life. In this respect, India has negated the distinction of developed and developing countries and called for "human unity".

India, banking on its civilisational ethos of "vasudhaiv kutumbakam" (the world is one family) and its present stature as one of the fastest growing economies and a geopolitical "swing state" having economic, military, cultural as well diplomatic clout. India is truly a leader of the developing world, of the global south and at the same time an equal partner of the developed comity of nations having "multi vector engagement" in the form of leadership of Non alignment movement, tough stances at the WTO and UNFCCC and at the same time engaging with the developed world in the form of G20 and being regular invitee to the G7 summits. Above all it is the achievement in the realm of "climate action" which makes it an example of a developing nation undergoing growth that is sustainable, it is being looked at as a potential consensus builder between the developed and the developing world.

In 2023 as India takes up the leadership of the G20 - its motto of "one world, one family and one future" is appropriate for the global climate governance that our mother earth is yearning for, let the land of Budha and Gandhi guide the world towards a peaceful and prosperous future.

(The author is pursuing MA Political Science at Delhi University)

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If Israel has Lapid, India has Jaichands

K N PANDITA

'THE KASHMIR FILES' film, released in the Indian theatres on March 11, 2022, was part of the Indian Panorama Section at IFFI and was screened on November 22. It stars Anupam Kher, Darshan Kumar, Mithun Chakraborty and Pallavi Joshi among others

The film revolves around the genocide of Kashmiri Hindus (Pandits) and the ethnic cleansing of the Kashmir valley of their presence in 1990 as a result of externally sponsored and locally abetted jihadism. The Indian public well received it so much so that the Prime Minister and the Home Minister, both appreciated that the film reflected what terror does to innocent and peace-loving people. Millions of Indians sympathized with the victims of Kashmir terrorism.

Background of the film

The catastrophe of genocide and mass exodus of the entire Kashmiri Hindu (Pandit) community — the millennia-old indigenous people of the Valley — happened at a time when the State of Jammu and Kashmir was governed by a coalition of the Congress and National Conference parties.

As AK-47-wielding jihadist-terrorist groups freely roamed the streets of the capital city of Srinagar brandishing their weapons, the communalized state administration caved in. At a critical moment when the elected government should have left no stone unturned to defend the people who had voted it to power, the joint leadership betrayed its cowardice

and treachery by resigning from the government and abandoning the people.

The chief minister ran away to London to sit securely within the four walls of his house; his partners in the government fled to Jammu to escape accountability. Dissolving the government was purported to create space for the jihadists to carry forward their plan of genocide and ethnic cleansing of Kashmir. Is it not true that the chief minister of J&K ordered the release of nearly 70 hard-core Kashmiri youth from the valley who had returned after receiving terrorist training in Pakistan? The police had arrested them and they were facing prosecution. They, in close cooperation with their foreign handlers, were free to carry forward their selective mission of killing the Pandits. The cry of the Hindu minority for protection and defence was silenced by the bullets pumped into their bodies.

The Central Government at the time run by the Janata Dal understood that the Congress-NC combine had already undertaken the task that its reserved vote-bank constituency would insist upon. That is why not a single soldier from the heavily manned Badami Bagh cantonment in Srinagar was moved to intervene in a grave situation. The then Home Minister of India remained mute. The regime of the day least wanted the Indian nation to know what had befallen the Pandits of Kashmir. That is why the media became tight-lipped. After all, the Pandits are not any party's vote bank owing to their

insignificant numbers.

The truth is told

Now for the first time as the tip of the iceberg is publicly revealed by the Kashmir Files, the segments that find their faces red with shame will certainly rise in revolt because they had thought that the truth would never be told. Vivek Agnihotri has made a very apt remark on the IFFI Board chairman's uncharitable statement. His tweet ran as this: "GM (good morning). Truth is the most dangerous thing. It can make people lie."

As the disparaging video of Nadav Lapid, the Chairman of the Board, went viral and most of the prominent newspapers in India carried the episode, a wave of disappointment and anger overtook the nation. The crude language used by Lapid, and their characterizing the film as propaganda, both speak of his artlessness in handling public affairs. His art may be philosophy-oriented (and philosophies can also be perversions) but India's art has roots in her history and civilization. Things like slicing a Hindu girl teacher under a machine saw or tying an outstanding scholar and social worker to a vehicle and dragging him along the cobbled road etc. are not the manifestations of Indian civilization. These are reminiscences of cannibalism.

Damage control

Happily, the mission of Israel in India, particularly the Israeli Ambassador, has tried to do a damage-controlling exercise. In an open letter to his compatriot Navid Lapid, the Ambassador has touched on some fundamental and

eye-opening aspects of Indo-Israeli relations. But before we know what the ambassador has said, we ought to know about the mindset of Navad Lapid.

India News of 29 November wrote as follows: "The Kashmir Files' was screened at IFFI on November 22 as a part of the Indian Panorama Section. Lapid criticized the entry saying the jury was "disturbed and shocked" by the film and deemed it "inappropriate for an artistic competitive section of such a prestigious film festival."

Lapid has been a vocal critic of Israel's treatment of Palestinians and, in one of his interviews, said the "Israeli collective soul is a sick soul." He was also among 250 Israeli filmmakers who signed an open letter to protest against the launch of the Shomron (Samaria/West Bank) Film Fund which they deemed had just one goal — inviting Israeli filmmakers to "actively participate in whitewashing the (West Bank) Occupation in exchange for financial support and prizes."

An observer with this mindset has the audacity of subjecting his own country and nation to maligning. He will have no qualms of conscience in identically treating India and the Indians. He hates Israel and loves Palestinians; he expects us to be the takers of his ideology. His lack of understanding of contemporary history is appalling. The Israeli Ambassador has subtly hinted at this in his open letter to Lapid.

A close analysis of Lapid's mind makes one believe in Anupam Kher's remark that the entire thing was pre-meditated.

Look how insightful and pragmatic the Ambassador has been in his open letter to Lapid. On Tuesday, the Ambassador of Israel to India, Naor Gilon, wrote a long letter to Nadav saying I'll give you the bottom line first. YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED. Here's why:

"In Indian culture they say that a guest is like God. You have abused in the worst way the Indian invitation to chair the panel of judges at IFFI Goa as well as the trust, respect and warm hospitality they have bestowed on you.

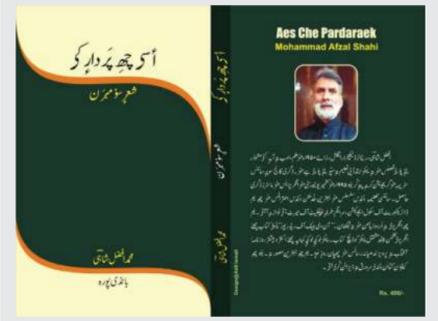
Our Indian friends brought @lioraz and @issacharoff from @FaudaOfficial to celebrate the love in India towards Fauda and Israel. I suspect that this is/ maybe also one of the reasons they invited you as an Israeli and me as the ambassador of Israel.

I understand your need in retrospect to "justify" your behaviour but I can't understand why you told at YNetnews afterwards that the minister and I said on stage that there is a similarity between our countries because "we fight a similar enemy and reside in a bad neighbourhood".

*We did speak about the similarities and closeness between our countries. The minister spoke about his visits to Israel, which is a Hi-Tech nation and the potential of combining this with the film industry. I spoke about the fact that we grew up watching Indian films.

I also said that we should be humble when India, with such a great film culture, is consuming Israeli content (Fauda and more).

Is Chi Pardarik, A Review



QAISAR BASHIR LONE

A poem is a story. Be it a monosyllabic monostich, disyllabic couple, a haiku, a Tanka, a Petrarchan, Shakespearean, Spenserian or Hopkins' sonnets; Agha Shahid Ali's villanelles; Eliot's Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock; Yeats's Second Coming; Robert Frost's Mending Wall; Mah-mood Darwish's ID Card; Shamus Heaney Digging; Greek, Roman, Renaissance, Romantic, modern or postmodern epic — it's a story, narrative or lyrical, told through tropes and schemes. It can be story; didactic, romantic, tragic, comic, elegiac, panegyric, ironic, sarcastic, and satiric.

Now, a million dollar question. Is a poem a poem if it fails to tell a story? Well, a trillion dollar reply to this question is a big 'No!'. Because, it must tell a story — a story that has the power to make moths dance in the palace of their love; the power that rekindles the dead, unwilling candles of life; the power that surprises the mind's eye; the power that makes a reader utter 'wow!'

Well, this story can be Mohammad Ali's 'Me, We, You' the world's shortest poem till date; it can be Eliot's 'W and I'; or it can be Shahi's 'Is Chi Pardarik'.

Is Chi Pardarik — though sometimes raw in form, structure, spontaneity of thought, association of feelings and language — is a collection of poems. I call stories of love, separation, tyranny, deceit, posturing, resistance, and others, told through fresh tropes and schemes.

The eponymous poem 'Is Chi Pardarik', for instance, is not only a scathing attack on the typical chameleon character of Kashmiris, both suburbanites and urbanites, who in their own garden cut the roots while watering twigs and leaves; but also a tragic tale of a person who has lost the sense of being themselves due to reasons many:

Na chilikalnik, Na chi haarik
Is che Sari pardarik
Na chi Gamik, Na chi shahrik
Na chi Ass abbik, na chi Narrik
Is che Sari pardarik
Jandu wuchti chi Rungaan Ass
Rung wuchti chi Tanblaan Ass
Mushkaan cha Zahn Gulab Jarik
Is che Sari pardarik

And the poet, then, questions the credibility of those who pretend to be artists, poets, and learned; because they, Shahi believes, have no idea as to what they write and appreciate:

Kus chi Shayir, Kus chi Mahir
Sumbraan talav tang haarik
Shayirus karaan wah wah Kahrik
Is che Sari pardarik

In the poem 'Bu Rowus', Shahi again highlights the paradoxical and hypocritical nature of man who goes to any extent to satiate his belly:

Me yim dupnam Khuda Khofus khochaan Aas
Atho peyith tim Khuda kun bu rowus

However, poems like Kuchizenu Khin, Dum Fut and the last three couplets of a Ghazal (page 83), bring Shahi at par with the famous resistance poets of Kashmir, the living or the dead. In these poems, unlike many others which lack poetics, Shahi draws a grim, gory but realistic picture of his home, Kashmir, where every helpless soul has borne or is bearing the brunt of conflict:

Miyans sharus yun zann Aasi kuchizenu khin
Adji kranzan Ambaar basi kuchizenu khin
Lukh ma Aasan bund garun munz dum fut hi
Hunen hund darbaar basi kuchizenu khin
Su Nishat Shalmaar biyi badaam were
Shaheed marguzaar basi kuchizenu khin
Majum, binen tu saas-u-bazun koren hund
Izzat tar tar basi kuchizenu Khin
Yim Shahrik lukh zun baasnie kedu kokar
Gardin pyeth talvar basi kuchizenu Khin

In Tsin Rikh, a conversation poem in Beckettian style and tone, Shahi has aptly portrayed the scene of uncertainty and the danger of being caught and beaten by some hegemonic agency. Kokrus Won is a beautiful, compact and thematically sound poem.

The poems — Rut Hai Karrak and Rung Rung Che Tang Aamit Lukh — are wake up calls for the people, caught in the whirlpool of greed, hatred, animosity, amorality, flesh trade etc. And in these poems, like many others in the collection, the poet, Shahi, seems to have been inspired by a number of writers like Khalil Jibran, Shakespeare, Keats, Shelley, Manto, Sheikh-ul-Allah, Kamil, Azad, Rahi to mention a few. Given the inspirations, there are evidences of Anxiety of Influence galore in poems. However, metaphors like Tsin Rikh, Krayad-u-Koku, Ratu Nallu; personifications like Ani gat kochan kochan rache, dosi hinzi kani prich suti bawi, are Shahi's creation.

In some poems, Shahi surfaces as a poet of love, endorsing platonic love over profane. He does not favour libido:

Su yili yaarus samkhani drayi
Tim wuch yarus tu su mandchayi
Tas gayi nazran ris tu piyes punnis wachus piyeth
Tim sooch yarus wucha kinna punnis wachus
Tu su woshliyi...

Tus faj rooyes shabnum fulaiyi
Su gayi abbi aab
Bu gosus nakhu tu wunmus
Yi ossa Farz... Sumnat... kinna Nafal.

While as the Ghazal Waayi Kota Zarus Pyium Amaarun describes the pangs of his separation from his beloved, with whom he is longing for a rendezvous, a reunion:

Wantu Kya dim Jawaaba Dislus wain
Looth supdum dil-u-kyen qaraarun
Kati Annun kut go kam sana nju
Dil ti ma danji thownum yaarun
There are more similar poems in the collection which revolve round the themes of love, longing, meeting, separation and reunion.

And there are a couple of poems in the form of Naat, glorifying the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH); and Hamud, exalting Allah, the absolute.

To sum up, Shahi, maker of the artefact 'Is Chi Pardarik', has tried his hand on multiple themes, forms, genres and styles; and in these, he has succeeded to a large extent. However, repetition of thought, poems, overuse of hackneyed proverbs, non-adherence to standard Ghazal in some Ghazals and lack of phonosthetics makes the book a demolished Taj Mahal. Nonetheless, Shahi, as a poet and human being, surfaces a soul, socially, politically and spiritually conscious. His eyes, physical and mind's, are vigilant and scrupulous, having the power to tell the right from the otherwise.

Radicalisation in the Digital Era

MIR MOHSIN

Internet is global communication system that links together thousands of individual networks, which has changed the way information flows all across the world and the speed at which the information reaches from one end to the other end of the world. With the dawn of such a comprehensive and speedy source of spreading information and connectivity, people with ulterior motives got a bigger platform to expand their ideology, thus began the movement to indoctrinate pseudo narratives and persuade individuals/groups on the internet. Before the influx of high speed and cheap Internet, the process of radicalization was dragging and unsafe. People had to be approached physically keeping in mind the threats involved of getting apprehended in the process. Fanatic groups had to reach for a potential candidate by being amongst the locals or through various junction points in sites like Madrasas, Public gatherings, fabricating the social atmosphere to carry out the operation. Plan execution would take from days to months to trap only a handful individuals after multiple episodes of luring via ransom, jobs, position or by assigning menial tasks.

Social media platforms saw a sudden spike in users all across the globe just a year or two ago as a result of a dreadful incident that struck the entire world, the Covid-19 Pandemic. When Covid-19 Pandemic infested the human population all across the world

with intense melancholy in the air, which caused people to distance oneself from each other, in some cases even a small family living in the same house had to maintain a distance from one another were totally isolated from people outside. Social media became an important place to interact and these platforms played a vital role as they continued to maintain the communication network amongst people virtually and helped the world remain connected. This resulted in increased usage of social media by the global population during the pandemic. Since many people were asked to remain home, they had turned to social media to maintain their relationships and pass time.

In addition to being a global threat to human population, COVID-19 has been referred to as an infodemic. The direct access to content through platforms such as, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube left the users susceptible to rumors and questionable information. This information has strongly influenced individual behavior more so because of prolonged isolation which effects the decision-making capabilities of even the most mentally agile individual, limiting group cohesion and therefore limiting the effectiveness of government countermeasures against the radicalized/hate speech content. There are several other channels that are used by violent extremist groups, and some of the mainstream social media platforms exploited to spread hate and radicalized content are described

Chat Rooms are the most commonly and discreetly used platform to proliferate hate and radicalized content as Chat Rooms can be embedded within most Internet-based media. Reports that have looked into the use of Chat Rooms by violent extremist groups, describe these as the space where at-risk youth without previous exposure would be likely to come across radicalizing religious narratives. Marc Sageman, a former CIA Operations Officer who was based in Islamabad from 1987 to 1989, has researched that networking is facilitated by discussion forums such as Chat Rooms because they provide easy access to communication among those inclined towards the same ideology (experiences, ideas, values), enhance interpersonal relationships and provide detailed guidelines about actions (tactics, objectives, tutorials). Chat Rooms also include spaces where terrorist organizations/religious extremists share information such as photos, videos, guides and manuals. That being said, the role of such Web sites in actual planning and coordination of attacks is very much possible by the perpetrators.

Although several extremist and terrorist groups are ideologically and strategically Anti-Facebook, some maintain a strong presence on this platform either directly or through supporters (we may recall a fine example in this regard, the infamous terrorist Burhan Wani). It has been found that Facebook does not seem to be used for direct recruitment or planning, possibly because it has mechanisms of tracking and can link users with

real places and specific times posing a threat to the identity of the perpetrator being blown up. Instead, Facebook at least in the past appears to have been more often used by extremists and terrorist as a decentralized unit for the distribution of information and videos or a way to find like-minded people and garner sympathizing audience rather than direct recruitment.

Recently one of the most simplified, powerful and extensively used social platform with tremendous ability to influence the perception of the population worldwide, the micro-blogging site presents more advantages for extremists and terrorist groups because traceability of the identity and the source of the tweets are harder to achieve, therefore increasing the communication potential for recruiters. Analysis of Twitter feeds posted by Islamist violent extremist groups reflects that they are mostly used for engaging with the opposition and the authorities, in what appear to be tweet clashes that mobilize the two sides, and also used for provocation. In addition, through Twitter, extremists can comment with ease publicly on international level events/incidents or personalities in several languages, thus enabling the activists to be vocal and timely when mounting campaigns without compromising own identity or location.

YouTube remains the most popular video-sharing platform of choice despite the increased competition from other platforms, such as video, daily motion etc. YouTube has the advantage that

the user remains non-traceable and protects his identity and location, while offering the possibility for users to post comments and share content. The major topics upon which content is produced are video messages by violent extremists praising the killed terrorists, promoting or glorifying religious killings and delivering propaganda in favor of extremist ideology. One of the reports of a comprehensive research published analyses content of Islamist violent extremist/terrorist group's videos proliferated on YouTube. It describes how the content targets a sympathetic audience, and focuses on education along with glorifying the killed terrorists and jihad with less overt violent content such as suicide bombings. This might be a subtle tactic to avert the extremist flagging that might lead the built-in counter security measures blocking or censoring such violent content or lead YouTube to act proactively and remove content that is in breach of its user guidelines.

Strategy for preventing radicalization on social media and the internet involves preventing and prohibiting the spread of terrorist content and propaganda in the online space using digital mechanisms and tools. This includes: legislative and policy measures; blocking content and access to social media platforms; and filtering and removal of terrorist content from platforms. These mechanisms are intertwined, as the legislation around digital prevention can only be adapted and changed as new technological tools emerge in the space of prevention.

Born to create a space for themselves!

PERSONALITY
BY M S NAZKI

Master Mohammed Azam Sagar is one such man from Mendhar who rose up from ashes to become a literary figure in the Sub Division!

The locals love and respect him and he has his own humble way to accept the feelings shown to him. His motto by the way he has gone about his life looks straight out of the books of down to earth and God loving people, 'take every day a challenge and make it the best till the next one arrives and do not jump to conclusions'. The children are very expressive about him and want to be in his company because the words he speaks are like sweet candies to them and in Mendhar people have yet to see him frowning or angry, the situation in this regard could be any! He most of the time during conversations says, 'mostly I am calm; my spirit at home is a gentle river. I flow, create peace, bring harmony. When I feel completely safe I love the rabbit that comes to play. I laugh freely, become soft, playful, hopeful. I wish I could

be like that more often, it would be so nice. Yet in life there are challenges, those who find such happiness an affront to their inner misery. They live with hearts of envy and malice, wound from spite, project their negativity onto others, seek to control, exert power. When attack comes, should there be no defender, I channel the lion. I roar, stand my ground, defend self and others. Afterward, in private, I am shaken, drained, wishing to run to a dark hole and hide. I know myself. I am proud of who I am; I like the person I became and I think the child version of me would too. I am the same, living to love, here to make a difference. It looks to be the philosophical interpretation as to what he was when he was a child. The memories he does not want to forget and they have got etched inside the voluminous encyclopedia of his life. Haji Mohd Azam Sagar was born on May 2, 1946 at village Naka Manjhari (Dheri) of Tehsil Mendhar of District Poonch. His pen name is Sagar. Miserable Economic conditions forced him to leave his education midway and his aspiration to join Administration. It was a dream snuffed off very early but at that time Azam decided that



this was not all end and end all of life because the distance to be covered was still long and the opportunities would come and may be without any notice. He had to take each and every one of that. This is what separates a genius from the ordinary. Mohd Azam was no ordinary man. Some people never escape their childhoods, not really. It's like a part of them just don't feel safe in the adult world. Sagar was like that. He admits that he lacked the guile and

complexity of my other friends, what I seem to you now, I was the same in my younger days. It was his firm belief in himself that acted as an inspiration. He did his matriculation in 1963 and joined the Education Department as a teacher. While serving in the Education Department, he did his graduation in 1971 and then B.Ed from Government Education College, Jammu in 1973. In 1976, he was promoted to Master Grade. He did not want to stop and thus kept moving on, it was a struggle that had to be undertaken and Sagar never shied away from it. He did Masters in English in 1986 and later in 1987, he was promoted as lecturer in the Department of Education. He believed only in one thing, if we can't handle the worst of situations then we do not deserve to be in the best of them. Adversity is the best tutor and we should follow its dictates whole heartedly! He proudly acknowledges that I learn everyday till now, use bits and pieces of others personalities to form my own. But I also know, confidence is knowing who you are and not changing it a bit because someone's version of reality is not your reality. Sagar always wanted to reach

the pinnacle in the field he had chosen and he concentrated all his energies towards the same. Even when the situation in Mendhar was ballistic and no one was sure as to what would happen, the man continued with his pursuits. He wanted to do something for the people, change their course of thinking and living and the great thing was people wanted to tread the course he had laid. While serving in the Education Department he worked and played a leading role in a host of associations like Low Paid Employees Federation and Teachers Association till he attained his superannuation. Before his superannuation in 2004, he remained a Warden of Pahari Hostel Poonch. Besides, he also served the public as Imam, which was bestowed to him by his father in law. After retirement he had a close relationship with the former PDP chief and subsequently he joined PDP. He authored two books titled Aao Haj Karen and Yaad-e-Murshid!

He is a person who loves to remain within himself and believes that the only difference between you and the person you admire is their perspective on life. I down the years have met many great people, all virtues in their own aspects and loved interacting with them. I could not have become like them but I knew that some of their traits I could incorporate. I did and thus became a different man. The most beautiful people we have known are those who have known defeat, known suffering, known struggle, known loss, and have found their way out of the depths. These persons have an appreciation, a sensitivity, and an understanding of life that fills them with compassion, gentleness, and a deep loving concern. Beautiful people do not just happen. They rise above everything else to come up. Mohammed Azam Sagar happens to be one of them! His simple philosophy is, 'don't waste your time with explanations: people only hear what they want to hear. Therefore cut off verbosity and be to the point. Yet another thing about him is that he knows what he is speaking and this one liners sums him all up, 'I wonder how many people don't get the one thing they want, but end up with the one thing they're supposed to be with, as I'm today. Very satisfied with my efforts in life and I need no accolades for that!

BRIEFLY NEWS

'Khakee': Karan Tacker pens heartfelt note for IPS Amit Lodha

Currently ruling Netflix by emerging amongst the top trending shows in not just India but also globally, Karan Tacker starrer 'Khakee: The Bihar Chapter' is being praised across all quarters for the apt and realistic portrayal of a police officer.

Tracing the story of a young, earnest and dutiful police officer, Karan's character Amit Lodha is based on the real life of IPS Amit Lodha. Expressing his gratitude towards the inspirational story and the guidance and support through Karan's journey to play his part, the actor penned a heartwarming post for the real IPS Amit Lodha.

Posting a picture of the reel and real Amit Lodha, Karan said, "I wanna take this moment to thank the man who made it possible. Had it not been for his struggles, we would have not had a show to make. IPS Amit Lodha, thank you for your efforts, for the life you lived, that I got to emulate your life on celluloid. I'm forced indebted to you sir, not only as an actor but also as citizen, who feels safe and secure because of men and women like you in uniform. Jai Hind".

Karan displayed his commitment and dedication to his craft by transforming himself mentally as well as physically to fit into the role. From gaining weight and sporting a moustache, to learning and acting the mannerisms of a police officer, set in the early 2000s of Bihar, Karan left no stone unturned to slip into the skin of his character.

Marking his second association with filmmaker Neeraj Pandey, after having worked together in 'Special Ops', 'Khakee: The Bihar Chapter' shone the spotlight on the actor to bring out his versatility.

From playing the chocolate boy on television to excelling in content-driven roles on the OTT, Karan has scaled an impressive journey. Choosing on the right projects, the actor is widening the spectrum of his versatility, garnering appreciation from the audience and critics alike.

Set in Bihar, 'Khakee: The Bihar Chapter' is a crime drama tracing the world of crime based on true events from the first half of 2000s. Portraying the cop v/s gangster tiff, the show features Karan as the police officer while Avinash Tiwary plays the gangster.

People will enjoy storytelling of 'Underworld Ka Kabzaa': Anand Pandit

The Hindi teaser of the most awaited and the biggest pan-India film, "Underworld Ka Kabzaa" was unveiled recently.

The teaser was wholeheartedly perceived by the audiences and it garnered immense love and appreciation for its thrilling suspense and the magical collaboration of superstar Upen and Kiccha Sudeepa on the silver screen.

After setting a mark in Bollywood with back to back blockbuster hits, Anand Pandit has now forayed into the South Industry with 'Underworld Ka Kabzaa'.

Speaking about what intrigued him to back the project, he said in a statement, "Content driven films rule my choices. I am excited to be backing 'Underworld Ka Kabzaa' because I believe it has the kind of storytelling audiences will enjoy. The scale and treatment of the film is international and it was an obvious decision to release the film in multiple languages."

"Gone are the days when language determined boundaries. Today good content is language agnostic. We have crossed into the realm of an Indian film industry where strong, authentic films will automatically see multiple language releases," he added.

Adding to this director R Chandru said, "It's our privilege to be associated with Anand Pandit Motion Pictures, as he has the greatest vision for the film. We are overwhelmed with the response we've received on the Hindi teaser and we really hope Underworld Ka Kabzaa becomes an ultimate entertainer for the audiences, across the nation."

The teaser of Anand Pandit's 'Underworld Ka Kabzaa' has crossed more than 7.5 million views in just 24 hours and is still garnering praise on various social media platforms.

The story of the film revolves around underworld don Arkeshwara and his power that set a benchmark in the pages of Indian history. 'Underworld Ka Kabzaa' is directed by R Chandru and has an astonishing star cast consisting of highly accomplished actors like superstar Upen, Kiccha Sudeepa, and Drishyam 2 Star, Shriya Saran in pivotal roles.

The film is produced by Anand Pandit Motion Pictures in association with Sri Siddeshwara Enterprises and Alankar Pandian and directed by R. Chandru.

'Bigg Boss 16': New captain to be elected tonight

'BIGG BOSS 16' is all set to enter in its 10th week and till now has witnessed the reign of six captains.

However, it's time to have a new Raja's/Rani's reign in its magnificent castle. Based on the previous task 'Aglia Raja' Rani kaun? the eligible contestants for captainship, Ankit Gupta, Priyanka Chahar Choudhary, Shalin Bhanot, and Sumbul Touqeer Khan must face difficult obstacles in order to rule the house of 'Bigg Boss'.

With its captainship task, the garden area of 'Bigg Boss 16' is turned into a Dhobi Ghat. The four contenders will have their own laundry stall with their photos stuck on it. In each stall, there would be cloth drying ropes and the four contestants have to throw the items kept in the tub (gulaal and mud) on the hanging clothes. With each of the contenders will be a helper who will keep cleaning the clothes as they get dirtier and hang them on the ropes to dry.

At the end of every round, the sanchalak of the task must decide who wins the round based on the cleanliness of the clothes. No task is complete without a twist, for three different rounds will be three different sanchalaks! In the middle of the task, Priyanka Chahar Choudhary and Shiv Thakare lock horns and blame each other for cheating! Who do you think will become the new Raja/Rani of the house?

ZEE5 announces 'Pitchers S2'

ZEE5 has announced the second instalment of the much loved and awaited series 'Pitchers'.

With an IMDB rating of 9.1, 'Pitchers' became a cult show and an inspiration for millions of people to embark on their entrepreneurial journey. The first season revolved around the trials and tribulations of four young entrepreneurs who quit their day jobs in order to pursue their start-up venture.

The show is now returning after a gap of seven years and this time around, we meet the Pitchers 2.5 years after their tech start-up Pragati.AI was founded. The start-up is on the cusp of an expansion journey and short of one co-founder. The original cast consisting of Naveen Kasturia, Arunabh Kumar, Abhay Mahajan, Abhishek Banerjee and Gopal Dutt are joined by new entrants like Ridhi Dogra,



Sikander Kher and Ashish Vidyarthi who will be seen in pivotal roles.

After the success of 'Saas Bahu Achaar Pvt. Ltd' and 'Tripling S3', this is the third collaboration between TVF and ZEE5.

Manish Kalra, Chief Business

Officer, ZEE5 India said, "We are excited to announce the return of the fan favourite series, Pitchers after a long wait of 7 years. Pitchers is a story that resonated with and inspired millions of people to embark on an entrepreneurial journey. The new season introduc-

es new characters, new struggles, a whole new determination to make things work, and whole lot of fun. We are sure that the audience will be super entertained and inspired after watching Pitchers S2".

Nimisha Pandey, Chief Content Officer - Hindi Originals, ZEE5 said, "In the current fast-changing world where content becomes stale at a fast pace, Pitchers is a rare story that is even more relevant today than before. Hence, we are thrilled to get season 2 of this fan favourite show exclusively on ZEE5. It has been an absolute delight to collaborate with Arunabh and the talented team at TVF, which have meticulously essayed the nuances of entrepreneurial life, portraying the spirit, hopes, failures and learnings beautifully through the characters. We hope this season lives up to the expectations of the fans."

Arunabh Kumar, Creator of

Pitchers and Founder of TVF said, "We are looking forward to season 2, which is yet another collaboration with ZEE5. This is perhaps one of the most awaited shows of India and I am grateful to the fans for their constant love for Pitchers since it released. We have tried to tell this story of aspiring Indians in these changing times, and we cannot wait for everyone to watch it".

Vaibhav Bunnho, Director of Pitchers Season 2 said, "Season 2 of Pitchers is going to be a level up not just in terms of story but also visually. The characters have evolved and so has the world of start-ups which they have to navigate. This show has always been about offering something new to the audience and we hope to live up to the love of the fans".

Directed by Vaibhav Bunnho, it will premiere on ZEE5 later this month.

Deepika Padukone to unveil FIFA World Cup trophy

Through the course of her career, superstar Deepika Padukone, has given her home country India many reasons to be proud of.

The actor, producer, entrepreneur and mental health advocate now is perhaps the first global actor to unveil the FIFA World Cup trophy during the finals; adding yet another highlight to her global achievements.

A source revealed that the superstar will be flying to Qatar to be part of the most-watched sporting event in the world, and will be unveiling the FIFA World Cup trophy at the jam-packed stadium, perhaps the first or one of the very rare honours for any Indian or international actor in the history of FIFA.

After representing India at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival where she turned jury member, to being the only Indian in the list of the World's Top 10 most beautiful women according to the 'Golden Ratio of Beauty', Deepika has unparalleled global appeal that only grows bigger with every passing day.

It's no surprise then that Deepika is the only Indian to be chosen as the global face for luxury brands like



Louis Vuitton and Cartier and even pop culture brand heavyweights like Levis and Adidas.

The two-time TIME Magazine awardee, has often been recognized alongside

world leaders from different avenues. This time around Deepika will have the world watching at this momentous global moment at FIFA 2022 as she puts India on the world map yet again.

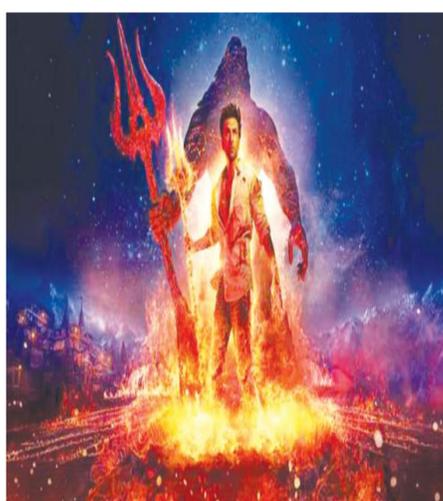
'Brahmastra' most watched film on Disney+ Hotstar

The Astraverse had fans riveted to the screen when the blockbuster film in Hindi, 'Brahmastra: Part One - Shiva' hit the theatres this year.

The action-adventure fantasy film continued to delight the fans when it was released on Disney+ Hotstar and became the most watched film on the streaming platform in India to date based on hours streamed in the first 10 days.

Gaurav Banerjee, Head - Content, Disney+ Hotstar & HSM Entertainment Network, Disney Star, said, "Brahmastra: Part One - Shiva has been a game changer in more ways than one. Not only has the film won hearts across the globe, it continues to be a fan favourite with many watching it over and over again on Disney+ Hotstar. The film has created history and we are elated to have successfully taken this visual spectacle to viewers across the world."

Director Ayan Mukerji, mastermind behind the Astraverse said, "After a successful box office run, I am extremely excited by, and grateful for, the response to Brahmastra's digital premier on Disney+ Hotstar. The long journey



and the efforts of the whole team on 'Brahmastra - Part One: Shiva' can now be put at ease. I thank all the viewers, our fans and supporters for tuning in and discovering the Astraverse."

Ranbir Kapoor, helming Shiva's role, said, "I am overjoyed with the response received for Brahmastra: Part One in theaters, and now on Disney+ Hotstar. This film was a dream project for all of us, and more-

over for Ayan Mukerji, who worked on it for a decade. On behalf of the entire Team of Brahmastra, I would like to thank all the fans for supporting the film."

Produced by Star Studios, Dharma Productions, Ayan Mukerji & Prime Focus, the film features an ensemble of highly revered actors like Amitabh Bachchan, Ranbir Kapoor, Alia Bhatt, Mouni Roy and Nagarjuna Akkineni.

ZEE5 to air 'Coffee with Kadhal' on December 9

ZEE5 on Monday announced the premiere of Tamil movie 'Coffee with Kadhal' on December 9.

Produced by Zee Studios, Khushbu, A. C. S. Arun Kumar and A. C. Shanmugam, the Tamil romantic comedy film is written and directed by Sundar C and starring Jiiva, Jai, Srikanth with Malvika Sharma, Amritha Aiyer, Raiza Wilson, Aishwarya Dutta, Samyuktha Shanmuganathan and Dhivyadharshini in prominent roles.

The story revolves around the lives of 3 brothers - Srikanth [Music teacher], Jiiva [IT professional] and Jai [aspiring entrepreneur] and explores the different sides to their personalities. Srikanth, a doting son who never breaks the rules, Jiiva who is dealing with a heavy heartbreak after his live-in relationship and Jai who is trying to setup his own business with little luck. While the eldest one is responsible, the other two sons are out of bindings. The film reflects the values that any family can easily relate to and leaves you with a warm and fuzzy feeling.

With Yuvan Shankar Raja's music and E. Krishnasamy's cinematography,



the film depicts the warmth and craziness that envelopes a sibling relationship.

Manish Kalra, Chief Business Officer, ZEE5 India said, "We at ZEE5 have always believed in bringing forth real and relatable stories that engage with our audiences. With the World Digital Premiere of 'Coffee With Kadhal', we look forward to continuing the trend of showcasing witty, endearing, relatable and impactful stories. In today's fast-paced world, we barely find the time to connect with our loved ones and 'Coffee with Kadhal' gives the right opportunity to bring siblings together."

Sundar C said, "Coffee With Kadhal has all the essential elements of a com-

plete entertainer. There are times when our parents fail to realize our unique capabilities, but our siblings will always be there to look out for us and set us right. Coffee With Kadhal is a medley of relationships, the drama of everyday life and the humorous conflicts of siblings. It will make surely make one reminisce their equation with their siblings. We couldn't have thought of a better platform to bring this story to our viewers."

Premiering on December 9, the romantic, comedy and family drama, 'Coffee With Kadhal' is a visual spectacle you can watch in the best and bleakest of times. It will air in four languages - Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam.

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Kavita Banerjee to enter 'Bhagya Lakshmi'

Zee TV's 'Bhagya Lakshmi' has been in the news for all the good reasons ever since it's telecast.

Making their way into the audience's hearts, Aishwarya Khare and Rohit Suchanti aka our very own #RishMi have become household names. Recently, viewers witnessed how Malishka (Maera Mishra)

has kidnapped herself with the help of Balwinder (Annkit Bhatia) to blame Lakshmi (Aishwarya Khare) eventually. The show has been treating the audience with interesting twists and turns and for that actors work round the clock to ensure their fans are entertained.

In the upcoming episodes,

the show is all set for some high-octane drama with the entry of popular actress Kavita Banerjee. She will be seen playing the role of Rishi and Malishka's mutual college friend, Sonal. She is closer to Malishka and has come to help her so that she can make Rishi fall in love with her again. In fact, Sonal is someone who is very

ambitious and will go to any extent to get what she wants, even if it leads to losing people who are an important part of her life.

Kavita mentioned, "This is like coming back home, it is my 3rd project with Zee TV. Before Bhagya Lakshmi, I have played negative role in the shows - Teri Meri Ikk Jindri and

Rishton ka Manjha on Zee TV. I always wanted to be a part of the Balaji family, working with the production had been a long-standing dream. So playing Sonal in Bhagya Lakshmi is like a wish being ticked off my acting bucket list."

"Performing a negative character is extremely challenging and fun at the same

time. Although I have mostly played negative characters on TV so far, but every character has been so very different from the other, and hence the challenge/fun never ceases. I just hope that I am able to do justice to my character and the fans of the show give me the same love they do to the show," she added.

Multifarious activities marks beginning of 2-day 'My town My Pride' 2.0 at Kishtwar

KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 5: Two-Day My town My Pride 2.0 commenced today at Dak Banglow Kishtwar amid series of awareness activities carried out by various Banks and Line Departments including Health, Education, Jal Shakti, Animal Husbandry, Social Welfare, Ayush, Career Counseling & Employment Agriculture and Horticulture etc.

Secretary Health & Medical Education (H&ME), Bupinder Kumar, who is also the visiting officer for MTMP 2.0, presided over the programme at Dak Banglow.

DDC Kishtwar, Dr Devansh Yadav; SSP Kishtwar Shafiqat Husain Bhatt; ADDC Kishtwar Sham Lal; ADC Indrajeet Singh Parihar; President MC Sajjad Ahmed Najjar, ACR, ACD, DPO besides other district officers and ULB members and Executive officer remained present in the programme.



Locals from all the Municipal Wards and the students from GDC Kishtwar also participated enthusiastically in the programme.

At the outset, the Secretary inspected the stalls erected by various line departments and enquired about the various schemes which were on display in the programme including PMAY-U, SVANidhi, Self Employment Schemes under Mis-

sion Youth and financial literacy campaign of Banks.

Cultural program and speeches on NMBA, SBA and Anti-corruption were also presented by the students of GDC Kishtwar on the occasion.

Secretary distributed sanction letters among various beneficiaries under PMEGP and PM SVANidhi besides launched the "My Town My Pride" Booklet.

Speaking on the occasion, Bupinder Kumar said that three-tier system of Panchayati Raj Institutions has given Vibrancy to developmental tempo in the rural as well as urban areas.

He also spoke on the significance of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and appealed people to collectively participate and contribute for maintaining the cleanliness in and around the houses to make the Swachhata Abhiyan a success in the town.

While highlighted the significance of MTMP 2.0, he said the programme aims to strengthen ULBs in terms of infrastructure and financially.

He assured that the grievances highlighted have been recorded and will be forwarded to concerned quarters for immediate redressal. He also stressed for the

implementation of rational civic plan in the town Kishtwar.

Speaking on the occasion, DC Kishtwar apprised the Visiting officer about various infrastructure needs in the town.

Meanwhile Senior Citizens also spoke on the occasion and highlighted various issues including proper drainage, lightening of streets, beautification of Chowgan Ground, development of infrastructure in the MC Kishtwar.

The students of GDC Kishtwar were facilitated on the occasion and Vote of thanks was presented by President MC.

Secretary Health also visited Historical Chowgan Ground Kishtwar where he Kick started the Kabbadi Competition, felicitated the students with certificates.

Meanwhile, a Plantation drive was also conducted at Chowgan Ground under the Green JK mission during MTMP.

He also inaugurated Library at District Institute of Education & Training (DIET) Kishtwar and Children Park/open air Gym at Ziarat Road near SalamKani in presence of DC & SSP Kishtwar and President MC Kishtwar besides other District officers.

Later, he inspected Anganwadi Centre Zargar Mohalla B and distributed Baby Kits among girl child mothers.

My Town My Pride Sanjeev Verma launches 2-day programme, presides series of events at Ramban

RAMBAN, DECEMBER 05: Commissioner Secretary Forests, Ecology, and Environment, Sanjeev Verma today inaugurated the two days "My Town My Pride" phase-2 programme at Ramban.

Commissioner Secretary who is also the Mentor Secretary of the district Ramban, planted a sapling on the premises of the District Administration Complex, Maitra to mark 'World Soil Day' in the presence of Deputy Commissioner, Mussarat Islam; President Municipal Council, Sunita Sumberia, ADC, Harbans Lal Sharma, Councillors, ACR, Giasul-Haq, CPO Dr Kasturi Lal, DFOs and senior officers of line departments and the general public.

Verma said that keeping in the view strategic importance of the National Highway town Ramban the creation of modern infrastructure and beautification of the town is the main priority of the Government.

The Commissioner Secretary presided over various events and meetings to discuss the issues and plans with all stakeholders to ensure the holistic



development of the district headquarters town. The Councillors, representatives of Beopar Mandal and other organizations highlighted various issues and demands of public interests.

He also interacted with officers of line departments and obtained feedback regarding the overall developmental scenario of the district including major ongoing development works being executed under different flagship schemes.

Verma also distributed sanction letters to the beneficiaries of Tejaswini, Mumkin, PMEGP and Social Welfare Department schemes besides distributing Land Pass-

books among the legal land owners.

On the occasion, president MC highlighted various issues like shortage of staff especially Safai Karamcharis, completion of water supply schemes and link roads.

The Deputy Commissioner informed that the issue regarding the shortage of Safai Karamchari has already been taken up with the concerned authorities.

He also informed the meeting about initiatives being taken by the departments of District Administration to resolve all the issues of public interest pertaining to their respective departments.

Fund office hosts Grievance Redressal- Awareness Camps



JAMMU, DECEMBER 05: Joint Director Funds (Jammu), Chanderkala Sharma on Monday visited Samba and Kathua districts to inspect the preparedness for the Grievance Redressal-Awareness Camps, being organized by the J&K Funds Organization from 5th of December to 7th December, 2022 in all District Fund Offices throughout the UT of J&K.

She was accompanied by the District Fund Officers and other senior officials of the Department.

During the visit, she took stock of the arrangements made for the grievance redressal camps. She stressed upon the officers to give wide publicity about the venues and purpose of holding camps and make adequate arrangements such as drinking water, sitting area etc so that the subscribers having grievances feel comfortable.

She also interacted with the visitors, gave them a patient hearing and also assured them that their genuine grievances will be processed for immediate redressal. During the visit, she took stock of the arrangements made for the grievance redressal camps. She stressed upon the officers to give wide publicity about the venues and purpose of holding camps and make adequate arrangements such as drinking water, sitting area etc so that the subscribers having grievances feel comfortable.

'My Town My Pride 2.0' programme commences on ebullient note in Kathua

KATHUA, DECEMBER 05: The second phase of "My Town My Pride" programme (MTMP 2.0) today began in Kathua on spirited note wherein people from all walks of life participated in the inaugural day events.

At district headquarters, Commissioner Secretary, Information and Information Technology, Prerna Puri, was the Visiting Officer, launched the event at Town Hall.

She was accompanied by Regional Director, Survey and Land Records, Nawab Din, Managing Director SIDCO, Raman Kumar Kesar.

The Visiting Officers inspected the stalls established by different departments to disseminate information regarding various schemes and programmes, registration counters etc.

While addressing the gathering, Prerna Puri took stock of issues

and concerns of councillors.

"MTMP 2.0 aims at empowering the Urban Local Bodies by reaching out to the urban population, with governance at their doorsteps and ensuring on spot redressal of their issues and grievances besides transforming towns through active public participation", she maintained.

The Visiting Officer laid foundation stone for Multi Storey Parking Complex at MC Kathua besides handing over an e-Rickshaw to the beneficiary of the government's subsidy scheme. She also participated in the Greh Parvesh ceremony under PMAY-U.

At MC Lakhanpur, Dr Mushtaq Ahmed, Special Secretary, Information, presided over the proceedings of MTMP 2.0 as Visiting Officer.

While interacting with ULB members and public, Dr Mushtaq



taq said that this programme is backbone for urban development and formulation of master plans in ULBs according to the popular aspirations of the people by making them catalysts in transforming urban landscape.

Addressing the school students of GHS Lakhanpur, Dr Mushtaq

emphasized on the need of educating students about ill effects of drug abuse and adoption of healthy lifestyle. He also laid stress on inculcating values of sanitation and cleanliness amongst the students at the early age so that message that propagated widely.

Dr Mushtaq also handed over employment cards, PM SVANidhi sanctioned cases, land passbooks among the beneficiaries.

While inaugurating the first day proceedings of MTMP 2.0 at MC Hiranagar, the Visiting Officer Indu Kanwal Chib (MD JKRLM) said public outreach in towns is aimed at strengthening grassroot democracy and ensuring service delivery at doorsteps.

MD JKRLM also distributed POSHAN tokri (nutrition basket) among the Nursing Mothers/ Pregnant Women besides

presenting keys to PMAY-U beneficiaries. She interacted with ULB members, government functionaries and also listened to the grievances of the public.

At MC Parole, the Visiting Officer, Nagender Jamwal, addressed the school students and appreciated them for their performance in extra-curricular activities. He said that besides curricular activities extracurricular activities play a major role in shaping the life of individuals. He urged the students to stay away from any form of drug or addiction and focus on realization of goals with determination, concentration and perseverance.

The Visiting Officer also laid foundation stone for Solid Waste Management shed at Parole in MC Parole and inspected ULB assets, witnessed sports events at GHS parole etc.

One Day Sensitization Programme on Senior citizens Act organized in Samba

SAMBA, DECEMBER 05: National Institute of Social Defence, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India and Anuradha Regional Resource and Training Centre on Ageing, in collaboration with J&K Legal Services Authority and District Legal Services Authority Samba on Monday organised a one day Sensitization Cum Awareness Program on the effective implementation of "The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007."

Sonia Gupta, Chairman Dis-

trict Legal Services Authority Samba (also Pr. District and Sessions Judge Samba) was the chief guest and Anuradha Gupta, Deputy Commissioner Samba and Abhishek Mahajan, Senior Superintendent of Police Samba were the guests of honor.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest stressed upon the participating police functionaries and students from the Dogra Law College Samba and other senior citizens as to how the long cherished traditions with respect to the respect and the value of senior

citizens are degrading day by day and how this Act of 2007 is effective in immediate redressal of the grievances of the elderly people and how the different stakeholders can contribute with respect to issues and challenges being faced by the senior citizens.

The Deputy Commissioner Samba, in her address, apprised the participants about the prevalent schemes which exist for the welfare of the senior citizens and how the senior citizens of District Samba can come forward and take

the benefits of the same.

The Senior Superintendent of Police Samba assured the people to provide every possible help to the people of District Samba whenever they will approach his office.

Durga Dass, Retd. Joint Registrar, High court of J&K and also one of the senior citizens thanked the efforts made by Deputy Commissioner Samba for the welfare of Senior Citizens and requested her to take more steps for the betterment of the people of District Samba.

My Town My Pride 2.0 takes off across all municipal areas of Rajouri

RAJOURI, DECEMBER 05: The second edition of the ambitious My Town My Pride program on Monday began with much fanfare across all the municipal areas of Rajouri district.

The first day of the two day long program witnessed an enthusiastic and overwhelming response from the general public.

"My Town My Pride" is an initiative to strengthen urban local self-governance and to provide responsive, accountable and participatory governance to the people. The program has three main objectives of Public outreach in towns, strengthening grassroots democracy and to provide service delivery at people's doorsteps.

In the forenoon session, the visiting officers engaged with local residents at the ULBs allotted to them. Stalls displaying government schemes and programs being implemented in the district were put up at the venues by the resource persons of different departments.

The visiting officers inspected stalls and interacted with the field functionaries of different departments.

The public and their representatives highlighted a number of issues and demands of their areas



during the programs. The visiting officers, after giving a patient hearing, assured that their genuine concerns would be

redressed in a time bound manner.

Later, in the afternoon session, the visiting officers inspected a number of government institutions including Banks, AWCs, schools, health institutions etc.

They also inspected a number of developmental works in the urban areas and asked the officers to work in a mission mode and make dedicated efforts to meet the expectations of the urban population.

Special Secretary to Government, Agriculture Production Department, T.K Bhatt visited MC Rajouri, DG Floriculture Jammu, Jatinder Singh visited MC Kalakote, Director School Education Jammu, Ravi Shanker Sharma visited MC Thanamandi, Regional Director Survey and Land Records and Ex Officio Settlement Officer Rajouri, Ghulam Rasool visited MC Sunderbani and Principal Revenue Training Institute Jammu, Ashfaq Ahmed visited MC Nowshera.

The public has highly appreciated the My Town My My Town Pride program and appealed to the LG Administration to continue such programs in near future also to meet their developmental aspirations.

Manjakote Road Mishap DC Rajouri meets injured at GMC&AH; Assures every possible support to victims

RAJOURI, DECEMBER 05: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal today visited Government Medical College Rajouri to inquire about the condition of the persons injured in a bus accident at Nyaka Panjgrain of tehsil Manjakote.

Amarjit Singh, Principal GMC; Mohd Arief, President MC Rajouri; Dr. Mehmood Bajar, MS DH; Mohd Rafi, AD Planning; and other officers also accompanied the DC during his visit.

As per Tehsildar Manjakote at least 20 persons were injured after a bus in which they were traveling turned turtle at Paryali, in Nyaka Panjgrain of Tehsil Manjakote.

"Of the 20 injured, 16 were referred to GMC Rajouri for specialised treatment, while four were treated at Army Hospital Manjakote," he added.

Interacting with the injured, the Deputy Commissioner asked about their well being and instructed the medical team to provide best possible treatment for early recovery of the injured persons.

In addition, he promised that the dis-



trict administration would provide the injured and their families with all the help necessary during these trying times.

To expeditiously pay the compensation to the accident victims, the Assistant Regional Transport Officer was instructed to process the cases under the Jammu and Kashmir Road Accident Victims Fund and submit the same at the earliest.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

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the public. "People first" is basic policy of J&K Government and we must serve people as per their needs", Dr. Mehta observed.

While interacting with visiting officer Udampur district (Principal Secretary, School Education Department), Alok Kumar, the Chief Secretary asked him to involve the local public as well as municipal council representatives for the completion of prestigious Devika project. He further asked him to take action against officers as well as contractors who are hampering the execution of this project.

Similarly, interacting with visiting officer for Jammu district Shaleen Kabra, Principal Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, the Chief Secretary asked him to keep complete tab on all the ongoing works in the district so that the Jammu City is made one of the cleanest and vibrant cities of the country. He highlighted that Jammu city has lot of potential as tourist destination and we must channelize our resources to make it one of the finest attractions in the country.

The Chief Secretary further asked the visiting officers of Jammu district to involve all wards of Jammu Municipal Corporation into the celebrations of MTMP besides educational institutions, in order to generate awareness among public about beneficiary oriented schemes.

Likewise, interacting with visiting officer Ramban district (Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment), Sanjeev Verma, the Chief Secretary impressed upon the officer to involve locals and other public representatives for developing Ramban as a tourist place owing to its significance due to NH-44. He asked the officers to make it such an attraction that people stay there purposely.

Dr. Mehta while delving on different aspects of MTMP, impressed upon the officers to saturate the different beneficiary oriented schemes among the public besides young generation should be made aware about different self-employment schemes like Mumkin, Tejaswani, among others.

Highlighting that digitisation of services is vital for better public service delivery, Dr. Mehta impressed upon the officers that people should be made aware about online services. He underlined that any service offered through offline mode is a source of corruption and therefore we should sensitise public about using only online mode for receiving benefits of government schemes.

During the interaction, the Chief Secretary also held deliberations with visiting officers of Khour, Bishnah, Bhaderwah, Bhakshi Nagar, Bari Brahmna, and other municipal wards and councils of Jammu division.

DR FAROOQ

for Gupkar Declaration, an amalgam of mainstream parties seeking reverse of revocation of J&K's special status Farooq said the party would not boycott any elections from now onwards.

"Boycotting panchayat elections (in 2018) was a big mistake. But now onwards we won't boycott any election," he said after being re-elected as president.

About Omar Abdullah's announcement that he would not contest elections as long as Jammu and Kashmir remained a Union Territory, Abdulla said he would insist him to contest polls.

"...as president of the NC insist that he has to fight the elections and defeat them on ground," Abdullah said. He also warned the security forces and the government not to interfere in the elections in Jammu and Kashmir and said "let people decide whom to vote for".

Meanwhile, BJP took a jibe at Abdullah for warning security forces and the government not to interfere in elections.

BJP J&K spokesman Altaf Thakur said gone are the days when NC would use security forces and official machinery to win polls as done in 1987 elections. Thakur said BJP is playing transparent politics across the country and J&K is no exception as the party believes in transparency.

FEAR

government had constituted a Special Investigation Team (SIT) but its report is still awaited. It is up to the government and the security forces to ensure security of the Kashmiri Pandits in Kashmir as well as hold a probe to unmask the people behind the threat," said senior officer bearer of Association representing PM Package employees in Jammu.

The government teacher, who returned from Kashmir following targeted killings and continuously participating in protests near here at Canal Road said, "The situation is not good for those who returned back to Kashmir and joined their duties due to some compulsions i.e., financial, their students were in mid term of schools and other issues."

"Around 95 percent of PM Package employees have not received their salaries from September/October 2022 onwards. The salaries of only 5 percent PM package employees so far have been released," he claimed.

PUNJAB

apples being taken away went viral. Rajwinder Singh and Gurpreet Singh approached the police and expressed their wish to compensate for the loss to the owner of the truck. Rajwinder Singh said he could not believe that some people were busy stealing apple cartons instead of helping the truck driver who met with an accident.

It was quite an unfortunate incident which took place in Punjab, he said. "We wanted to give a good message of Punjabiyat to people," said Rajwinder as he stressed that people should come forward to help those in need.

Gurpreet Singh said the cheque of Rs 9.12 lakh was given to the truck owner. Truck owner Shahid said he felt very bad when he saw the video of apple cartons being stolen, not believing that it could be Punjab where people always come forward to extend help. He said he had studied in Punjab and knew that people here are known for offering help. He thanked the two samaritans for giving him Rs 9.12 lakh cheque.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Fatehgarh, Sahib Ravjot Grewal said a case has been registered in connection with the stealing of apples and 10 people have been arrested in this regard.

INSHA BASHIR

"From 2017, I am active in playing basketball, doing social work, and became the first female wheelchair basketball player from J&K to represent India in the USA," Inshah said. "After that with the help of Voluntary Medicare Society, we made our own women's team of J&K. Recently for the first-time ever an international Wheelchair Basketball tournament was held in India and I was selected from J&K to play for India and I bagged a silver medal," she said.

Apart from being active in sports, Inshah has continued her activities outside the basketball arena as well. She has been delivering lectures on various platforms to

motivate people.

"I am the first TED Talk speaker from Kashmir, thus an inspiration for a lot of people in general and girls in particular," she said.

In the year 2017, Inshah participated in the National Wheelchair Basketball Championship held in Hyderabad.

She played another National Wheelchair Basketball Championship that was held in Tamil Nadu in 2018.

In 2019, she participated in her third National Wheelchair Basketball Championship held in Mohali, Punjab. She was the captain of the J&K team and in that competition J&K qualified for the quarterfinals.

Her big break came in 2019 when she represented India in an international competition held in the USA.

In October this year, Inshah won the J&K Police Marathon in wheelchair category and received the award from the Director General of Police. Last month, Inshah represented India and won a Silver medal in the International Wheelchair Basketball Tournament held in Noida. Over the years, Inshah has bagged various awards both at the local as well as at the national level.

The National Awards for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities for 2021 and 2022 she received on Saturday is the biggest achievement for her so far and another motivation for her to continue on her journey.

"This is big and I am proud to receive such a high profile award from the President of India. It gives me further motivation to continue my journey and inspire others," she said.

"In my journey so far, my parents and family have played a huge role. Without them it wouldn't have been possible. There are others as well who have been the guiding forces behind my rise in the basketball arena. I am thankful to everyone," Inshah said.

WEATHER

haze. Motor vehicles had to put on headlights in the morning while plying.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir showed a slight improvement but was still the coldest place with the minimum temperature dipped to minus 4.4 degrees Celsius on Monday against minus 4.6 degrees a day earlier.

Gulmarg in north Kashmir recorded a low of minus 3.2 degree Celsius on Monday. Qazigund on the Srinagar-Jammu highway had a low of minus 3.4 degrees Celsius while Kulkernag in south Kashmir recorded minus 1.4 degrees Celsius.

Kupwara witnessed a low of minus 2.7 degree Celsius on Monday.

DDC

4717 Males out of 8565 and 3982 females out of 7748 cast their votes.

The Voting which started at the 7.A.M in morning and concluded at 2.P.M. in after noon passed peacefully with people across the age groups participating. Kashmiri Migrants also cast their votes in the special polling stations setup for them in different places in Jammu.

KUGAM

well. My message to all educated women folk will be to don't sit idle at home but make the beginning of any business and you will be able to earn your livelihood very well."—(KNO)

DESK

also registered complaints about the shifting of schools in various areas across the Valley.

The schools are shifted by the department for having zero enrollment and are clubbed with nearby schools.

"But the complainants state that their kids cannot go to the other schools citing various reasons. All such cases are referred to higher ups for their decision on these matters," the official said

Notably, the School Education Department (SED) has shifted (clubbed) hundreds of schools for the last many years. These schools were clubbed under the process of rationalisation to streamline the Pupil Teacher ratio (PTR) in government schools.

Meanwhile, the official said the efforts of the grievance cell remains to dispose of the cases as early as possible to redress the grievances of the general public—(KNO)

SOIL

tremendous strain because of deforestation, urbanization, erosion, loss of soil biodiversity, improper agricultural practices, salinization, nutrient depletion and chemical pollution.

He said that with deforestation underway, it will have very harmful environmental hazards and people must avoid excessive use of inorganic fertilizers and should prefer organic fertilizers.

"We need to work on how to make land productive which has become unproductive due to excessive use of fertilizers. Besides, we need to think about the limited land available for production on how to feed the growing population in the world. So, we must act responsibly and preserve soil for future generations as well," Dr Parvaiz added—

Two decades on, Sub Distict Hospital Qaimoh awaits completion

Kulgam, Dec 05: Sanctioned about two decades ago, Sub-district hospital building in Qaimoh area of Kulgam is awaiting completion causing hardships to people.

Locals told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that a new building for PHC Qaimoh which was later upgraded to SDH on request of locals was sanctioned during the PDP-Congress government in 2003.

They said PHC was upgraded to a 50 bed SDH and building was to be constructed at Rs 19.34 crores.

According to people, the construction of the building was started in 2003 and in seven years, only pillars of the building were constructed and the work was stopped due to shortage of funds. But now, almost 20 years have passed since construction work was started, authorities are yet to complete construction work due to which thousands of people of Qaimoh and its adjacent areas are affected, said a local Jahangir Ahmad.

In absence of basic health care facilities, people are forced to visit private clinics and other government district or sub district hospitals for minor ailments, he said. All these years, locals said they have been hearing about deadlines which were never met.

A health official told KNO that due to paucity of funds besides some other issues, it took so long. But now, 90 percent of the work is completed.

He said that interior work is going on and building will be completed next year as construction work is expected to take a few more months—(KNO) In absence of basic health care facilities, people are forced to visit private clinics and other government district or sub district hospitals for minor ailments, he said.

All these years, locals said they have been hearing about deadlines which were never met. A health official told KNO that due to paucity of funds besides some other issues, it took so long. But now, 90 percent of the work is completed.

HDFC Bank to conduct national 'Blood Donation Drive' on December 9, 2022

Srinagar, Dec 5, KNT: HDFC Bank will hold a nationwide 'Blood Donation Drive' on Friday, December 9, 2022. The annual campaign is HDFC Bank's leading healthcare initiative under its flagship CSR program #Parivartan. In its 14th year, blood donation camps will be organized at over 5,500 centers in 1,150 cities across India. This includes large corporates, colleges and bank branches. Those who wish to donate blood can locate the center nearest to them by checking the bank website.

Over 4.5 lakh donors are expected to participate in this year's drive. The Bank has tied up with local hospitals, blood banks and, colleges across these cities for technical and functional assistance. Over 1,200 colleges across the country have been assigned as donation centers.

"It is the 14th year of our All-India Blood Donation campaign – an initiative that we have been proud to support since 2007," said Bhavesh Zaveri, Group Head - Operations, HDFC Bank.

"Medical care depends on a steady supply of blood from donors, as one in seven people entering the hospital needs blood. Medical professionals have confirmed that it is safe to donate blood if Covid and other general precautions are in place. Let us do our small part to make a genuine difference in the lives of the communities around us by donating blood this Friday, December 9, at a blood donation camp near you."

"HDFC Bank #Parivartan is committed to bringing about a positive change in society. The all-India Blood Donation Drive is our sincere effort in this direction and is aimed at creating awareness about the importance of Blood Donation. A single unit of blood can save up to 3 lives. Blood Donation can save millions of lives, and it is the next generation that needs to drive this message in the years to come," said Ms. Ashima Bhat, Group Head – Business Finance & Strategy, Administration, Infrastructure, ESG & CSR.

JDA concedes demand of Roop

Nagar Sector 6 new allottees; Allots alternate Plots through Draw of Lots



JAMMU, DECEMBER 05: Jammu Development Authority (JDA) has allotted 33 alternate plots to the allottees of Sector-6 New Roop Nagar Housing Colony through Draw of Lots.

The draw of lot was conducted in the meeting hall of JDA at Vikas Bhawan, Rail Head Complex Jammu in presence of allottees/their representatives. The draw of lot was conducted by Dr. Sahil Jandyal, Secretary JDA in presence and under the overall supervision of Panjaj Magotra, Vice Chairman, JDA.

It is pertinent to mention here that these were the long pending genuine cases which could not be handed over plots due to litigation. The draw was conducted in a fair and transparent manner and was duly video graphed. Allottees who got their alternate plots have appreciated the efforts made by JDA in resolving their long pending issue. Secretary JDA was advised by the Vice Chairman, JDA to ensure issuance of the LOI to these allottees at an earliest.

Other senior officers present were Superintendent Engineer, Chief Town Planner, Executive Engineer -II, Financial Advisor & CAO, Tehsildar Zone C & D, Accounts Officer and Legal Assistant, JDA.

Before assuming Charge, Ashok Bhat visits Dastageer Sahab Khanyar

Srinagar.,05-Dec: : Recently re-appointed District President BJP Ashok Bhat visited the revered sufi shrine of Abdul Qadir Jeelani popularly known as Dastageer Sahab to take blessings before formally assuming office.

On the occasion, Bhat was facilitated and greeted by the shrine management. They thanked Bhat for his constant support and addressing the issues pertaining to smooth functioning and up gradation of the shrine.

Bhat also proposed to setup a library within the building complex to preserve the rich history of Sufi culture in the valley.

KCCI seeks power tariff amnesty for commercial, industrial consumers

Srinagar.,05-Dec: The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Inc) urged the LG Mr. Manoj Sinha to announce amnesty for power tariff in favor of Commercial and Industrial Consumers as the Industrialist of Jammu & Kashmir region has almost collapsed due to the pandemic Covid -19 crises.

President, KCCI, Sheikh Ashiq Ahmad in a statement said that the power situation in the Kashmir both for industries as also domestic use remains to be uncertain and erratic load shedding and curtailment of power is frequent beyond tolerance, the supply is erratic yet the bills are raised irrationally. "Transformers damaged take month to get replaced leaving the people on lurk to cry for the essential requirement of electricity. With the onset of winter, unscheduled and prolonged power cuts have become an unwritten rule, not only in non-metered areas, but metered areas as well".

"The administration must come out immediately with a comprehensive power supply policy to cope with intermittent and unscheduled power cuts during this harsh winter", he said.

He drew attention of Manoj Sinha, Lieutenant Governor and Arun Kumar Mehta, (IAS) Chief Secretary, towards the industrial sector of Jammu & Kashmir, due to the financial crunch a number of units have not availed the previous Power Amnesty Scheme.

President KCCI also requested the authorities not to disconnect the power supplies forcing the Industrialists/ Commercial Establishments to close down their units.

"Recently we met Principal Secretary, Power Development Department, J&K and we are waiting for the outcome of our suggestions given in the meeting", he said. Meanwhile, KCCI urged LG Administration to announce amnesty to the Commercial Consumers at par with Domestic Consumers so that they can pay their (pending) electricity bills waiving interest and penalties besides after settling the same with the Power Development Department. President KCCI also requested the authorities not to disconnect the power supplies forcing the Industrialists/ Commercial Establishments to close down their units. "Recently we met Principal Secretary, Power Development Department, J&K and we are waiting for the outcome of our suggestions given in the meeting".

Ex-Central Paramilitary Forces Welfare Association highlights demands

M S Nazki



Mendhār The Meeting of Ex-central Para military Forces welfare association under its district President Poonch Retd Dyss Adalat Hussein Khan held at Meeting Mendhār to work out the strangely to approach constitutional authorities for discrimination inflicted upon Ex-central paramilitary forces CRPF, BSF, CISF, ITBP, SSB and Assam Rifles comprising of retired personnel's veer naris and dependent at 75 lac's all over the country and resolve our woes that we are facing under the compelling and appalling circumstances our violin and burning issues are as under:-Frame separate service and pension rules instead of CCS rules.Exemption from new contributory pension system (NPS) to serving CPMF personnel which has exempted for armed force from 2004.

Grant of para military services pay to be calculated for pensions. One rank one pension (OROP) Grant of Ex. Service main status with all consigned benefits. C.S.D Canteen facilities. Extend ECXHS facilities. Change of present nomenclature of central armed force (CAPFS) to central para military force (CPMF) Grant statutory Para military welfare board similar to sanik welfare board.

Fixing of pension with Grade pay HSP as entitle to defence force. Medical allowance from Rs 500 to Rs. 3000/- Reserve quota for Ex serviceman and their wards for re-employment Govt. Education and technical institutions. Ex service main status to retired personal 7 CPC announces to the implemented w.e.f. 01-01-2016 nt yet declared and implemented. Extra coach for all CPMFS in long route trains. 50 % pensions to medically ground pensioners. ACP and MACP benefits pree 99 and after 2008 personnel who completed 20 years of service. Revision of widow pension equal to male pension. On behalf of ex-central para military forces welfare association

Sub District Hospital Bhadarwah Sans Machinery, Staff

People Of Bhadarwah Left To Mercy Of God

Amir Iqbal Khan

Bhadarwah, Dec 05: Government Sub District Hospital (SDH) Bhadarwah the only health institute in whole of Additional district Bhadarwah is severely handicapped by the shortage of doctors, technical and para-medical staff.

For years at end, despite repeated exhortation by public of the area, the Government has neither taken a serious note of ground situation into account nor has attempted to consider the suffering faced by patients who through the SDH for diagnosis and treatment. It is strange that SDH Bhadarwah one of the oldest health care facilities in the region has reportedly the sanctioned strength of 37 doctors including that of Physician, Surgeon, ENT, Orthopedic, Gynecologist, Paediatrician, Dental Surgeon, Consultant Dentistry, Ophthalmologist, Pathologist, Radiologist and Anesthetist, besides 17 Medical Officers (M.Os) and a special Medical Officer Blood Bank which means the budget is provided in the chest of their salaries and other requirements regularly. Despite that, large number of posts in the SDH have remained vacant for a pretty long time. The question is how can an understaffed Hospital do justice to the patients who come with the hope of receiving attention and treatment at the hands of experienced and qualified doctors. Disappointed by non-availability of particular specialized treatment, people are forced either to take the patient outside district for treatment or to the private hospitals within Jammu and Kashmir. In either case, it puts heavy burden on patients who are not financially strong to get treatment from a private hospital. Pleading anonymity, sources in the department disclosed, "Out of 37 posts of Specialists and consultants, in position, strength of staff of doctors is 10 including 6 medical officers (four from NHM contractual) while 27 posts of specialists, consultants and MOs are lying vacant as of now," sources said adding, "Besides the post of BMO, the SDH Bhadarwah has more than 50 sanctioned strength of paramedical staff including technicians while only 13 (five contractual) are in position at the moment".

The sources further said that the post of Block Medical Officer (BMO) is lying vacant for the last four months and department has failed to send the substitute in absence of which the SDH is headless and the administrative situation can be gauged by observing the present condition of the hospital which apparently lies in shambles. Apart from these vacancies, there are other serious deficiencies also that add to the discomfort of the patients and inefficiency in the functionality of the hospital. Surgery and emergency departments are totally defunct as posts of specialists in these disciplines are lying vacant. Even the departments of Orthopedics, Ophthalmology and Radiology which are important facets particularly for dealing with the emergency situations are defunct and the poor patients are constrained to go outside for obtaining simple treatment. "In SDH Bhadarwah, there are two posts of Surgeon Specialists, two of Physicians, two of Pediatricians, two of Gynecologists, two of Anesthetists, two Pediatricians and two posts of consultant Pathologists while one each is that of Consultant Dentistry, Dental Surgeon specialist, ENT, Consultant Ophthalmologist, Ophthalmologist Specialist, Specialist Orthopedics and Consultant Orthopaedician, Radiologist, Consultant Radiologist and a senior Medical Officer Blood Bank," divulged sources adding further, "while there is only one Physician Specialist, One Paediatrician, One Dental consultant and a consultant Gynecologist in the speciality departments in SDH at present.

CCIK Elects Faizan Nehvi Chairman of The Young Entrepreneurs' Committee

Srinagar: The Chamber of Commerce and Industry Kashmir (CCIK) has elected Faizan Nehvi as its new chairman for the young entrepreneur's committee.

The Young Entrepreneurs Committee was formed to help and promote youth in their chosen lines of business. Speaking on the occasion to the media, Faizan Nehvi said youth have a lot of talent but are hesitant to foray into business ventures due to their lack of exposure to economic activities.

He stated that young people have been entering the business world for some time, which is great for the economy. He stated that if we go back in time, the young people were unable to understand how to start their businesses. However, in the recent past, it has been observed that a large number of young people are entering the business. He said that the forum will work to get young people into entrepreneurship and help them advertise their goods.

The young entrepreneur's Committee Chairman claimed that Kashmir has enormous business potential because so few companies have been established

PM Modi casts his vote in Ahmedabad

Ahmedabad, Dec 5 (UNI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday cast his vote at the Nishan Public School, at Sabarmati Assembly constituency, Ahmedabad in the second phase of the Gujarat Assembly Election 2022. On his way, he greeted people as he walked to reach his polling booth. This is the same booth where PM Modi casted his vote in 2017. Earlier, Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged the voters of Gujarat, particularly, young voters and women to vote in large numbers. "Urging all those who are voting in Phase 2 of the Gujarat elections, particularly the young voters and women voters to vote in large numbers, I will be casting my vote in Ahmedabad at around 9 am," he tweeted. Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel also cast his vote for the second phase of at Booth 95, Silaj Anupam School in Ahmedabad. The polling for the second phase of Gujarat Assembly elections is being held today on 93 seats spread across 14 districts. Over 2.5 crore voters will go to the polls for the second phase of the Gujarat Assembly elections. As many as 833 candidates are in the fray and Gujarat will witness a three-way contest between BJP, AAP and Congress. In the second phase polling, BJP and Arvind Kejriwal-led AAP are contesting in all the 93 seats. Congress is contesting 90 seats and its alliance partner Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) has fielded candidates in two seats. The prominent candidates in the second phase of the Gujarat polls are Hardik Patel, Alpesh Thakor and Jignesh Mevani who had played a key role in shaping the narrative of the 2017 state Assembly election.

"Hawala Money For BJP": Mamata Banerjee After ₹ 93 Lakh Found In A Car



Jalpaiguri: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today blamed the BJP after more than 93 lakh was found in a car in Jalpaiguri district. An investigation by local police is under way. The money was found hidden in one of the spare tyres of the vehicle during a search operation yesterday. When asked about the incident, the Bengal Chief Minister said: "I know this is Hawala and all this money is coming for the BJP. They are bringing in cash, bombs and guns, along with central security forces, so that the state police cannot check them." She added: "I request the BJP leaders to be watchful. Let us fight each other politically, not by force." The money was being smuggled in a car bearing a Bihar registration number. On searching the vehicle, 94 large bundles of cash were found in it. The amount is estimated to be around Rs 93 lakhs, police said. Police have also detained for questioning five people who were travelling in the car. According to sources, police were tipped off by an informer that some people coming towards Telipara were carrying a huge amount of money in a small vehicle down Asian Highway 48, a 276-km transnational route connecting India and Bhutan. While search operations were on, police from Binnaguri outpost stopped a car with five people in it. The presence of an extra spare tyre in the car raised suspicion. Soon, the vehicle was seized and brought to Banarhat Police Station for further investigation, when 94 bundles of cash were found hidden inside one of the spare tyres. "The amount of recovered cash is reported to be 93,33,000. Five people have been arrested," Biswajit Mahato, the Superintendent of Police, Jalpaiguri, told reporters.

"Matter Of Concern": S Jaishankar On Indian Baby In Foster Care In Germany

New Delhi: India has concerns that she should be in her linguistic, religious, cultural, and social environment and it is her right, EAM Jaishankar said on Monday regarding the Indian baby who is in German custody. "There's a case related to a child called Ariha Shah. We've concerns that she should be in her linguistic, religious, cultural and social environment. This is her right," /mr Jaishankar said during the press conference. The child, Ariha Shah was accidentally hurt by her grandmother in September last year following which the German authorities took the baby away. Calling it a matter of concern, Mr Jaishankar said that the Indian Embassy is pursuing it with the German authorities. The External Affairs Minister further added that he brought up the situation of the child with the German Foreign Minister who is on her two-day visit to India. "Our embassy is pursuing this with German authorities. It was a subject which I brought up with the Minister," the EAM said. The German ambassador to India, Philipp Ackermann, stated on November 30 that his nation has noted India's concern for a newborn in foster care and is aware of the seriousness of the situation. In response to a question from ANI, Mr Ackermann said, "The German government has taken note of the Indian government's concern in this case. We are very well aware of the gravity of the issue. It is always a very problematic moment when you take a baby away from their parents."



Kajol, Vishal Jethwa and Director Revathy visit Kolkata to promote their upcoming film, Salaam Venky. Dec 5, 2022. H.T. Photo SOURAV DUTTA.

PM thanks global leaders for support to India's G20 presidency

New Delhi, Dec 5 (UNI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday expressed gratitude and thanked global leaders for their support towards India's G20 presidency.



India formally assumed the presidency of G20 on December 1 from Indonesia making it the premier forum for international economic co-operation. G20 is an inter-governmental forum of the world's 20 major developed and developing economies.

Responding to a tweet by US President Joe Biden, the Prime Minister tweeted, "Your valued support will be a source of strength for India's G-20 Presidency. It is important we all work together to build a better planet."

The US President had written that that US and India will advance sustainable and inclusive growth while tackling shared challenges.

"India is a strong partner of the United States, and I look forward to supporting my friend Prime Minister Modi during India's G20 presidency."

Together we will advance sustainable and inclusive growth while tackling shared challenges like the climate, energy, and food crises," Biden said.

The Prime Minister also thanked French President Emmanuel Macron responding to his congratulatory message.

"Thank you, my dear friend Emmanuel Macron! I look forward to consulting you closely during India's G20 Presidency, as we work to focus the world's attention on the issues that affect humanity as a whole," Modi wrote on Twitter.

"One Earth. One Family. One Future. India has

taken over the presidency of G20! I trust my friend Narendra Modi to bring us together in order to build peace and a more sustainable world," Macron wrote on the microblogging platform.

In response to a congratulatory tweet by Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, Prime Minister Modi tweeted, "Your solidarity is vital. Japan has contributed a lot to global well-being and I am confident the world will continue to learn from Japan's successes on various fronts."

Responding to wishes of Prime Minister of Spain Pedro Sanchez on In-

dia's G-20 presidency, the Prime Minister Modi expresses gratitude for his kind words.

"Gratitude for your kind works Mr Pedro Sanchez. Fully endorse your views on collectively working to mitigate challenges of the present to leave a better planet for the coming generations," Modi said in a tweet.

In response to a congratulatory message of President of the European Council, Charles Michel Modi thanks to his wishes and tweeted, "Thank you Mr Charles Michel. Looking forward to your active participation as we collectively work towards furthering global good."

Earlier, the Prime Minister also penned an article outlining India's vision for the G20 Presidency. The article was carried by leading publications across the world. Modi had said that India's G20 Presidency will work to promote the universal sense of oneness and also added that India's G20 agenda will be inclusive, ambitious, action-oriented,

Will Turn "Red Tape" Into "Red Carpet", Says Piyush Goyal About New Move

New Delhi: India's big step towards digitization of trade, the "National Single Window System" will convert "Red Tape" into "Red Carpet", Commerce minister Piyush Goyal said today. The digital platform - unveiled by Mr Goyal in September - helps traders and investors identify and apply for approvals. The Know Your Approvals module includes guidance for 32 Central Departments and 31 states.

The government had said the platform is meant to ensure transparency, accountability and responsiveness in the ecosystem and all information will be available on a single dashboard. The single window system will make compliance easier, shorten gestation period of projects, and make starting and conducting business easier.

Pitching it as a big step towards "Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-reliant India), the government had said the system will "usher in azadi (freedom) from the legacy of running to multiple government offices for approvals and registrations". It was to cut down on the multiple submission of information that had to be made earlier as the portal hosts applications for approvals from 26 central departments and 16 state governments. Today, Mr Goyal said the system currently accepts applications for 248



government-to-business clearance and approvals from 26 ministries and departments of states and the Centre. So far, 27 central government departments and 19 States/Union Territories - including Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir - have integrated into the National Single Window System. By December 15, five more states and union territories - Haryana, Andaman and Nicobar, Tripura, Jharkhand, and Arunachal Pradesh - will be integrated under it. The minister said the National Single Window System has shown 99.32 per cent efficiency and generated 48,000

approvals. Till date, 76,000 requests and applications have been received, the minister said. The government had said the platform is meant to ensure transparency, accountability and responsiveness in the ecosystem and all information will be available on a single dashboard. The single window system will make compliance easier, shorten gestation period of projects, and make starting and conducting business easier.

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"Against Constitution": Supreme Court On Forced Religious Conversions

New Delhi: Reaffirming that forced religious conversion is a "serious issue", the Supreme Court said on Monday it is against the Constitution.

The court was hearing a plea filed by advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay seeking direction to the Centre and states to take stringent steps to control fraudulent religious conversion by "intimidation, threatening, deceptively luring through gifts and monetary benefits".

The Centre told the court it is collecting information from states on religious conversion through such means. Appearing before a bench of Justices M R Shah and C T Ravikumar, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta sought time to furnish detailed information on the issue.

"We are gathering information from the states. Give us a week's time," Mr Mehta said. He said statutory the regime will determine whether a person is convert-



ing due to some change in belief. The top court acknowledged forced religious conversion is a very serious matter. When a lawyer questioned the maintainability of the plea, the bench said, "Do not be so technical. We are here to find a solution. We are here to set things right. If the purpose of the charity is good then it is welcome but what is required to be considered is the intention." "Do not take it as adversarial. It is a very serious issue. Ultimately it is against our Constitution. When everyone stays in India, they have to act per the culture of India," the bench observed. The Supreme Court will now take up the matter on December 12. Forced religious conversion may pose a danger to national security and impinge on religious freedom of citizens, the top court had said recently, and asked the Centre to step in and make sincere efforts to tackle the "very serious" issue. When a lawyer questioned the maintainability of the plea, the bench said, "Do not be so technical. We are here to find a solution. We are here to set things right. If the purpose of the charity is good then it is welcome but what is required to be considered is the intention." "Do not take it as adversarial. It is a very serious issue. Ultimately it is against our Constitution.

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Covid Was Man-Made Virus, Says Wuhan Lab Scientist In New Book

New Delhi: In what appears to be an astonishing revelation, a US-based scientist, who worked at a controversial research lab in China's Wuhan, has said that COVID-19 was a "man-made virus" that leaked from the facility.

Covid was leaked from Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV), a state-run and funded research facility, two years ago, the New York Post reported, quoting US-based researcher Andrew Huff's statement in the British newspaper The Sun.

In his latest book, "The Truth About Wuhan," epidemiologist Huff claims that the pandemic was caused by the US government's funding of coronaviruses in China. Excerpts of Huff's book have been out in the UK-based tabloid The Sun.

According to the New York Post report, Mr Huff is the former vice president of the EcoHealth Alliance, a non-profit organisation based in New York that studies infectious diseases.

Mr Huff claims in his book that China's gain-of-function experiments were conducted with inadequate security, resulting in a leak at the Wuhan lab, according to New York Post.

The Wuhan lab has been the centre of heated debates over the origins of COVID, with both Chinese government officials and lab workers denying that the virus originated there.

"Foreign laboratories did not have the adequate control measures in place for ensuring proper biosafety, biosecurity, and risk management, ultimately resulting in the lab leak at the Wuhan Institute of Virology," Andrew Huff, said in his book.

For more than a decade, the organisation has been studying several coronaviruses in bats with funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and has forged close ties to the Wuhan lab.

Cocaine Started Coming Into India, Nirmala Sitharaman Warns Officers



New Delhi: Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday asked enforcement agencies to up their vigil and go after big smugglers involved in drug trafficking and sending 'mountains' of illegal drugs into the country.

Ms Sitharaman said cocaine and other psychotropic drugs have started coming into India and the agencies need to figure out if the country is becoming a consuming country.

She made the remarks while addressing the 65th Founding Day of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence here in the national capital on Monday. "DRI should make sure that smugglers are not smarter than you. Each one of these (smuggling) cases, at the earliest point of time, must come to the conclusion," said Ms Sitharaman.

She said arrest and prosecute the smugglers and the DRI must ensure that big handlers of such smuggling activities must face the law of the land.

"There is a need to work hard and catch that sending a mountain of drugs. Need to greater access to a bilateral agreement with foreign countries as technology has enabled us to do things which earlier was not possible," Ms Sitharaman remarked.

The finance minister also made a suggestion to the DRI. She said that DRI, CBIC and Revenue department may start a two-day-long meet to see global cooperation.

"Start a workshop with the cooperation of Intelligence agencies for better cooperation, get actionable intelligence to crack the smugglers," she said.

Further, the finance minister said that India has got the Presidency of G-20 and the country must take this opportunity to organise a global meet where organisations like the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) should be called to see what kind of work they do and how that can help us to prevent smuggling.

Separately, a comparative year-wise trend of NDPS seizures showed that there has been a sharp increase in the number of seizures of the items in India.

In 2021-22, seizures of cocaine increased 3,479 per cent from 8.667 kg to 310.21 kg, an annual report produced by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence said on Monday. In 2019-20, the seizure was 1.108 kg.

For methamphetamine and heroin, the seizure increased by 1,281 per cent and 1,588 per cent to 884.69 kg and 3,410.71 kg, respectively, the report showed. Further, for ganja, data showed DRI made a maximum number of seizures of ganja in Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, and Maharashtra. DRI arrested about 131 persons during the financial year 2021-22 for offences committed under the NDPS Act, 1985, the report said. Further, for ganja, data showed DRI made a maximum number of seizures of ganja in Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, and Maharashtra. DRI arrested about 131 persons during the financial year 2021-22.

Blinken warns Netanyahu on West Bank annexation but holds fire on far-right cabinet

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken vowed on Sunday to oppose Israeli settlements or annexation in the West Bank but promised to judge Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's incoming government by actions and not personalities.

Netanyahu is expected within days to return to power after sealing a coalition deal with extreme-right movements including Religious Zionism, which is set for a post in charge of settlements in the occupied West Bank. Speaking to J Street, a left-leaning pro-Israel US advocacy group, Blinken offered congratulations to the veteran Israeli leader, who has clashed with previous Democratic administrations in Washington.

"We will gauge the government by the policies it pursues rather

than individual personalities," Blinken said.

But he said President Joe Biden's administration would work "relentlessly" to preserve a "horizon of hope", however dim, for the creation of a Palestinian state.

"We will also continue to unequivocally oppose any acts that undermine the prospects of a two-state solution, including but not limited to settlement expansion, moves toward annexation of the West Bank, disruption to the historic status quo of holy sites, demolitions and evictions, and incitement to violence," Blinken said.

He said that the Biden administration will insist on "core democratic principles, including respect to the rights of LGBTQ people and the equal administration of justice for all citizens of



Israel". The far-right groups in Netanyahu's coalition will include Noam, whose leader Avi Maoz is staunchly opposed to LGBTQ rights.

anyahu said in an interview with NBC News.

Speaking before Blinken's remarks, Netanyahu pointed out that the outgoing government led by Yair Lapid relied on support from an Arab Israeli party with Islamist roots and said he "didn't hear a word from all the chorus of critics" about it.

Religious Zionism's leader Itamar Ben-Gvir, who is expected to play a key role, is a staunch advocate of Jewish settlements. Until a few years ago, he had a portrait in his living room of Baruch Goldstein, who massacred 29 Palestinian worshippers at a Hebron mosque in 1994.

Jeremy Ben-Ami, the president of J Street, told reporters the State Department had a "strong case" to consider Ben-Gvir persona non grata and that the US.

England beat Pakistan by 74 runs to win first Test

England bowled out Pakistan for 268 runs in Rawalpindi Monday to win the first Test by 74 runs.

Pakistan began the fifth and final day on 80-2 after being set a target of 343 for victory, but Ollie Robinson and James Anderson took four wickets apiece to dash the home team's hopes.

England scored a record 657 in their first innings before dismissing Pakistan for 579.

The mammoth scoring prompted severe criticism of the Rawalpindi pitch, but the Test sprang to life after England batted briskly in their second innings before declaring at 264-7 on Sunday to set up an intriguing final day.

Resuming at 80-2, Pakistan added just 13 in the first 65 minutes with Rizwan not scoring off the first 23 balls he faced.

He changed gear, however, hitting five boundaries and two sixes to begin the chase proper in an unbroken 80-run fourth wicket stand with Shakeel.

Shakeel cracked Leach for two



boundaries to complete his half-century off 104 balls.

England are on their first Test tour of Pakistan since 2005, having declined to visit in the interim years on security grounds.

The second Test is in Multan from December 9-13, and the third in Karachi from December 17-21. England bowled out Pakistan for 268 runs in Rawalpindi Monday to win the first Test by 74 runs.

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England thump Senegal, face France in quarters



AL KHOR: England set up a titanic World Cup quarter-final against holders France as Jude Bellingham's masterclass inspired a 3-0 win against Senegal in the last 16 on Sunday.

Gareth Southgate's side survived a nervous start at the Al Bayt Stadium before Jordan Henderson and Harry Kane put Senegal to the sword with a pair of clinical finishes before half-time.

Bukayo Saka scored England's third, but it was Bellingham's prodigious work-rate and burgeoning quality in possession that allowed them to turn the tide. Bellingham set up Henderson's opener and the Borussia Dortmund midfielder was involved again when England captain Kane bagged his first goal in this World Cup.

Kane has now netted 11 times at major tournaments, overtaking Gary Lineker as England's all-time top scorer in those competitions.

But at the tender age of 19, it is Bellingham who has emerged as England's driving force. He is the first teenager to assist in a World Cup knockout stage game since 1966, having already announced his arrival on the global stage by netting his first England goal in the 6-2 rout of Iran in their group opener.

Just two years after he was playing in the English second tier with Birmingham, the precocious Bellingham was totally unfazed against Senegal in the biggest game of his life.

England will need another command performance from Bellingham if they are to extend their stay in Qatar beyond the last eight.

Eying a third successive semi-final appearance at major tournaments, England will return to the Al Khor desert on Saturday to take on the red-hot Kylian Mbappe and company after France brushed aside Poland 3-1 on Sunday.

Euro 2020 runners-up England have won only one of their last eight meetings with France, who pose a significant threat to their hopes of winning a first major title for 56 years.

The depth of attacking talent available to Southgate could be crucial and, defending his decision to drop Marcus Rashford for Saka despite the forward's double against Wales, he boasted "we have an embarrassment of riches in all areas of the pitch".

After a rocky opening when they passed too slowly and looked anxious, England hit their stride to show why Southgate has such confidence in them.

Japan primed to show 'samurai spirit' against Croatia at World Cup

DOHA: Japan will "fight like samurai" in Monday's World Cup last-16 clash with Croatia as they battle to reach the quarter-finals for the first time, defender Yuto Nagatomo said.

Japan reached the knockout round after stunning Germany and Spain to top Group 'E' but they are not satisfied with what they have achieved so far in Qatar.

Veteran Nagatomo is appearing at his fourth World Cup and he urged his team-mates to "show the samurai spirit to the world" against Croatia.

"Before battle, the samurai would polish their weapons and refine their technique, but if they were scared in battle, all that would count for nothing," the former Inter Milan left-back said Sunday.

"It's the same as football. Of course tactics and technique are important, but if we're scared, it doesn't matter how much we've trained over the past four years because our technique will be no use.

"The most important thing is to have courage," the 36-year-old added. Japan have reached the last 16 at three previous World Cups but they have yet to make it as far as the quarter-finals.

England's Liam Livingstone out of Pakistan tour with knee injury



All-rounder Liam Livingstone has been ruled out of the rest of England's tour of Pakistan with a knee injury, the team's management said on Monday.

The 29-year-old made his Test debut on Thursday in the ongoing first Test in Rawalpindi, scoring nine and seven not out in England's two innings.

But he jarred his knee while fielding on

day two and did not bowl in Pakistan's first innings.

Livingstone also missed the T20 series against Pakistan a few months ago after suffering an ankle injury.

England have yet to decide if a replacement will be called up.

Pakistan were chasing 343 on Monday, the fifth and final day of the first Test.

On Sunday, their captain Ben Stokes made an exceptionally bold decision of declaring their second innings, giving Pakistan a 343-run target to win on a very much placid track at the Pindi Cricket Stadium.

England are on their first Test tour of Pakistan since 2005, having declined to visit in the interim years on security grounds.

Their T20 side played seven matches in the country two months ago, taking the series 4-3.

FIFA World Cup: Neymar fit to face South Korea, says coach

DOHA: Brazil forward Neymar is set to play for the five-times champions in their World Cup last-16 match against South Korea on Monday after recovering from an ankle injury, coach Tite said.

Neymar suffered the injury in Brazil's opening 2-0 win over Serbia, which ruled him out of their 1-0 win over Switzerland and the shock defeat by Cameroon, one of a series of injury problems within the squad.

Full-back Danilo was also cleared by the medical staff for the game against South Korea.

"Neymar will train today in the afternoon and if he trains well he will play," Tite told a news conference.

Neymar has suffered many issues with his right foot and underwent surgery four years ago for a fractured metatarsal.

The news of his return to the starting lineup came after Thiago Silva was asked during a news conference if Neymar would play and Tite took hold of the microphone and said "yes".

It will be warmly welcomed in a squad beset by fitness woes with Danilo also hurting his ankle against Serbia and Alex Sandro suffering a hip injury against the Swiss.



Alex Telles and forward Gabriel Jesus, who sustained a knee injury against Cameroon, were ruled out for the rest of the tournament on Saturday.

Tite said Danilo was also fit to return against South Korea on Monday but Sandro was out.

"He still can't play. Still recovering. Danilo and Neymar are back," he said.

Tite stressed that Neymar's return was with the full backing of the team's medical staff and the player's physical health was the priority.

"If he plays, it's because he is in full health and ready to start, to play from the beginning and the entire game with no limitations," Tite said. "My preference is always to play my best players

from the start."

With Neymar back, Tite said there will be no changes in the forward line from the team that started against Serbia, with Lucas Paqueta behind Neymar, Vinicius Jr., Raphinha and Richarlison.

The biggest question mark is who will play left-back with Sandro and Telles ruled out.

Marquinhos replaced the Sevilla defender after he sustained the injury against Cameroon, but right back Danilo and midfielder Everton Ribeiro are also options.

"Alex Sandro's replacement will be a player that have already played in that position in his club. Make your research and you will find out who he is," Tite said.

England Player To Return Home From World Cup To Deal With "Family Matter"

Raheem Sterling will return home from England's World Cup camp in Qatar with doubts over whether he will return in time for Saturday's quarter-final against France. The English Football Association confirmed the Chelsea forward was left out of Sunday's 3-0 win over Senegal to deal with "a family matter".

According to reports in the British media, Sterling's home was broken into by armed intruders while his family were in the property on Saturday night. "At the moment clearly the priority is for him to be with his family. We're going to support that and leave him to have as much time as he needs," said England manager Gareth Southgate. "At the moment it's a situation he needs time with his family to deal with and I don't want to put him under any pressure with that." Sometimes football isn't the most important thing and family should come

first. "Sterling has been a key player for England during Southgate's six years in charge.

The 27-year-old has 20 goals in 81 caps for his country, including one at the 2022 World Cup in a 6-2 victory over Iran.

However, Sterling may have already been squeezed out of Southgate's starting line-up for the last eight even if he does return to Qatar by the fine form of Bukayo Saka, Marcus Rashford and Phil Foden.

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