

# HEADLINES TODAY

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Tourist from Gujrat dies of a heart attack in Srinagar

Srinagar, Feb 21: A tourist from Gujrat died of a heart attack in Srinagar hospital on Tuesday, official sources said. They said that a tourist who was staying in the Srinagar hotel along with his family complained of chest pain. He was shifted to SMHS Hospital Srinagar where doctors declared him dead. The deceased has been identified as 47-year-old Muhammad Maqsood Hussain, a native of Ahmadabad, Gujrat.

### Minor girl dies in Srinagar road accident

Srinagar, Feb 21: A 6-year-old girl died after being hit by a motorcycle in Sangam Palapora area of Srinagar city on Tuesday, officials said. They said that a biker hit a minor girl who was immediately shifted to the hospital where she succumbed to her injuries.

The victim has been identified as Aliza Firdous, a resident of Takawari Srinagar. Police have taken cognizance of the incident and registered a case under relevant sections of law.

### Nepali maid found dead in Srinagar

Srinagar, Feb 21: A Nepali maid working in Srinagar was found dead on Tuesday. Official sources told The Kashmir Scroll that a maid from Nepal working at the residence of Mohd Sadiq Rah resident of Meerak shah colony Habbak Srinagar was found dead there. She has been identified as, Roosa wife of vishnov resident of Nepal. Meanwhile Police party has rushed to the spot and started investigation. (KS)

### 3.4 Magnitude Earthquake Hits Katra In J&K

JAMMU, Feb 21: An earthquake of 3.4 magnitude hit the Katra belt of Jammu and Kashmir Monday night, officials said. There was no casualty or damage to property reported from anywhere, they said. The quake struck at 10.07 pm at a depth of 25 km, the National Centre for Seismology said. The epicentre was 89 km east of Katra. Tremors were felt in Reasi and Doda districts in the Union territory. On February 17, an earthquake of 3.6 magnitude hit the Katra belt.

### Police arrests 03 drug peddlers; contraband substances recovered

Srinagar/February 21: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, police have arrested 03 drug peddlers in Kulgam & Baramulla and recovered contraband substances from their possession. In Kulgam, a Police Party led by SHO Police Station DH Pora during routine Naka checking at Lagapora DK Marag intercepted 02 suspicious persons. They have been identified as Showkat Ahmad Ganie resident of Chimmer and Bilal Bashir Mir resident of Lagapora. During search, 2Kgs of Ganja and 120 gram of Cannabis Powder was recovered from their possession. They have been arrested and shifted to police station where they remain in custody. In Baramulla, acting on specific information, a police party under the supervision of SDPO Tangmarg Shri Javid Ahmad-JKPS assisted by SHO PS Kunzer arrested a drug peddler namely Bashir Ahmad Mir son of Ghulam Hussain Mir resident of Ichgam Budgam during surprise naka checking at Gokhama Kunzer. During search, 40 grams of Charas like substance was recovered from his possession.

### GSI team visits land sinking site in Ramban; 16 families shifted so far

Ramban, Feb 21: A team of Geological Survey of India (GSI) on Tuesday visited the hilly Duksar Dalwa village of Ramban district to ascertain the reasons behind the land "sinking" which has so far damaged 16 houses, officials said. Officials told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), that a team of experts from Geological Survey of India (GSI) visited Duksar, Dalwa village today to ascertain the reasons for sinking of the land/ geological event. They said so far 16 houses have been damaged and families have been shifted to safer places, besides providing tents, blankets and utensils to them. "The 33-kV power transmission line passing through the village and a 500-metre Sangaldan-Gool road street was also damaged in the land sinking incident", officials said. Meanwhile, on

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## Union External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar Inaugurates First International Education Fair of J&K

HT NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21: J&K's first International Education Fair, a collaborative effort of SKUAST-Kashmir and ICCR was inaugurated by Union Minister for External Affairs Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar today in presence of Union Minister for Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan; Union MoS, PMO, Dr. Jitendra Singh; Lieutenant Governor, Jammu & Kashmir, Shri Manoj Sinha and President ICCR, Shri Vinay Sahasrabudhe at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi today. Union External Affairs Minister, Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, Chief Guest for the event, complemented the



SKUAST-Kashmir for the International Education Fair initiative. He said three years ago, the process of change started in J&K which was intended

to ensure that full benefits of the development and progress that the rest of India had seen for many years are also now completely available to the people, especially to the youth of J&K. In that sense, people of J&K being in the national mainstream was extremely important. It was also by doing so, they would connect up with the rest of India and the International mainstream. For me it is not just an education event, it is a very integral part of ensuring that a very important region of India is connected to what is happening in the world," Dr. Jaishankar said. He also observed that Indian universities should focus on inviting more foreign students to their campuses. "Today, India has projects done or under-delivery in 78 countries

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## J&K admin unveils Rules for levy, assessment and collection of property tax in limits of municipal councils and committees

People to pay 5% of taxable annual value on residential 6% on non-residential properties

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Feb 21: The administration of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory on Tuesday unveiled Rules for levying, assessment and collection of property tax in the limits of municipal councils and committees of the UT. The Housing & Urban Development Department today notified "The Jammu and Kashmir Property Tax (Other Municipalities) Rules, 2023". According to the notification, a copy of which is in possession of news agency—Kashmir News Ob-

server (KNO), these rules, which would be applicable within the limits of municipal councils and municipal committees, shall come into force from April 01, 2023. The Rules define the procedure for calculation of property tax. According to the Rules, the Taxable Annual Value (TAV) of a property under the Municipal Act-2000 and the property tax due thereon for a financial year shall be calculated in accordance with a formula given in schedule-I to these rules. The Rules state that the property tax on residential property would be 5% of Taxable Annual Value (TAV) while that of non-residential property

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## Kashmir parts received rains, snowfall at Gulmarg

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Feb 21 (UNI) Parts of Kashmir valley received rains while the ski resort of Gulmarg experienced a fresh snowfall on Tuesday, officials said. The Meteorological Department forecast of mainly dry weather over Jammu and Kashmir during the next 24 hours. Ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir's Baramulla district received 10 Cms of fresh snowfall overnight much to the delight of the tourists

at the valley of meadow. It also received 10.4mm of rainfall during the past 24 hours till 0830hours, the Met office said. Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, received traces, Qazigund on Srinagar-Jammu national highway received 4.2cms of rainfall, tourist hot spot of Pahalgam 4.3mm, the frontier Kashmir district of Kupwara 7.6mm, Koker-nag 4.6mm of rainfall during the past 24hours till 0830hours today. Srinagar recorded the

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## "AB PM-JAY, AB PM-JAY SEHAT: Proves boon for ailing JK people"

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21: The government of Jammu and Kashmir empowers every family of J&K with a financial protection of Rs 5 lakh annually for meeting catastrophic health expenditure under world's largest health insurance schemes 'Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) and AB PM-JAY SEHAT'. Pertinently, Jammu and Kashmir was one of the first states/



UTs to universalize AB PM-JAY. Under the scheme, 2295 procedures have been covered, out of which, some procedures have been reserved for

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## Top Hizb Commander Bashir Ahmad Peer Shot Dead In Pakistan's Rawalpindi

Farooq Rather

Srinagar, Feb 21: In a major setback to the Hizb-Ul-Mujahideen, the launching commander of the outfit Bashir Ahmad Peer alias Imtiyaz Alam was killed on Monday in Rawalpindi in Pakistan. Peer was killed on Monday evening after an assailant shot at him from point-blank range outside a shop in Rawalpindi. On October 4, the Centre designated him as a militant under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act for his role in terror activities including providing logistics to the banned outfit's militants

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## Govt seeks Info of teaching staff regarding pursuing of PG degrees during service

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Feb 21: The government has sought information from the teaching staff of the School Education Department regarding pursuing Post Graduate degrees in various disciplines during in-service. Deputy Secretary to government, Masood Ahmad Wani said that on directions of the administration, the department needs to submit information regarding pursuing of post graduate degrees in various disciplines during in-service by incharge lecturers, masters and teachers so that it will finalize the seniorities. According to the news agency the officer said this in a communique to Directors of School Education of both Jammu and Kashmir regions. "I am directed to request you to kindly furnish details of incharge lecturers,

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## COVID-19: Quarantine, Isolation puts Psychological impact on patients, carers, front line workers: Study

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Feb 21: Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic had a significant impact on the mental well-being of the general population and the impact is reported to be more in people in isolation/quarantine facilities and frontline healthcare workers managing patients in such facilities. The cross-sectional study conducted at a COVID-19 tertiary care treatment facility, Chest Diseases Hospital, Srinagar which was one of the main hospitals receiving COVID-19 patients and the study that has been published in journal of Integrative Medi-

cine and Public Health, a publication of Department of Community Medicine, Government Medical College, Srinagar, a copy of which lies with news agency—has revealed that that prevalence of depression and anxiety was found more in patients in quarantine and isolation. An official, who was part of the study said that COVID-19 has led to an increasing reliance on home and hospital carers. "Our study underlines an important finding that the psychological impact is significant not only on the patients who contract the infection but also on their carers," he said.

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## Another milestone in the USBRL Project! Track laying work begins on Chenab Bridge

HT NEWS NETWORK

Jammu, Feb 21: The track laying work commenced on the Chenab railway bridge, located 359 metres above the riverbed, in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir commenced, officials said Tuesday. The 1.3-kilometre-long bridge, which is 35 metres higher than the iconic Eiffel Tower in Paris, forms a crucial link in the 111-km stretch from Katra to Banihal, which is part of the Rs 21,653 crore Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Link (USBRL) project. "Another milestone in USBRL Project! Track laying work begins on Chenab Bridge. Once completed, this bridge will open up new possibilities for the remote regions

of Jammu and Kashmir," the Ministry of Railways tweeted, as per news agency—The base of the steel and concrete arch bridge between Bakhal and Kauri, 42 kilometres from Reasi town, was completed in November 2017, allowing for the start of the construction of the main arch which was done in April 2021. Another milestone on the bridge was achieved in August last year when the overarch deck of the bridge was completed with a Golden Joint, paving way for the laying of the track. As per the officials, the construction work on the bridge started in 2004 but had to be suspended in 2008-09 to consider the aspect

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## CS for reducing travel time on Sgr-Jmu Highway under all circumstances

Directs for making ITMS functional for capital cities within 7 days

HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today in a meeting with traffic authorities made it amply clear that in no case should travel time between the two capital cities of the UT exceed beyond 7 hours on any day for light motor vehicles. He made these remarks in a meeting called to review the traffic scenario on this road including that of



the two cities. The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Home; Principal Secretary, PWD; Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir; IG Traffic; Secretary, Transport; Deputy Commissioners Anantnag/ Ramban; SP Traffic, National Highway; District SPs, Jammu/ Srinagar/ Anantnag/ Ramban;

Transport Commissioner and many other concerned officers. Dr Mehta enjoined upon the traffic authorities to submit daily reports about the actual time taken to reach from one city to another. He told them to enhance their personnel on all the damaged portions of the road for better traffic management. He urged them not to let the traffic come to halt due to any of the hindrance. He asked them to improve the road surface damaged due to weather vagaries at all costs for smooth movement of the vehicles on this road. The Chief Secretary impressed upon them to show zero tolerance towards road side

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## Gas pipeline to Jammu, PNRGB tells entities that demand for proposed pipeline to be determined considering futuristic needs of Srinagar

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Feb 21: In a significant move, the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNRGB) has said that the demand for the proposed Gurdaspur-Jammu Pipeline (GJPL) has to be determined considering futuristic demand centers upto Srinagar. Documents in possession of news agency—reveal that the PNRGB has informed different entities that the demand for the proposed GJPL pipeline has to be determined considering futuristic demand centers upto Srinagar. "In this regard, PNRGB to indicate the tap-off location/ GIS coordinates for future provision to Srinagar," reads the documents. "The documents further state that the bidder may decide the tap-off point location for provision to Srinagar in such a way

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## G-20 Summit:

# G20 Summit: Div Com Kashmir reviews progress of work for upgradation of roads

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 21: In preparation to host G20 Summit, the Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Tuesday convened a meeting to review the status of upgradation work of main roads from Srinagar Airport to Poshore Road. The meeting was attended by CEO, Srinagar Smart City Ltd; Chief Engineer SSCL; SE, R&B and other officers. Addressing the meeting, Div Com stressed on officers to speed up the developmental work to enhance facade of roads through macadamization, repairing of footpaths, removal of debris, landscape development



of road medians with green trees, removal of wires, painting of flyovers etc. During the meeting he reviewed beautification of IG road, redevelopment of Convent road & Residency road besides upgradation of Ghan-ta Ghar, Moulana Azad Road, Gupkar Junction and construction of footpath from Dalgate to Nishat etc. On the occasion, he also directed officers to initiate the tendering process of pending undertaken projects so that the work shall be completed in a stipulated time. Also, he directed concerned officers of R&B to mobilize men and machinery

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## KPDCL's Amnesty Scheme launched for chronic defaulters fails to generate desired revenue

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Feb 21: Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) has failed to generate the substantial revenue as it had expected after the announcement of the Amnesty Scheme launched by it for its domestic electricity consumers. Under the Amnesty Scheme consumers with large outstanding dues, can pay their outstanding bills in a maximum of 12 easy monthly installments. Official sources told news agency Kashmir News Trust that the Corporation was forced to disconnect the power connections of defaulters after poor revenue realization under this scheme. "We have launched a massive disconnection drive of chronic defaulters and so far the power connections of over 1000 defaulters have been disconnected. This driver will continue," they said adding that the disconnection driver has born fruits and revenue has started generating. Officials said that KPDCL is overburdened with huge arrears on account of domestic electricity dues of around 12.67 Crore. "This burden will be eased once chronic defaulters start reaping benefits under the Amnesty Scheme," they said.

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## Dr Samoon reviews modalities for up gradation of FCI to IHM

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21: Principal Secretary Skill Development Department (SDD), Dr Asgar Hassan Samoon, today chaired an officer's meeting here at Civil Secretariat to review upgradation of Food Craft Institute (FCI), Nagrota.

Dr Samoon had a detailed discussion on modalities for upgradation of FCI to Institute of Hotel Management (IHM) and Catering Technology besides Applied Nutrition.

The meeting was informed that the institute has applied for upgradation from FCI to IHM where the students get three year degree course in Hospitality and Hotel Administration i.e. Bsc (H&HA) under the aegis of National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology (NCHMCT). Union Ministry of Tourism, keeps a provision for allotment of seats to FCI/IHM Jam-

mu in the overall allotment of seats for three year degree programme. Dr Samoon said that a detailed proposal has been submitted for administrative approval regarding upgradation of FCI to IHM.

Principal Secretary asked the officers to strictly follow the guidelines and rules of NCHMCT so that degree course could be started in the coming session. He

Dr Samoon said that the FCI provides direct employment to the youth of JKUT after completion of training. The students from FCI get jobs at local as well as national level in different sectors of hotel industry. He further stressed upon officers to work hard for early execution of works related to upgradation of FCI to IHM so that hostel facilities are created at the earliest for accommodating outstation students.

## 7 Days Skill Development Training Programme on Business Statistics using AI & SAS Softwares Concludes at SKUAST-K Wadura

HT News Desk

Sopore .A week long skill development training programme on "Business Statistics Using R, Excel & SAS Softwares" was concluded today on 21st of Feb. 2023, at the Division of Agricultural Economics and Statistics, Faculty of Agriculture, Wadura, SKUAST-Kashmir. It was second Seven Days' MSME Skill Development training programme on the same subject. The objective of the training was to equip the students and participants with business statistics, data science, its analytics, Artificial Intelligence, Block chain, Supply/Value Chain, and other various statistical and economic techniques used in business management. At the beginning of the Valedictory event, the Course Co-ordinator, Prof. Tariq Ahmad Raja,

Head, Division of Agriculture Economics and Statistics, spoke on the topic 'Business Statistics and its role in present times. The program was attended by twenty five students. He stressed upon the participants to inculcate the interest in the subjects of Statistics, Economics, Computers & Data Science. The participants got acquainted with R, Excel, SAS & other Software Languages through various lectures delivered by the experts from within and outside the faculty particularly by Prof. Shakeel Ahmad Mir, faculty of Horticulture and Dr. Iqbal Jeelani, faculty of forestry. Sh. Altaf Hussain Haji (ISS) DDG, National Statistical Office, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, India, was the chief guest of the valedictory event. He spoke about the prospects of the subject and



impressed upon the participants to explore the possibilities in this field as their career option. The Chief Guest also

talked about the various aspects of G-20 (Premier Forum for International Economic Cooperation). The Co-coordinators,

Dr Showket Maqbool, Associate professor and Dr. Faheem Wani, Assistant Professor also talked on the subject

and impressed upon the participants to learn basics of Data Science, Economics and Block Chain. The training program was designed to cover the need in contemporary business and entrepreneurship skills. The Valedictory function was attended by various heads of the Divisions, Prof. M Ayoub Mantoo, Prof. Amal Saxena, Prof. Javeed Ahmad, Prof. Mushtaq A Malik, Prof. Asif Bashir, Students welfare Officer Dr. Aijaz Qureshi and Mr. Irshad Ahmad, PA to Dean. In the end, Dr. Sajad Abdullah Saraf, Associate Professor, Agricultural Economics, briefed the participants about business economics and entrepreneurship development, and also presented the formal vote of thanks to all the participants especially the chief guest of the training programme.

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## To check fraud under SEHAT scheme action against 25 erring hospitals taken so far

Srinagar, Feb 21, : In order to check fraud and implement SEHAT scheme effectively in Jammu and Kashmir, Government has initiated action against the 25 erring hospitals so far.

Reports said that the State Anti-Fraud Unit (SAFU) is closely monitoring the activities of all such hospitals.

The main aim behind the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) SEHAT scheme is to extend health insurance coverage to all residents of Jammu and Kashmir. It provides free-of-cost insurance cover to all the natives of the erstwhile state.

Sources told news agency Kashmir News Trust that the government had directed both Directors Health Services Kashmir and Jammu to keep a vigil on different laboratories working under their jurisdiction and see if they comply with the guidelines under the scheme.

These directions have been passed in a bid to stop fraud and wrongdoings.

The government has decided to de-empanelment and blacklist hospitals if they indulge in fraudulent activities under this scheme.

Health and Medical Education Department has claimed that it has already released Rs 430 crore in favor of the hospitals so that patients get treatment under this scheme.

## Police organises Painting & Carrom competition at DPL Pulwama

Pulwama February 21: Police in Pulwama organized a Painting & Carrom competitions under the aegis of Civic Action Programme (CAP) at DPL Pulwama in which students of different Schools of district Pulwama have participated. In painting competition, Aroba Jan of Govt. High School Parigam, Ifahana Gulzar of AEMS Manduna & Areena Amin of Govt. Hr. Sec. School Nawa bagged 1st, 2nd & 3rd positions. Similarly in Carrom competition Rabiya Nisar of Govt. Hr. Sec. School Nawa & Danish Ahmad Bhat of Govt. High School Wahibug bagged 1st and 2nd positions.

SSP Pulwama Shri Gh. Jeelani Wani-JKPS thanks the students for participating in the competition and also appreciated their intelligence and hard work. He also stressed upon the young budding artists of the district to allow their minds to explore their own thoughts and imagination through the medium of art. During the closing ceremony, SSP Pulwama in presence of other police officers has honoured the winners with cash prizes and certificates. Moreover, the other participants were also awarded suitably to boost up their morale.

## SSP Awantipora chairs crime/security review meeting

Awantipora February 21: SSP Awantipora Shri Mohd Yousif-JKPS chaired a crime/security review meeting at District Police Lines Awantipora. The meeting was attended by all SDPOs, DySP DAR, SHOs and Incharge PPs of Police District Awantipora.

During the meeting, disposal of pending UAPA cases, security of vulnerable persons & other aspects of policing including verifications, disposal of NDPS, inquest proceedings, and other issues related to accountable policing were also discussed. SSP Awantipora urged the officers to make all possible efforts in fight against menace of drugs and work dedicatedly to prevent social crimes & cybercrimes. During the meeting, participating officers briefed SSP Awantipora about the security scenario in their respective areas and the security measures being adopted.

## Orientation/ Training programme on 'Promotion of Niche Crops' held at Kulgam

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, FEBRUARY 21: In continuation to orientation cum training programmes under holistic agriculture development, a one day programme on Promotion of Niche Crops was held by the Agriculture Department in collaboration with KVK at GDC Kulgam.

Chief Agriculture Officer Kulgam, Sartaj Ahmad Shah during the inaugural session highlighted the significant commercial value and economic potential of niche crops in Jammu and Kashmir.

He laid thrust on the field functionaries to aware the farming community about the economic potential of these crops to enhance their livelihood security. He directed them work tirelessly for diversification and area expansion of niche crops particularly Saffron, Mushkibudji and Kashmiri Lal Mirch in district Kulgam.

Shabeer Ahmad Mir, Resource Person delivered a detailed presentation on different aspects for promotion of niche/heritage crops (Saffron, Lal Mirch, Mushk Budji, Kala Zeera etc) of Jammu & Kashmir with special reference to district Kulgam.

He highlighted major challenges in extensive cultivation of the Niche crops like lack of sufficient quantity of quality seed and planting material, poor post harvest management practices and poor market linkage.

He said, the project aims to address the challenges through establishment of 100 registered nurseries of Kashmiri Lal Mirch and 2 seed villages of Mushk Budji followed by diversification and area expansion 20 ha under saffron, 250 Ha each under Kashmiri Lal Mirch and Mushk Budji in potential areas of district Kulgam.

Additionally, the project will take up creation of Mini Spice Park, Modern Rice Mills and grading and processing units in target clusters, which will be linked with available NABL laboratories and e-trading centers of UT. This will facilitate quality promotion and value addition, leading to profitable accessibility to the market.

Further, he added that these niche crops are cash crops in demand and have a significant commercial value and potential to be awarded a GI tag, similar to the tag achieved for Kashmiri Saffron which will act as a branding tool to increase the market value both at national and international level.

SMS KVK Kulgam, Dr. Shakoor Ahmad, District Agriculture Officer, Mohd Amin Shiekh, besides Agriculture Extension Officers, Junior Agriculture Extension Officers and Agriculture Extension Assistants of Department of Agriculture participated in the training programme.

## DC Bandipora inaugurates first Drug De-addiction Centre at Bandipora

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 21: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmad on Tuesday inaugurated the first ever full fledged Drug De-addiction centre at Old SDH Bandipora.

The centre will be managed by District Administration Bandipora in collaboration with District Social Welfare Office Bandipora under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Campaign.

The inaugural Ceremony was attended by Nodal officer Coordination M A Hakak, Jt. Director Planning Imtiyaz Ahmed, ASP Aashiq Hussain Tak, DSP Headquarter Shafat Mohammad, MS District Hospital Bandipora, and other concerned officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC said that the centre will provide awareness, counselling, stabilization, identification, education, prevention, treatment, reha-



covery and Drug Demand reduction.

The DDC visited different sections of centre including Counselling room, ward rooms, office and took stock of the arrangements for patients and attendants. He also discussed the services to be provided by the centre like extra-curricular activities. He directed the staff to start work as soon as possible and make admission open. He also directed the staff to work

regularly and maintain proper records of patients. The DDC directed the officials to organize awareness camps to motivate the patients to come forward and work in coordination to eradicate this evil crime from our district. An official informed that the centre is providing free shelter and female Counsellors for female addicts and their aim is to make bandipora drug free District. "We will treat the patient till he/she realizes.

## Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav: DC Shopian flags-off 3 Reefer vehicles Dedicated them for long distance transport of fruits/ vegetables

SHOPIAN, FEBRUARY 21: To give impetus to better post harvest management in the district, 3 Reefer vehicles were today flagged-off by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya from Mini-Secretariat, here.

The big insulated vehicles Vans with a capacity of 15 Metric Tons each shall be used for long distance transport of the fruits and vegetables by the farmers of the district.

The Reefer Vans have been provided to the orchardists/farmers with the aim to prevent post harvest losses of fruits and vegetables and to keep the fruits garden fresh for marketing.

The Reefer Vans have been provided under Scheme MIDH with a subsidy component of 15 lac per van and financed under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund with an interest subvention of 3%. the assistance shall



be provided by NHB of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers welfare.

Horticulture is the mainstay of the economy of J&K and the

Government is committed to create enough infrastructure which includes providing necessary refrigeration for hassle free and cost effective trans-

port facility, said DC on the occasion.

He said, this upgrade in the horticulture sector of the district and other such Infra-

structural facilities shall be provided henceforth as well to give a boost to the horticulture sector of the district. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Yar Ali Khan; Joint Director Planning, Khurshheed Ahmed Khatana; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Shabbaz Ahmed Bodha; Chief Horticulture Officer, Mohammad Ramzan War; Chief Agriculture Officer, Farooq Ahmed, horticulturists, and other concerned were present on the occasion. He said, this upgrade in the horticulture sector of the district and other such Infrastructural facilities shall be provided henceforth as well to give a boost to the horticulture sector of the district.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Yar Ali Khan; Joint Director Planning, Khurshheed Ahmed Khatana; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Shabbaz Ahmed Bodha; Chief Horticulture Officer,

## PHDCCI, H&H Deptt organize CBP for Carpet Weaving artisans at Town Hall Bandipora

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 21: A Capacity Building programme (CBP) was today organized by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) in collaboration with the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom Bandipora for Carpet Weaving artisans of the district at Town Hall, here.

The programme was attended by Deputy Director PHDCCI, Iqbal Fayaz Jan; Chief Designer, School of Designs Srinagar, Amina Asad; Faculty Member IUST, Dr. Yaqoob Ahmad; HTO Bandipora, Naseer Ahmad Sheikh; AHTOs/Craft Instructors of Bandipora, experts from SOD. Besides, a large number of carpet weaving artisans participated in the event. Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Director PHDCCI impressed upon the importance of working in groups and clusters for overall development of the artisans and handicraft industry.

Chief Designer SOD emphasized the im-

portance of innovative designs and significance of colour schemes in creation of market oriented products.

Faculty Member IUST enlightened the audience about new marketing strategies. Experts from SOD, while displaying the prototypes created at SOD, demonstrated the power of innovation in craft development. AHTO Bandipora while thanking the organizers impressed upon the artisan community to visit different craft development institutes of the department and get benefitted from their services. Faculty Member IUST enlightened the audience about new marketing strategies. Experts from SOD, while displaying the prototypes created at SOD, demonstrated the power of innovation in craft development. AHTO Bandipora while thanking the organizers impressed upon the artisan community to visit different craft development institutes of the department and get benefitted from.

## J and K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages organised a literary function to celebrate world mother tongue day

Srinagar 21st of February, 2023 at the Conference Room of Tagore Hall Srinagar. The function was presided over by prominent poet Jb. M. Azeem Khan while as Jb. Fayaz Tilgami a celebrated poet and Jb. Mansha Khaki shared the presidium as Chief Guest and Guest of Honour during the function. The welcome address was delivered by Incharge Officer Divisional Office Kashmir (JKAACL) Dr. Farooq Anwaar Mirza. During his welcome speech he highlighted the importance of Mother Language. Soon after the welcome address a research oriented paper was read out by an eminent writer and HoD Urdu University of Kashmir Prof. Aijaz Mohammad Sheikh. The threadbare discussion was also followed soon after the paper presentation. Moreover a multilingual Mushaira was organised during the function wherein 20 poets of Kashmiri, Urdu, Pahari and Gojri Language read out their poetry on the occasion.

The Kashmiri poets who read their scripts were Jb. Fayaz Tilgami, Jb. Showkat Ansari, Jb. Abdul Rehman Fida, Jb. Ayoub Sabir and Jb. Abdul Aziz Baitab. Jb. Gazanfar Ali Shah-baaz, Sagar Sarfaraz, Jb. Rashaf Azmi, Jb. Mubarak Lone and Jb. Zahid Jamal Bandy read out their poetry in Urdu. Jb. M. Azim



Khan, Jb. Parvaiz Manoo, Jb. Waqar Danish, Jb. Ifthikhar Qureshi, and Jb. Akeel Abbasi presented their poetry in Pahari. Jb. Mansha Khaki, Jb. Taj ud Din Taj, Jb. Abdul Majid Hasrat and Jb. M. Sharief Qamar read out their scripts in Gojri. Moreover, Jb. M. Yusuf Shaheen, Jb. Shakeel Ur Rehman Azad Dr. Abid Ahmad, Dr. Gulzar Ahmad, Jb. Ayoub Nayeem, Jb. Salim Sagar, Jb. Maqbool Sajid, Jb. Jb. Abdul Salam Kouseri, Jameel Ansari, Jb. Rafiq Khari, Jb. Imtiyaz Ahmad Khan, Jb. Farooq Ahmad Safapori Jb. Riyaz Ahmad, Jb. Abdul Raheed and Jb. Mohammad Amin.



# DDC chairs District Consultative Committee meeting at Pulwama

## Approves Annual Credit Plan for 2023-24

PULWAMA, FEBRUARY 21: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, Baseer ul Haq Choudhary today chaired District Consultative Committee meeting to approve the Annual Credit Plan (2023-2024), which is based on Potential Linked Plan constituted by NABARD.

While discussing the plan, the DDC advised that more focus should be put on agriculture and allied activities as it forms the backbone of the district and suggested exploring best practices which would significantly improve the performance of this sector.

The amount allotted for the priority sector under credit plan (2023-2024) was approved for Rs. 3006.26 crores as compared to last year plan (2022-2023) which was 2745.96



crores thereby witnessing an increase of around 10%. The DDC also advised for the implementation of the schemes specifically for poor people.

He directed for ensuring balanced lending in all key sectors to promote equitable growth and also emphasized upon the heads of the financial institutions to spread

awareness with regard to the welfare schemes sponsored by them among masses so that people can avail benefit for their socio-economic development.

The DDC hailed the role of agriculture and horticulture sectors in creating self-reliant and sustainable employment in the district.

He emphasized on the priority sector lending with a special focus on education, women development and agriculture allied sectors and directed concerned officials to organise the financial literacy camps in every block of the district and stressed upon the bankers and concerned officers to adopt public friendly approach and work in coordination so that good results are achieved at the grass roots level.

The Meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Pulwama, Chief Agriculture Officer, Lead District Manager, DDM NABARD, Chief Horticulture Officer, Cluster Head JK Bank and District Officers of line depts and other banks of districts.

## DC Anantnag reviews SANJY-2023 preparations

ANANTNAG, FEBRUARY 21: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag,

education, Civil Defence and Home Guards, BSNL, Municipalities, Labour de-

various departments for repair of existing infrastructure and augmentation projects to be taken up at specific locations.

He emphasized that detailed planning and seamless execution will be critical for making SANJY-2023 a fulfilling experience for the Yatries. He said that every effort is to be made to ensure safety of the pilgrims and conservation of the fragile ecosystem along the route.

The DC impressed upon the participants that based on previous experience, a fool proof sanitation plan must be framed and put into practice.

The meeting was attended by ADC Anantnag, CEO PDA, ACR, CAHO, SE R&B, SE KPDC, SE Jal Shakti, CEO MC, Executive Engineers from Jal Shakti, ALC among others.

Various issues pertaining to SANJY-2023 like clearance of tracks, setting up of safety railings, sanitation plan, supply of electricity and water, registration of labour and ponies, deployment plans for various line departments etc were discussed.

partament among others. Various issues pertaining to SANJY-2023 like clearance of tracks, setting up of safety railings, sanitation plan, supply of electricity and water, registration of labour and ponies, deployment plans for various line departments etc were discussed. The DC also reviewed the works plans submitted by



Dr Basharat Qayoom today convened a meeting to review the preparations for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2023.

Thorough deliberations were held with stakeholders from various departments including Roads & Buildings, KPDC, Jal Shakti, Pahalgal Development Authority, Animal Husbandry, Edu-

## DC Bandipora reviews performance of Revenue Department

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 21: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmad Tuesday chaired a meeting of revenue officers to review the performance of the revenue department.

During the meeting, detailed review regarding different deliverables was taken and necessary directions were issued to the concerned Officers. The DC also took the status of implementation of the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme and Jamabandi writing in the district besides geo tagging and agriculture census. Dr Owais on the occasion also reviewed the status of removal of encroachments. He directed the officers to ensure no underprivileged household gets affected by the ongoing drive.

He asked the officers to ensure eviction of state/Kacharai land and identify the big patches of land. He said the land would be used for public welfare including construction of stadiums, libraries, Youth hostel and other institutions of public welfare. Dr Owais directed the of-



ficers to complete the first phase of agriculture census till March 10th.

He also asked the revenue officers to expedite the process of distribution of land passbooks.

During the meeting, DC also asked the revenue officers to provide certification of proposed locations for 4-G and 5-G towers.

The pending court cases were also discussed in the meeting and directions were passed for following the cases for early disposals. He stressed upon the revenue officials to adopt a target driven approach to ensure the time bound completion of the process.

Meanwhile, The DC also directed the Tehsildars to ensure the effective implementation of revenue department e-services under Public Service Guarantee Act and take stringent ac-

tion against the defaulters for dereliction of their duties irrespective of rank and file, besides to impose penalties.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that effective public service and grievance redressal mechanisms shall be placed at the grassroots level on priority so that the public does not suffer anymore.

Dr. Owais asked the Tehsildars for disposal of online Application of Fard within the timeline as per guidelines and directed them to monitor online portals on daily basis for disposal of cases within the set timeline.

The meeting was attended by ADC Waseem Raja, ACR Parvaiz Rahim, SDM Sumbal Aamir Choudhary, Tehsildars and other senior officers of the district.

## Health Melas organised in ABH&WCs at Pulwama

PULWAMA, FEBRUARY 14: The Department of AYUSH /ISM today organised Health Melas across all Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centers (ABH&WCs) in the district.

During the Melas, various activities were conducted like Cyclothon-Cycling Rallies, Yoga Sessions, Teleconsultation, Nikshay Poshan Abhiyan, NCD screening and distribution of Albendazole among Children, generation of ABHA cards undertaken as part of these health melas. Meanwhile, various activities were also carried out to promote and enhance awareness regarding physical/mental well-being.

Speaking on the occasion, a senior doctor from the AYUSH department said that the aim of these health melas is to deliver a range of comprehensive health care services like maternal and child health services to address communicable and non-communicable diseases and services for elderly and palliative care.

AB-HWCs provide free essential medicines and diagnostic services, tele-consultation and health promotion including wellness activities like Yoga, he added. The Melas witnessed overwhelming participation of locals who availed free medical facilities.

## MoH&FW, Gol grants permission for renewal of MDS course seats at GDC&H Sgr

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 21: The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW), Government of India has granted permission for increasing the intake capacity of MDS from 3 to 4 Government Dental College & Hospital (GDC&H), Srinagar for the academic year 2023-24.

The intake capacity has been increased in the specialty of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics, Periodontology, Prosthodontics and Crown & Bridge of GDC&H Srinagar.

In addition, the MDS seating capacity in the specialty of Pediatric & Preventive Dentistry, Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology and Oral Microbiology of this institution has also been renewed as 3 seats each.

Prof. (Dr.) Riyaz Farooq, Principal/Dean, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar has expressed gratitude to the Administrative Secretary, Health & Medical Education Department, J&K for this accomplishment.

Besides, Prof. (Dr.) Riyaz Farooq informed that this is the 2nd increase in MDS seats in this current year as well making the total intake capacity of MDS 28 seats in 8 specialties and that this increase in intake capacity of MDS seats will provide more opportunity to numerous aspiring BDS students of UT and other parts of Country including candidates belonging to EWS to study/PG courses which will lead academic excellence and better patient care delivery in this prestigious dental tertiary care institution of the Country.

## DC Kupwara chairs DDMA meeting 5 property damage relief cases approved



KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 21: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Dr. Doifode Sagar Dattatray ( who is also chairman of District Disaster Management Authority) today asked all line departments to prepare a well-defined Disaster Management Plan so that at the times of any emergency, administration could manage the situation in the best possible way. The DC Kupwara was today addressing a meeting of senior officers of the district convened to review the progress made regarding relief cases and claims under SDRF in the district. The DC took a detailed review with regard to property damage relief cases, COVID cases, cattle and sheep death cases, damaged infrastructure cases in floods and other calamities across the district. On this occasion 5 property damage relief cases were approved which had 4 fully damage cases and 1 partially damage cases, however 13 cases of property damage relief were deferred due to pendency in documents.

## VC DDC Kupwara reviews stock & supply position of food grains, essential commodities

KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 21: The Vice Chairman, District Development Council (DDC) Kupwara, Haji Farooq Ahmad Mir today chaired a meeting of Tehsil Supplies Officers (TSOs) of Food Supply & Consumer Affairs department, Kupwara, here at meeting hall of RDD complex to take stock of the supply position of ration and other essential commodities in Kupwara district. The VC, DDC reviewed the stock and supply position of food grains and other essential commodities in the district and received feedback from the TSOs with regard to supplies. The VC was informed that all ration items including Rice and other essential commodities have already been dumped in the hilly and border areas of Kupwara district including Karnah, keran and Machil which will cater the requirements of the people till May this year. He was also informed that ration is also being supplied as per procedure in the other areas of the district.

The VC DDC asked the officers to work with added dedication and honesty so that people do not face any inconvenience in the district.

## Bandipora Admin evacuates critically ill patient from Snowbound Gurez valley

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 21: The District Administration Bandipora on Tuesday performed yet another most difficult operation to evacuate a critically ill patient from Purana Tulail (PTL) village of Gurez valley close to Line of Control.

After receiving an SOS about a critically ill patient in the remote village who needed immediate evacuation for better medical treatment, Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Dr Owais directed for airlifting the patient from Snowbound village.

After hectic preparations to land the helicopter at the village on a thick layer of snow and ice for the first time, the helicopter landed on Snow outside the village and evacuated the patient. The patient was shifted to Bandipora where a critical care ambulance was already placed near the helipad where from the patient

was shifted to District Hospital Bandipora for treatment. Doctors said the patient was in need of immediate medical aid that was not possible in the remote village. The locals appreciated the District Administration for timely intervention to save the life of a patient. After receiving an SOS about a critically ill patient in the remote village who needed immediate evacuation for better medical treatment, Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Dr Owais directed for airlifting the patient from Snowbound village.

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## 8th NCORD meeting: DC Budgam calls for zero tolerance against perpetrators of drug abuse

BUDGAM, FEBRUARY 21: The 8th NCORD meeting of district Budgam was held at Sheikh ul Alam Hall of DC Office here under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, S F Hamid.

At the outset, the DC stressed on imposing strict penalties against the drug peddlers. He reviewed all the departments involved directly in curbing the spread of drug abuse in Budgam.

The DC directed Forest, Agriculture and other concerned departments to come up with a proposal for plantation of useful vegetation to replace the wild cannabis (Bhang) in the district. He directed the Excise and Taxation department to check the cultivation of poppy and cannabis before it is actually grown.

The sub divisional administrations were directed to coordinate with police and Assistant Drug Controller



and make a committee at sub-division level to carry out joint poppy destruction Exercise by involving PRIs and other stakeholders. The DC directed the education, health, Social welfare and Information departments to conduct awareness programmes in all colleges, schools of the district.

He further directed the Health department for health check up of students in all Degree Col-

leges, Higher Secondaries and High Schools under the direct supervision of their respective heads.

He directed to complete the exercise within the shortest possible time. Seeking strict enforcement of drug control rules, he asked Assistant Drug Controller Budgam to ensure mandatory maintaining of record of sale of psychotropic drugs by the medical stores.

He further directed principals of different colleges of Budgam to actively participate in curbing this social abuse.

He called for sensitisation of local Imams and religious heads through imparting training to them at District level for counselling the youth against effects of drug abuse.

The DC stressed upon the members to ensure effective implementation of the directions aimed at to curb the drug abuse in the district. He said, we all need to curb this menace with a heavy hand.

Earlier, SSP Budgam threw light on the drug abuse, its causes and prevention. He briefed about the measures Budgam Police has been taking for prevention of drug abuse like carrying out frequent awareness rallies and conducting awareness programmes/seminars in schools, colleges and during Thana Diwas at Police Stations.

## DC Budgam presides over Public Outreach programme at Block Soibugh

### Calls for involvement of PRIs, youth & senior citizens in framework of any developmental plan

BUDGAM, FEBRUARY 21: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, S F Hamid attended a public interaction programme of Soibugh Block of the district held at Panchayat Soibugh, here.

A large gathering of people assembled at the venue to apprise the DC about their issues. Speaking on the occasion, S F Hamid stressed on strict implementation of all Government schemes to ensure welfare of the public at large. He said the government has been generous to provide every possible facility to each household be it roads, wa-

ter supply connections or electricity. The DC said, Budgam is the first district to launch a door to door awareness regarding online revenue services. He said people do not have to run from pillar to post to get their work done and urged public to avail the benefits of online services.

He further stressed officers to work on exploring the tourism potential of all the blocks of the district and said that Budgam has a huge potential of tourism that can provide employment and upgrade the socio-economic status of the people.

He asked officers to hold festivals and carnivals to attract tourists besides exploring the tourism potential.

The DC also urged the officers to ensure the ongoing projects are completed well in time with priority to education and healthcare.

Speaking on the cleanliness of the block, the DC congratulated the people of the area for maintaining envi-



ronment cleanliness.

He said PRIs, youth and senior citizens have to play a major role for implementation of the rural sanitation programme. He also stressed on devising village specific waste management programmes and ensuring solid waste is disposed-off properly. He said each panchayat should select persons who will be responsible to make each village waste free.

The DC said our youth is our future, administration is there to support and nurture them. He said a camp shall be conducted here in this panchayat for registration of all the unemployed youth, so that specific fields of their choice will be given to them.

It is apt to mention that a special focus is being laid on sanitation in Panchayats and Rs 2 lakh has been provided to every panchayat to clean the drains and rivulets besides dumping the garbage at suitable places.

On the occasion, many demands were raised by the public of the area such as expedition of execution work on degree college Soibugh, self employment for the youth, upgradation of PHC Soibugh, development of play field, etc.

The DC gave patient hearing to the audience and assured them that their grievances will be taken to logical conclusion.

Besides, District Social Welfare Officer, Principal Degree College Soibugh, Tehsildar Budgam, AD Planning and other District and sectoral officers were present in the meeting. The DC gave patient hearing to the audience and assured them that their grievances will be taken to logical conclusion.

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## HEADLINES TODAY

## HT EDITORIAL

## No letup in Man-Wild animal Conflict Across J&amp;K.

Highlighting an all important topic of man-wild animal encounters across J&K is our moral duty. After the killing of a little Aada at Ompora after being attacked by a leopard last year. Just few months back another heart wrenching visuals of a little girl killed in a leopard attack created panic once more. Followed by another incident in which a little nomadic girl first reported missing from Pahalgam in similar incident like that of Aada, was killed.

Although ever next day we get a news that a leopard was caught alive from some palce or the other. However the people at the helm of affairs hardly bother to devise programmes and polices to nip this menace in its bud.

The encroachment of forest areas by the people is the major cause of these incidents that these wild animals enter residential areas in search of food and the frightened people attack these animals. We are all sailing in the same boat as a society. Be it the wildlife department or the common masses encroaching upon wildlife habitats, both are equally responsible for flare up in man-wild animal encounters.

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

In wake of heart wrenching incident of leopard killing little adda, a five year old little heart, the people of these areas are too scared to venture out of their houses. Wildlife department has issued advisory in wake of these incidents, warning residents of these areas not to venture out alone. Several leopard attacks over the past few weeks have injured a number of people. There is fear among residents of these areas and forest belts after leopard attacks occurred at different places.

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

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

Sooner the better sense prevails to put the house in order. For which everyone has a role to play. Humans need to act humanly. Stop encroachment of forests and attacking wild animals. Wildlife department needs to formulate a strategy to avoid such brutal encounters. The only we will be able to save the man as well as the beast...

## BRING ME BACK THE CHILDHOOD



SUDARSHAN FAAKIR

Took away from me this opulence, fame  
And even this young stage as well  
But bring me back those childhood memories, the  
"Paper Boat"

And the monsoon rain as a "Bell"  
The old memories of my vicinity  
The old woman known as Grand-mother  
In her talks, a group of fairies  
In her expressions, the worldly dairies  
If one tries to forget; can't forget  
The short night and the long story set  
On a hot day, leaving the homes aside  
Catching sparrow, Nightingale and butterflies  
Those gifts of brass-angles  
Those scars of broken bangles  
An innocent wish of our own idea  
Everything in the notions- our own area  
Neither worldly concern nor relations and strife  
The beautiful was the childhood life!

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## Negative Thinking: Causes, Effects, Solutions



By Adnan Malik

Negative thinking is a common problem that many people of all ages struggle with, especially students, including new generations. It is a way of thinking that focuses on the negative aspects of life rather than the positive ones. Negative thinking can lead to feelings of anxiety, depression, and lack of motivation. Here in this article, I will explore the factors, and causes of negative thinking, its effects, and some strategies for dealing with it.

There are several factors that contribute to negative thinking in new generations, including social media, academic pressures, and personal problems.

One of the main factors contributing to the new generation's negative mindset is social media. Social media has become an integral part of our lives and can have a huge impact on our mental health. Many young people feel pressured to publish perfect pictures of themselves on social media, which can lead to feelings of inadequacy and low self-esteem.

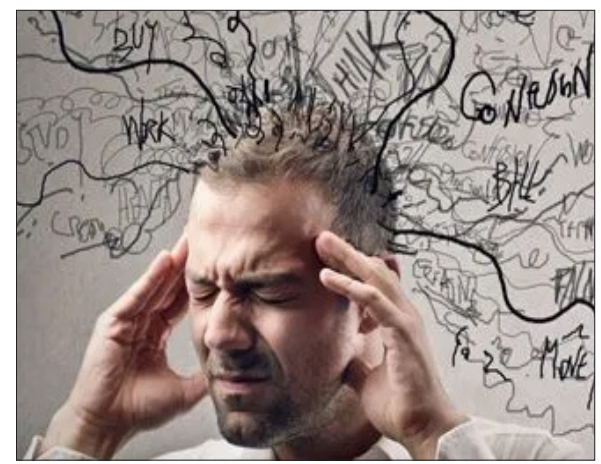
Academic pressure is another factor contributing to the negative mindset of the new generation. New generations are under tremendous pressure to perform well in school, which can lead to stress, anxiety and negative thinking. Many young people feel that they are not good enough or can never achieve their goals, which can lead to negative thought patterns.

Personal problems such as family problems, financial problems, and relationship problems can also contribute to negative thinking in the new generation. These problems can be particularly difficult for young people who may not have developed the coping mechanisms necessary to deal effectively. Promoting mental health and well-being is key to dealing with the new generation of negative thinking. This includes accessing mental health resources and support, promoting open communication about mental health, and promoting healthy coping mechanisms such as exercise, mindfulness and social support. It is also important to educate young people about the dangers of social media and academic pressures and encourage a balanced approach to these issues.

CAUSES OF NEGATIVE THOUGHTS  
Some of the more common causes include:  
Past experience

Negative experiences from the past can have a lasting impact on our way of thinking. If we have been hurt or disappointed in the past, we may have a negative outlook on life as a result.

Fear of failure  
Fear of failure can cause us to focus on the negatives of a situation rather than the positives. This can lead to self-



doubt and a lack of confidence, which can reinforce negative thoughts.

Low self-respect  
Low self-esteem can make us more susceptible to negative thoughts. When we don't feel good about ourselves, we're more likely to focus on our flaws and shortcomings.

Environmental factors  
Our environment can also have a significant impact on our thought patterns. If we are surrounded by negative people or negative messages, it is difficult for us to maintain a positive outlook on life.

EFFECTS OF NEGATIVE THINKING  
Negative thinking can have many impacts on our lives. Some of the more common effects include:

Anxiety and depression  
Negative thinking can lead to feelings of anxiety and depression, making it difficult to enjoy life and function effectively. Lack of motivation

Negative thinking can demotivate us and make it difficult for us to take action to achieve our goals.

Relationship issues  
Negative thinking can also lead to problems in our relationships, as we may be more prone to conflict and less able to see positive qualities in others.

Health problems  
Research has shown that negative thinking can also have

physical effects on our health, such as increasing the risk of heart disease and other chronic diseases.

STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH NEGATIVE THINKING

If you are struggling with negative thoughts, there are several strategies you can use to help you deal with them. Some of the most effective strategies include:

Practice gratitude  
Focusing on the things we are grateful for can help change our thinking from negative to positive. Cognitive-behavioral therapy:

This type of therapy can help us identify and change negative thought patterns by challenging negative thoughts and replacing them with more positive ones.

Mindfulness meditation  
Mindfulness meditation can help us become more aware of our thoughts and feelings, which can help us free ourselves from negative thought patterns.

Surround yourself with positive people  
Spending time with positive, supportive people can help reinforce a more positive outlook on life.

In conclusion, negative thinking is a common problem that can significantly affect our lives. By understanding the causes of negative thinking and using effective strategies to manage it, we can begin to focus on the positive and live a more fulfilling life.

Negative thinking can be a thought pattern characterized by focusing on potential problems, mistakes, and shortcomings rather than positive opportunities and opportunities. Negative thoughts can have a variety of negative effects on your mental health, including increased stress, anxiety, and depression.

HOW TO COMBAT OUR NEGATIVE THOUGHTS  
Practice mindfulness and notice negative thought patterns

Reframe negative thoughts and challenge negative beliefs  
Engage in positive self-talk and focus on the strengths and positive aspects of the situation

Engage in physical activity that helps improve mood and reduce stress  
Seek help from a psychologist or support group

By identifying and taking steps to combat negative thoughts, you can improve your mental health and well-being and develop a more positive and optimistic outlook on life.

The writer is an M-Tech student at KU. Feedback at Adnamalick@gmail.com

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## Temporary halt on State land retrieval process: A few suggestions



By Mohd Amin Mir

Retrieval of the state-owned land from encroachers was in full swing in the entire union territory and many big and valuable patches of this type of land were retrieved from big-handed encroachers peacefully. However, the poor people were not touched anywhere. Even many constrictions were demolished that were constructed by influential and muscle power people.

Now, the administration has temporarily halted the process it is assumed that the government mulls to frame a process before starting it once again, which is a good and people-friendly gesture. It is not that the government has bowed its head before the opposition leaders as is evident from the fact that when they (the opposition) were on their toes against the drive.



It was verbally stated by the government that five to fifteen marlas of this type of land will be allotted to poor people but it was not given an official shape neither it was mentioned to whom the land will be given. There are many people among the common masses who have encroached on this type of land including landless poor people.

Now, a framework will be formed and then it is presumed that a threadbare discussion will take things to their logical conclusion. For this purpose, being a sensitive issue, the government should take all the stakeholders on board before setting any concrete policy. Here are a few suggestions regarding this:  
A penal should be formed from Revenue,

Irrigation and Flood Control, Rural Development and Housing and Urban Development departments, especially experts from the Law Department.

The penal should be empowered to take all the pros and cons into consideration. But here is a suggestion that if few marlas of this type of land are to be given, it shall be given to landless people only and will be allotted to them in a proper way or it will be given to common masses with a poor background. Whether it will be a one-time offer or will continue onwards, in my opinion, it is best to allot a few marlas to the landless people and those who have constructed houses or shops on this type of land whether landless or common people. But the main thing is if the allotment process bag will be opened that too when there is a population explosion, the day is not far when the bag of the state-owned land will be empty.

Author is In-charge Record Room DC Office, Anantnag

The Opinion / Views expressed by the Author are his own and daily Headlines Today doesn't Own, Acknowledge or Support the same.

## Play organic Holi with Natural colors

Holi is one of the most loved and zesty festivals celebrated in India with immense joy and enthusiasm every year.

Traditionally the Holi colours were created with naturally helpful ingredients like hibiscus flowers, henna leaves, Kesar, sandalwood and more. These natural colours are not just good for your skin, hair and eyes but even cleanse and clear the dead skin.

As Holi arrives in the season of spring, the Gulal colour was made of plants and flowers that blossomed during this month.

Holi gained popularity with time and natural colours got replaced with chemical-based synthetic colours gradually. These colours are cheaper compared to natural colours, but expensive for health as well as the environment.

The famous quote "Bura na mano holi hai" implies that all playful mischief is allowed in holi.

The primary risk which Holi brings along with itself is exposure to harmful chemicals in form of Holi colours. These colours are made from harmful substances like acid, glass powder, industrial dye, copper sulphate, lead oxide etc.

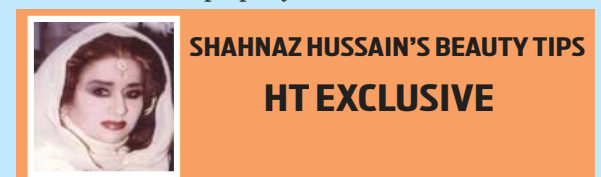
The toxicity from these chemicals are just not harmful for skin and hairs but exposure to them increases the risk of serious health complications such as Bronchial asthma, Renal failure, temporary blindness and much more. The situation becomes more alarming as it is young children who play Holi the most and thus get exposed to these harmful chemicals the most. Add to that later these chemicals cause environmental degradation and pollute groundwater and soil.

So, what are the options? The best option is definitely to make your natural, herbal and safe Holi colors at home

1-Gulal --- The most popular color of Holi, Gulal can be made by mixing 100 grams of turmeric powder with 200 grams of arrowroot powder along with 50 grams of marigold flowers and 20 grams of powdered orange peel. Add to the mixture 20 grams of lemon or sandalwood essential oil and rub the mixture gently together to get a bowl full of safe and natural yellow colored gulal  
2-Red

Red colour can be made by boiling petals of red hibiscus or red roses, beet or carrots. Tomato or carrot juice, pomegranate peel, puroi xaak guti, red sandalwood can also be used for the same

Red colour can also be prepared using dried red hibiscus flowers. Take properly dried hibiscus or China rose



SHAHNAZ HUSSAIN'S BEAUTY TIPS

HT EXCLUSIVE



flowers and then grate them into a fine powder. Red sandalwood can also be used in its place. You can add rice flour uniform quantity to obtain dry red colour. You can boil peel of pomegranate to get wet colour.

3-Green  
Green colour is a vibrant and lively colour choice for

holi celebrations

Green colour can be prepared by boiling different green leafy vegetables in water such as spinach (paleng), mustard greens (laai), coriander (dhania), etc. Neem leaves or other kinds of green leaves with medicinal values can also be helpful in this regard

Green coloured gulal can be made using henna or Mehendi powder. For wet colour, you can use any green leafy vegetables, such as spinach or Neem. The leaves when dipped in water will give it a green colour. To make it natural, corn starch, betel leaf and bathua leaves are used

4-Magenta  
Beetroot is a good source of red/pink pigment. You can soak sliced beetroots in water, boil the mixture and leave it overnight. You can also use red onions. Strain the water and cool it before use. If you wish to have a darker shade of pink, just dilute the mixture a little more.

5-Pink: The light pink colour is one of the common colours used in holi celebration. Rose, rose periwinkle (nayanantara) or four o'clock flower (godhuli gopal) can be used to make pink colour for Holi. Pink colour can also be prepared by mixing finely chopped beets in water or by boiling onion peels in water. To make it natural, corn starch, beetroot and dried rose petals are used.

6-Yellow: Yellow is another one of the favourite colours used in holi. Yellow colour can be acquired by boiling marigold petals or add turmeric in water to make wet yellow colours. Turmeric powder can be mixed with gram flour or rice flour for presenting yellow colour. To make it natural, corn starch, turmeric and dried lemon peels are used. Make sure the turmeric is organic, this will result in better colouring.

The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India

The writer, Ms. Sunita is an IBM-Student, the Department of Education, Central University of Kashmir, J&K. She can be reached at sunitakumarigujar001@gmail.com



## DM bans transportation of Bovines from Jammu District without permission

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21: District Magistrate Jammu, Avny Lavasa, in exercise of the powers vested under Section 144 Cr. P.C has ordered that no Bovine animals such as Cow, Buffalo, Oxen, Bulls, Calves etc be transported from District Jammu to other Districts, except with written permission from District Magistrate or Addl. District Magistrate, Jammu under certain conditions imposed by this office, from time to time.

The order shall come into force with an immediate effect and shall remain in force for a period of two months from date of its issue or till the order is rescinded whichever be earlier.

## DDC Chairman Doda kick starts construction work of Water Supply Scheme at Aul Ugad

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 20: The G-20 Club of PSPS Govt. College for Women Gandhinagar, Jammu, in collaboration with the Department of Education, under the charismatic leadership of Prof. Minu Mahajan, Principal of the college, organized a seminar on "Equal opportunities for men and women" in a series of activities going under the banner of G20 awareness.

The event started with a formal inaugural address by Dr. Rupinder Kour, Head of the Department of Education. In her address, she pointed out the need and importance of gender equality in different spheres of life. The Principal, in her speech, acquainted the college girls about their rights and duties about their gender and of others. "A nation can progress and attain higher growth only when both men and women are entitled to equal opportunities." She said, Prof. Neetu Raina, in her keynote address, explained the concept of Gender equality in depth. The proceedings of the event were carried out by Prof. Anupama Sharma.

Mehakdeep Kour, Charu Attri, Kamini Sharma, Sheeraza, Aliya Qayum, Mehak and Nidhi Thakur (President of The College) delivered their extensive talk on legal, social, psychological and educational background favouring Gender Equality.

More than 100 students and other faculty members were present on the occasion. For the smooth functioning of the event, Convener Prof. S.S. Parihar and members of G-20 put their handsome efforts. The event ended with a formal vote of thanks by Prof. Ajaz Ahmad Lone.

## DDC Rajouri kick starts work on Gobardhan Project at Dhanore Dindian



RAJOURI, FEBRUARY 21: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Rajour, Vikas Kundal, in a major step towards improving the living environment of the citizens of Rajouri, kick started work on the Gobardhan project under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) here at panchayat Dhanore Dindian. The project seeks to implement sustainable solid waste management and recycling systems in the city.

After laying the foundation stone, the DDC highlighted the importance of a clean environment, saying "We must strive to make our rural area garbage-free and install dustbins, segregation bins and recycling centers."

He said the Gobardhan project has been taken up to ensure sustainability and waste management." He also urged the people of Rajouri to be aware of their civic duties and play an active role in keeping the city clean and green.

The DDC also directed the concerned departments to take necessary steps for the successful completion of the project by the end of March, 2023. "With the Gobardhan project, we are determined to make Rajouri a litter-free city and create a healthier and more hygienic living environment for its citizens" he said.

The District Development Commissioner informed that 178 segregation sheds are being constructed in rural areas with the provision of door to door collection of to make rural Rajouri clean.

## One day awareness programme on Green Chemistry & Sustainable Development held at GHSS Jaganoor

UDHAMPUR, FEBRUARY 21: An awareness Programme on "Green Chemistry and Sustainable Development" was today organized by J&K Science Technology & Innovation Council Department of Science & Technology, Udhampur in collaboration with Government Higher Secondary School Jaganoor.

The programme started with the welcome address by the Principal of the institution. He welcomed the resource persons, guests and all participants. About 100 participants including faculty and students participated actively in the programme.

Shruti Khanna, District Co-ordinator, JKSTIC, Department of Science & Technology apprised and inspired the young budding students about several achievements in Science and familiarized the gathering about the initiatives, particularly of the science & technology department. She added that the main objective of the day was to popularize science among students and provide awareness regarding How green Chemistry emerged a new approach in the sustainable development. Guest Lectures were delivered through power point presentations by Dr. Ritika Mahajan, Department of Chemistry, Govt, Degree College, Ramnagar and Tarsem Singh, Principal Govt. Higher Sec. School, Ramnagar.

They highlighted how green chemistry represents a very promising niche in the development of environmentally friendly processes. They educated the students about this new approach with the potential of changing all the negative impacts and to restore the planet Earth's sustainable development.

The message of the awareness programme was to resolve to make good use of science and the necessity of everybody's contribution in the progress of the country. Guest Lectures were delivered through power point presentations by Dr. Ritika Mahajan, Department of Chemistry, Govt, Degree College, Ramnagar and Tarsem Singh, Principal Govt. Higher Sec. School, Ramnagar. They highlighted how green chemistry represents a very promising niche in the development of environmentally friendly processes. They educated the students about this new approach with the potential of changing all the negative impacts and to restore the planet Earth's sustainable development.

# DC Ramban, SSP Traffic take stock of works at Dhalwas on NH-44

'Double carriageway being restored on two critical stretches for seamless traffic'

RAMBAN, FEBRUARY 21: Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Mussarat Islam, along with SSP Traffic, NHWs, Mohita Sharma today took firsthand appraisal of Dhalwas stretch on National Highway-44 which has been rendered single due to sinking of road in view of heavy rains over the last few weeks.

ADC Ramban, Harbansh Sharma and PD NHAI, PIU Ramban, Purshottam Kumar, were also present on the occasion.

Briefing DC & SSP Traffic on traffic jams on Nashri-Chanderkote stretch, the PD NHAI said one of the two critical stretches has been restored for two-way traffic while work is on to make the second stretch at Dhalwas double carriageway soon.

"To resolve the chronic issue



of sinking at Dhalwas permanently, NHAI is in the process of constructing twin-tube bridges as a longtime measure," he added.

The Deputy Commissioner advised PD NHAI to expedite the pace of work to develop a double carriageway for hassle-free movement of vehicles between Nashri & Ramban. He also directed NHAI to make this stretch four-laned, which shall

also involve making the critical Kunfer tunnel between Peerah and Chanderkote functional.

The NHAI was also advised to immediately blacktop LMV holding area at Peerah to cater to emergencies and road blockades in times of rains and slides.

The Deputy Commissioner reiterated the direction of Chief Secretary, J&K, to start blacktopping work on recently taken

over Ramban Old Alignment Road from Jaiswal Bridge to Maitra Trijunction, which shall provide critical alternate connectivity to NH-44 bound traffic. Briefing DC & SSP Traffic on traffic jams on Nashri-Chanderkote stretch, the PD NHAI said one of the two critical stretches has been restored for two-way traffic while work is on to make the second stretch at Dhalwas double carriageway soon.

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## DC Kathua reviews Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra arrangements

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 21: Deputy Commissioner, Kathua Rahul Pandey, today chaired a meeting to review the arrangements being put in place for smooth conduct of the ensuing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2023.

The meeting was attended by DC State Taxes, Additional Deputy Commissioner, RTO, ACP, DPO, besides other officers.

The DC, while reviewing progress of the arrangements made for the ensuing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, directed the concerned departments to formulate a comprehensive plan covering all amenities to be extended to Amarnath Yatis at Lakhampur and through all the Yatra routes. He called for carrying out the preparations and other arrangements well before the commencement of the Yatra. The DC impressed upon the stakeholder departments to submit action plans related to safe drinking water, power supply, provision of toilets, sanitation facilities, lodging and langer facilities, Traffic and security arrangements etc. He directed the departments to work in tandem to finalise the necessary arrangements at the earliest.

The DC also enjoined upon the concerned officers to keep the contingency plan ready to deal with any eventuality.

While issuing a slew of directions to PWD, NHAI & Tourism department, the DC called for ensuring logistic arrangements, installation of digital screen,



hoardings and signages on Yatra routes, besides installation of information display boards at designated lodgment centres of the district.

The DIO Kathua was asked to make a cultural activity plan to be organised at identified Yatra points for the entertainment of the Yatis. The DC impressed upon the stakeholder departments to submit action plans related to safe drinking water, power supply, provision of toilets, sanitation facilities, lodging and langer facilities, Traffic and security arrangements etc. He directed the departments to work in tandem to finalise the necessary arrangements at the earliest.

## Agriculture Department Kathua dedicates Oyster Mushroom infra to Army and Police installations

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 21: To encourage its cultivation and consumption, the Kathua unit of Agriculture Production and Farmers' Welfare Department initiated Oyster Mushroom cultivation in the campuses of Indian Army and Jammu Kashmir Police in Kathua.

A team of experts from Mushroom Development Scheme, Kathua installed 100 Spawned Oyster Mushroom bags in the campus of Supply Depot IN 493 ASC, Janglote, in presence of C.O. Major Ankit Sheekh and Sub. D.S.Rana.

Similarly, Team of experts comprising Mushroom Development Officer, Kathua Ashwani Sharma, Mushroom Development Assistant (Incharge) Kathua Kailash Sharma and Agriculture Extension Assistant, Kathua Vinay Gupta also installed 120 Spawned Oyster Mushroom bags in District Police Lines.

The activity was done in presence of DIG, Jammu-Samba-Kathua Range Shakti Pathak and S.S.P Kathua Shivdeep Singh Jamwal.

The team of experts also briefed about the benefits of Oyster Mushroom which is of high medicinal and nutritive value besides a good source of protein and high nutritive value.

The Oyster Mushroom will be reared in campuses only and will be consumed by the Army and Police personnel.

Officers from Army and Jammu Kashmir Police appreciated the Chief Ag-



riculture Officer Kathua Sanjeev Rai Gupta for the well thought initiative taken by the Department of Agriculture, Kathua. Similarly, Team of experts comprising Mushroom Development Officer, Kathua Ashwani Sharma, Mushroom Development Assistant (Incharge) Kathua Kailash Sharma and Agriculture Extension Assistant, Kathua Vinay Gupta also installed 120 Spawned Oyster Mushroom bags in District Police Lines.

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## DC Kishtwar launches monthly E-Journal reflecting activities of District Administration

KISHTWAR, FEBRUARY 21: District Administration Kishtwar, in collaboration with District centre of Department of Information & Public Relations (DI&PR) has brought out the first edition of the E-Journal to acquaint people about developmental activities being conducted by Government departments working in the District.

The maiden edition of the monthly e-Journal was launched today by Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Dr. Devansh Yadav, IAS in presence of District officers and media persons here in his office chamber.

Speaking on the occa-



sion, the Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar said that the public in general and netizens in particular can access the coverage of events and other administrative activities and the achievements in the district through this e-journal just at a click as the same is available on the Facebook page of District Administration Kishtwar. He said the information about various departmental activities meant for the welfare of common masses will be regularly updated.

"The aim behind launching this e-journal is to enrich the knowledge and increase the feedback output of the common masses regarding day-to-day Administrative activities

in the form of this electronic and mobile friendly version," informed the DC Kishtwar.

He further informed that a special column has been dedicated to people and scholars of district Kishtwar wherein they can send their views, suggestions and feedback on developmental issues and various govt schemes under implementation in the district.

He also stressed upon the media persons to act as a bridge between the people and administration in highlighting the issues and grievances of people by following the ethics of journalism in true spirit.

## 89 Anganwadi centres proposed for Rajouri; 20 completed, work in progress on 39

RAJOURI, FEBRUARY 21: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Rajouri, Vikas Kundal today reviewed the progress made on the construction of Anganwadi centres in the district here at a meeting.

The construction is being carried out by RDD and ICDS in convergence mode to complete the Anganwadi centres in a timely and efficient manner. The meeting was informed that out of 89 Anganwadi centres proposed for construction in convergence mode, 20 have been completed, while work is in progress on 39 and 21 are yet to be taken up. The DDC emphasised the importance of Anganwadi centres in providing vital services to children, pregnant women and lactating mothers in the district. He directed the officials to expedite the construction work on the pending centres and ensure that the same are completed as soon as possible. This approach aims to provide better services to the beneficiaries and ensure that the centres are equipped with all the necessary facilities. The DDC also highlighted that the completion of the Anganwadi centres will help in improving the overall health and well-being of the children and women in the district. The centres will provide access to nutritious food, healthcare facilities, and early childhood education, among other services.

# Director Rural Sanitation inspects GOBARDHAN Plants in Suchetgarh Block

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21: Director Rural Sanitation, Jammu and Kashmir, Charandeep Singh, visited village Jeora in Block Suchetgarh to inspect the progress of the GOBARDHAN projects. During his visit, the Director interacted with PRI members, general public and highlighted the benefits of the project. The Director inquired about the progress of the project from officials of the implementing/ executing agency, and gave instructions to expedite the work pace, get Geo-tagging done and also instructed them to install the pipeline and transport the fabricated domes for

the project to the site simultaneously so as to save the time. He assured the agency of full assistance from the department and asked them to complete the project well within the timeline.

While interacting the Director, apprised that at present, 2 No of Gobardhan projects, 1 at Block Marh and 1 at Block R.S.Pura are successfully catering to the Biogas needs of around 20 Households in each block. Further, the Department has taken initiative to install 36 No of more Gobardhan projects at different locations in the UT of J&K. Out of 36, the work for 10



nos of projects is already under progress. The Director, Rural Sanitation stated that on one hand these projects shall manage the Solid Waste (Gobar) in the rural areas and on the other hand it will be source of financial support and

also uplift the social status of Rural population. In an effort to ensure the cleanliness and hygiene of village, to make the village ODF Plus & to improve the lives of the villagers the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Drinking Wa-

ter & Sanitation, Govt. of India (GoI) had launched the Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBARDHAN) scheme in July 2020 under SBM-G Phase-II. The aim of this scheme is to ensure cleanliness in villages and generate wealth and energy by converting cattle dung and solid agricultural waste into biogas and compost. Gobardhan projects benefits the Rural people in general and women in particular by providing Biogas which is used as a clean fuel for cooking purpose and also improves the health of the users and improve the cleanliness in the villages. The bioslurry

residue left in the process is used as an organic manure by the rural population. The visit of Director, Rural Sanitation is part of the government's efforts to support and monitor the implementation of the GOBARDHAN project. The project is expected to bring significant benefits to the local community, including improved sanitation, reduced pollution, and increased income from the sale of biogas and manure. The SDM R.S Pura Ram Lal Sharma, Sarpanch, Field Officer, Rural Sanitation, Jammu & BDO Suchetgarh also accompanied the Director, Rural Sanitation.







## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

## CS

parking hindering traffic flow. He directed for having stringent regulations in place to deal with all the violators. He asked them to deploy traffic police personnel in busy places like markets etc for continuous vigil and better traffic management on the highway.

Dr Mehta also took stock of the construction works on different projects presently under progress. He exhorted upon them to make all out efforts to through open the T5 tunnel on Panthiyal stretch of the highway by 15th of March, Jaiswal Bridge by 31st March, and double lane of Ramban Flyover and Banihal Bye-pass by 15th of April this year. He advised them to accelerate the pace of work to meet these deadlines without any fail. He also asked the Secretary Transport and IG Traffic to drive down this road for have better idea about the measures to be taken for making the road better and safe.

The Chief Secretary also emphasized on making all the way side amenities like washrooms etc functional throughout the entire stretch of the highway. He enquired about the status of the truck holding areas designated at many locations on this road. He told them to look for one more such facility at Ramsoo also. He suggested them to come up with a DPR for additional Bailey Bridge near Ramban at an earliest so that work on the same is taken in hand by March this year.

While reviewing the traffic scenario on the roads of the two capital cities, the Chief Secretary directed the concerned authorities to make the completed phase of the Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) functional within 7 days. He asked them to use the CCTV network of the system to look for the violators and e-challan or tow away their vehicles for hassle-free movement of vehicles on city roads.

On the request of the Traffic authorities the Chief Secretary asked the administration to look into the possibility of taking a traffic holiday for a day every week on the Jammu-Srinagar Highway till 15th of March so that it is better utilized for making some crucial repairs and completing few essential works for making travel on this road a pleasant experience for the commuters.

## DIV COM

to continue work during the night hours to meet the deadlines.

## SAHAT

public hospitals like psychiatric and maternity procedures including Hysterectomy (Uterus removal) etc. So far, under AB PM-JAY and AB PM-JAY SEHAT more than 7 lakh treatments have been provided to J&K domiciles including treatments received outside J&K using portability option and the treatments amounting more than Rs. 1100 crore. On an average, the daily claim out-go is about Rs. 2 crore now. Every 10 in-patients are being provided with a facilitator by the name of Pradhan Mantri Arogya Mitra (PMAM) across all the empanelled health-care facilities of the Union Territory and there are about 425 such PMAMs working in Public Health-care facilities.

Significantly, Health and Medical Education department through its 104 Call Centres has contacted 21145 beneficiaries during the last six months. Out of which, 58 per cent have rated the services provided under AB PM-JAY/ SEHAT as excellent, 41 per cent have rated the services as good while only 1 per cent have rated the services as poor. Besides, State Anti Fraud Unit (SAFU) has conducted audit of all the 226 cases who have rated the services as poor.

## WEATHER

minimum temperature at 5.0 degree Celsius against 5.3 degree Celsius on Tuesday. It was 4.1 degree Celsius above normal during this period of the season.

Qazigund had a low of 4.7 degree Celsius against 3.1 degree Celsius while Kokernag settled at 3.7 degree Celsius for the second consecutive day on Tuesday.

Pahalgam recorded a low of 0.8 degree Celsius against 1.7 degree Celsius the previous night. It was 4.8 degree Celsius above normal during this period of the season.

Kupwara recorded at 3.1 degree Celsius against 4.5 degree Celsius a day ago which was 3.4 degree Celsius above normal during this period of the season, MeT of- fice said.

The MeT office said the weather will remain mainly Clear to Partly Cloudy at most places from February 22-25 while there is possibility of light rain, snowfall over higher reaches at scattered places during February 26-27. The weather will remain partly cloudy on February 28 and thereafter there is no forecast of any major rain, snowfall till the end of the month. MeT office said.

## HIZB

especially for infiltration into the Kupwara district in Jammu and Kashmir. Peer alias Imtiaz Alam alias Haji, originally belonging to Babarpore area in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district was living in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Centre government's notification said that Peer was involved in "a number of online propaganda groups to unite ex-militants and other cadres for the furtherance of activities of Hizb-UI-Mujahideen, Lashkar-e-Toiba and others". Peer was accused of getting Zakir Musa, chief commander of Ansar Gazwat-ul-Hind, an offshoot of al-Qaeda in Kashmir, killed on May 23, 2019. Musawas showing open defiance to Pakistan's writ in Kashmir. In May 2017, he left pro-Pakistan Hizbul Mujahideen and called for establishing the caliphate and enforcing Sharia laws. In March 2007, Peer was detained by the Pakistan Army's Military Intelligence Directorate after he sent a 12-men unit to reinforce his "northern division commander" Mohammad Shafi Dar. However, he was soon released on ISI orders.

## JAI SHANKAR

of the world. So, if our relationships are so extensive, investments are so deep & networking is so good, we need to see that translated into a greater flow of international students to India," Dr. Jaishankar said.

"In a globalised world, it's absolutely essential that young people of India are fully aware of what's happening in the world and there is no better way to do that than having international students among you," Dr. Jaishankar added.

Union Minister for Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan congratulated the Government of J&K for showcasing the strength and vibrancy of India's higher education landscape as well as the knowledge legacy of Jammu & Kashmir.

"J&K is witnessing a new dawn of development under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister. With the implementation of National Education Policy, we are internationalising our education sector. The Education Ministry will support, encourage and facilitate the globalisation of SKUAST-Kashmir," Shri Pradhan said.

He also encouraged all the universities to join efforts to establish India as a global study destination.

Union MoS, Dr. Jitendra Singh said the National Education Policy brought by Hon'ble Prime Minister holds the promise to open career and Start-up opportunities driven by aptitude, skill and flexi options at capacity building.

"Jammu Kashmir has a rich legacy of unexplored agricultural avenues, Aroma Mission and Purple Revolution, which imparts it the potential of being the torch-bearer of Agri StartUp movement in India, Dr. Jitendra Singh said.

Lieutenant Governor of J&K, Shri Manoj Sinha expressed his gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji for accelerating development of J&K and transforming it into a favourite destination for students, travellers and entrepreneurs.

The Lt Governor said with this initiative J&K has launched a dedicated programme for foreign students.

"Our aim is to invite international students to J&K for short-term and long-term courses in various disciplines & strengthen the international connect. Over the past three years, we have focused on strengthening education sector, developing knowledge workers for sectors like industries, agriculture & health care. Sincere efforts have been made to convert the knowledge dividends into wealth for process of innovation & growth," the Lt Governor said.

## TAX

be 6 % of Taxable Annual Value (TAV).

The property tax calculated in respect of a building shall hold for a block of three years unless any change to such calculation is necessitated on account of the circumstances envisaged in the Act for allowing revision in such calculation, the Rules state.

"The first block shall commence from 1ST April 2023, and shall continue to remain in force till 31 March 2026. The blocks shall be similarly calculated thereafter," read the Rules.

According to the Rules, new buildings coming up after the commencement of the block shall have their property tax liability calculated with reference to the 1st day of the relevant block, and irrespective of their having completed three years, their liability to tax shall be calculated anew from the date of commencement of the new block of three years for the Corporation as a whole.

"Where a building is liable to property tax for only a part of the year, the tax due shall be proportional to the number of completed months and parts of month not completed shall be ignored," the Rules state.

According to the Rules, vacant lands, not appurtenant to a structure/building shall be exempt from property tax if there is a Master Plan in force in the area, under which any construction/development on such vacant land is disallowed or if they have been put to agricultural use

"Similarly, all the properties of the municipality and all places of worship, including temples, masjids, Gurdwaras, Churches, Ziarats, etc. and cremation and burial grounds shall be exempt from payment of property tax," the Rules state.

The Rules state that all properties owned by the Government of India / UT government shall be exempted from payment of property tax.

"However, service charge at the rate 3% of the taxable annual value shall be payable to the Municipality in respect of such properties," the Rules state—(KNO)

## GSI

Monday, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ramban, Mussarat Islam along with sub divisional and district officers visited areas witnessing land sinking where he interacted with the affected families whose houses were damaged due to sinking of land.

The DC assured them of providing every possible help from the district administration—(KNO)

## BRIDGE

of safety of rail passengers in view of frequent high velocity winds in the area.

Once completed, the bridge will be able to withstand winds with speed up to 260 kmph and will have a lifespan of 120 years, the officials said.

## GAS

that future pipeline route to Srinagar should be optimum and technically feasible.

The PNGRB has set the ball rolling for Gurdaspur- Jammu gas pipeline by inviting tenders for laying it.

The bids have been invited under Regulation 5 of PNGRB (Authorizing Entities to Lay, Build, Operate or Expand Natural Gas Pipelines) Regulations,

The last date for submission of bids documents is May 08. To cater to the natural gas requirement in Jammu & Kashmir, PNGRB has initiated a suo-motu proposal for the development of the Gurdaspur-Jammu natural gas pipeline. After completion of public consultation process and based on discussions with the entities/stakeholders during the open house discussions, PNGRB has invited online application-cum-bid for authorization to develop Gurdaspur-Jammu natural gas pipeline spanning about 175 km with minimum system capacity of at least 2.0 MMSCMD including common carrier capacity during the entire economic life.

It is to be noted that Bhatinda-Jammu-Srinagar was authorized to Gujarat State Petronet Limited (G SPL) led consortium, which later registered as a company named G SPL India Gasnet Limited (GIGL). Accordingly, the Board transferred the authorization for the development of the BJSP pipeline in favor of GIGL subject to the condition that the onus for timely execution of the project during the construction period shall remain with G SPL.

COVOD

Quarantine and isolation with associated stigma have a negative impact on the mental health of the patients and their families. Moreover, working in such quarantine centres has a negative psychological impact on healthcare workers as well, he said adding that healthcare workers are at risk of infection and contracting the disease and worry about passing the virus to their families as there is also emotional distress due to dealing with morbid population under stressful circumstances at times with limited recourses and manpower.

## DEGREE

masters and teachers discipline wise having pursued their Post Graduate Degrees in various disciplines during service in regular as well as distance mode and are not fulfilling the conditions as laid down in 2017 as per the formats prepared by the department," it reads.

He said that the discipline-wise consolidated information as per devised formats should reach the School Education Department within two weeks time positively thereby enabling this Department to take further necessary action in the matter.

Stating the conditions laid down by the government in an order issued on November-2017 reads that, "The University or the institution awarding the degrees through distance mode are UGC recognised and Established by an Act of Parliament or State Legislature."

## GGM Science College hosts Symposium, Cultural Program

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 21: Cultural Committee of GGM Science College, in collaboration with Department of Information and Public relations, organized a symposium on the topic "Cultural Practices for Sustainable Environment" under the patronage of the College Principal Prof Rajesh Kumar Gupta and guidance of Convener Culture Committee Prof. Babita Mahajan, here today.

The symposium was followed by cultural activities like singing and flute playing. The artists of the Cultural unit of Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) presented Dogri songs and Gazals.

All the members of the Cultural Committee and a large number of students participated in the event judged by Dr. Vandana Khajuria, HOD English, Dr Poonam Kamotra, HOD Chemistry and Prof. Preeti Dogra, HOD EVS.

The Participants highlighted that the cultural practices have a critical role to play in promoting a sustainable environment so that 'we can create a healthier and more vibrant world for future generations.'

In the symposium, Simaranjeet of Semester I won 1st prize, Ayush Parihar of Semester 1st clinched 2nd prize and 3rd prize was bagged by Drishti of Semester I.

The students performed very well and the event was a great success. The whole event was organised by Prof. Shdha Anand. The event was coordinated by Dr Neeti Chhibber and Prof. Mehnaz Bano. The program was anchored by Rahul Bhat student of semester 5th and Drishti Gupta students of Semester 1st.

## DDC Rajouri flags off 30 women farmers for 2-day exposure Tour to Jammu



SAMBA, FEBRUARY 21: In a significant move to highlight the socio-economic and development profile of the district, District Development Commissioner Samba Anuradha Gupta today released three publications "District Statistical Handbook" for the year 2020-21; "Village Amenity Directory" for the year 2021-22 and District at a Glance 2021-22 here at a brief release function organised in her Office Chamber.

Rakesh Dubey, Additional Deputy Commissioner; Sukhleen Kour, Chief Planning Officer; Narinder Kumar, District Statistics and Evaluation Officer and other staff members of DSEO were present at the release ceremony.

District statistics & Evaluation office is the Nodal Agency for collection, compilation and dissemination of important Statistical data in the district. The data in the Publications will serve as an important tool for the Researchers, Planners, students and other users in their respective fields.

## DDC releases Annual publications highlighting Socio-economic profile of the District Samba

Hiranagar ,20th February , Ch. Lal Singh Founder Chairman DSSP While addressing the mammoth gathering in village Gial wand of Tehsil Hiranagar, castigated the present regime of its mindless decisions which has caused a state of emergency all across in Jammu province. Every law passed under the present regime is anti people and unethical and against the very spirit of democracy.

It's very unfortunate that even old age women are running from pillar to post for the meager amount of their pension. They are put in such a crisis that majority of them have gone in depression because of non payments of pensions due to illogical formalities imposed upon them.

The government is behaving in a very monarchical manner which can be observed in every decision whether land laws or day today needs of the common masses.

Ex.MLA Kanta Andotra while addressing said that it's high time for everybody to stand against the government to end this dictatorship.

Dr.Hari Dutt Shishu, General Secretary DSSP and Rajinder Singh Bubby, President Municipal Council while addressing the people appealed one and all to join this Abhiyan to end the undeclared emergency of the government.

Today's Jan Samparak Abhiyaan started from Sanji More and passed through Blassew wala khu , Chakra, Manyari and Devo Chack and finally culminated at Gial wand. Those others who spoke included BL Kandley, Narinder Sharma and Advocate Tarlok Nath. The meeting was attended by Prof HR Sharma, Deepak Jasrotia, Jatinder papu, Balbir Singh Azad, Karan Singh Makhani, Divyansh Varma and many others.

## GDC Ramgarh organises Symposium to mark International Mother Language Day

SAMBA, FEBRUARY 21: Government Degree College Ramgarh commemorated International Mother Language Day on this year's theme 'Multilingual Education- A necessity to transform education' by organising a Symposium under the able guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Satinder Kaur, Principal of the College.

A large number of students participated in the event with great zeal & enthusiasm.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. (Dr.) Satinder Kaur said that Languages are essential tools to communicate and share knowledge, memory and history.

"International Mother Language Day recognizes that languages and multilingualism can advance inclusion and the sustainable Development Goals with a focus of leaving no one behind" she added. Multilingual education is a type of education that begins in the language that the learner masters most and then gradually introduces other languages, she said.

Later, the Participants put forward their thoughts in their mother tongue on the theme 'Multilingual Education- A necessity to transform education.' Emphasis was also placed on Indigenous people's education and languages. Further the students explained that the Multilingual & Multicultural societies exist through their languages which transmit and preserve traditional knowledge & cultures in a sustainable way.

Prof. Risha Kumari, Dr. Ekta Rani & Dr. Shamsher Lal organized the whole event. Technical assistance was provided by Dr. Sandeep Kumar. Other Faculty members present were Dr. Aditi Khajuria, Prof. Seema Sharma, Dr. Varinder Kour, Dr. Rahul Kundal and Dr. Anjali Bala. Later, the Participants put forward their thoughts in their mother tongue on the theme 'Multilingual Education- A necessity to transform education.' Emphasis was also placed on Indigenous people's education and languages. Further the students explained that the Multilingual & Multicultural societies exist through their languages which transmit and preserve traditional knowledge & cultures in a sustainable way.

## Jan Aushadi Stores: Lack of awareness killing the idea of 'low cost' generic drugs

Srinagar, Feb 21, : Directorate of Health Services Kashmir has miserably failed to create awareness about the benefits of 'Jan Aushadi' Centres among the common masses of Valley.

Medicines are kept available at these centres at the lowest reasonable rates, however, due to a lack of awareness, the poor and people from middle-income group purchase medicines from the open market instead of visiting these centres.

Sources told news agency Kashmir News Trust that Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendra, an ambitious project to provide affordable generic medicines to poor people has so far failed to take off in Kashmir Valley.

"Not only there is a lack of awareness among people about these stores, but they are also ill-stocked," said a chemist from South Kashmir's Pulwama district.

There are scores of Jan Aushadhi stores for poor people but these stores don't have enough supply of generic drugs. "Poor people are bound to get branded drugs from the open market when they find these stores short of supply. Besides, people don't have much knowledge about these stores," said another chemist.

Insiders at Health Department said that there is a separate allocation of funds that the officials are supposed to spend on publicity, but so far no such publicity and awareness about these stores were created.

This news agency talked to many people who believe that low price is synonymous with low-quality drugs and vice versa. "There is a lack of awareness about the quality of drugs available at these stores. The reality is that drugs available at these stores are of high quality and people need to be made aware of this fact," the chemist said adding that people don't trust low-cost drugs and believe that better quality is ensured only if the medicines are costly. He said they make a poor sale on daily basis and it serves no purpose.

Another chemist said that there are poor sales and people don't visit these stores because doctors usually don't prescribe generic drugs. [KNT]

## Auqaf Jama Masjid condoles demise of Abdul Rashid Mubarki

Srinagar, . 21-Feb: Anjuman Auqaf Jama Masjid Srinagar expressed grief over the demise of Abdul Rashid Mubarki ,the son of the leading and renowned religious scholar of Kashmir, and a firebrand orator, late Moulana Ghulam Nabi Mubarak Sahib, who had a close association with Mirwaiz family.

In a statement issued to CNS, the Anjuman Auqaf on behalf of the organisation and its incarcerated Chairman Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir Dr Moulvi Muhammad Umar Farooq who continues to be under house arrest paid glowing tribute to Abdul Rashid Mubarki Sahib.

The Anjuman expressed condolence with the Mubarki family, especially the deceased's son Najeeb Mubarki and elder brother Molana Mubarak Mubarki. It prayed for Janat-ul-Firdous for the departed soul and patience to the bereaved family members to bear the irreparable loss.(CNS)

## GOC Kilo Force Visits Palhalla

Pattan, . 21 Feb; Major General Mohit Seth, Sena Medal, Vishisth Seva Medal, General Officer Commanding, Kilo Force on Tuesday visited Palhalla village area of Pattan. During Visit GOC interacted with important personalities and local population of the village. The visit of GOC Kilo Force to Palhalla, which used to be in limelight in past years due to terrorism related activities, but is today steadily moving on the path to peace & development is an indicator of the winds of change.

On the occasion, Commanding officer 29 RR Col Banarji and Army officers also accompanied GOC (CNS)

## International Mother Tongue Day : Literary function held at BHSS Sogam



KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 21: On the eve of International Mother Tongue Day, the Anjuman-i-Adab -wa-Saqafat Lolab (AASL), in collaboration with Department of Information & PR, Kupwara organized a literary Conference at Government Boys Higher Secondary School (BHSS), Sogam in Kupwara district today.

The conference was conducted in two parts, that is, Seminar and Mehfil-i-Mushaira.

The Seminar was presided Over by renowned writer and poet Mohammad Yousuf Mashoor while as Mushaira was presided over by Patron of the AASL, Sogam Sultan Shooq. The programme was conducted by Irshad-abni-Mukhtar.

The speakers on the occasion said said that mother tongue is the identity of a person and everyone should work for its preservation. They said that teachers and parents can play a vital role in preserving the mother tongue.

Other speakers highlighted the importance of mother tongue in improving of learning skills of a child. They said that the mother tongue is the easiest way to communicate with our surroundings and is instrumental in the learning process of a child.

The young poet Ilyas Armaan, A.T Iolabi, Raashid Manzoor, Nasir Masroor, Ashraf Adil, Altaf Aariz, Na-deem Maqbool, Sheikh Farooq sogami, Ishrat saaki, Hasan Ajmi, Mosin Munzoor, Farooq Shaheen, Ab Ahad Haami, Irshad ibn Mukhtar, Amin Asraar and others participated in the Mushaira. The Principal of the BHSS, Sogam, DIO, literary persons, senior poets and writers of the area participated in the function.

## Bring multipurpose projects to address summer water woes: Rattan Lal urges LG

JAMMU, FEB 21: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) has demanded that the Union Territory Administration led by the Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha should bring meticulously formulated composite and multipurpose projects in order to address the water crises that every year hit Jammu, Kathua and Samba regions of Jammu Province.

In a statement issued here today, the senior National Conference leader asserted that coming up with stop gap arrangements or temporary solutions does not address the root cause of the issue as a result of which the issue crops up again in the next season to be addressed again by adopting temporary measures. Moreover, it also involves huge expenditure every year, he added. The NC Provincial President Jammu said that in such a situation it is only the consolidated projects that can resolve the water problem once for all and provide the much needed respite to the people whose life becomes miserable.



# Mandhana steers India to T20 World Cup last four

GQEERHA: Smriti Mandhana hit a career-best 87 as India beat Ireland in a rain-affected match in Gqeberha on Monday to book a semi-final meeting with Australia in the Women's T20 World Cup semi-finals.

Replying to India's imposing 155 for six, Ireland 54 for two when rain ended play, handing India a rain-adjusted five-run win. A strong, swirling wind made conditions difficult and Mandhana was dropped four times in the outfield during a 56-ball innings which included nine fours and three sixes.

Shafali Verma made 24 and helped Mandhana put on 62 for the first wicket but both batters struggled to time the ball, although the left-handed Mandhana hit with authority after reaching her second successive half-century off 40 balls. Ireland captain Laura Delany took three for 33.

One of the catches was held by a diving Orla Prendergast, who also bowled impressively to take two for 22. Ireland made a disastrous start when Amy Hunter was run out off the first ball of the innings, attempting a second run after hitting the ball to midwicket. Four balls later, Prendergast was bowled by Renuka Thakur without scoring. But Gaby Lewis (32 not out) and Delany (17 not out) shared an unbeaten stand of 53. With rain threatening, they went for



their shots, raising the possibility of an upset win if they went past the adjusted par total. But when the rain became heavier, play was halted and eventually called off. India finished the group stage with three wins from four matches and will face Australia in the semi-finals in Cape Town on Thursday. England, who play Pakistan in Cape Town on Tuesday, have also qualified for the semi-finals. NZ KNOCK SRI LANKA OUT On Sunday, New Zealand outplayed

Sri Lanka by 102 runs at Boland Park in Paarl to keep their hopes alive. After losing to Australia (97 runs) and South Africa (65), New Zealand beat Bangladesh by 81 runs before turning on the power on Sunday, scoring 162-3 after electing to bat first, and then bundling out Sri Lanka for 60. Suzie Bates (56) and Amelia Kerr (66) struck half-centuries for New Zealand. New Zealand moved into second place in Group 1 behind defending champions

and semi-final bound Australia but will be overtaken if hosts South Africa beat Bangladesh at Newlands on Tuesday.

Sri Lanka, who won their first two matches, finished the group stage level on points with New Zealand but were eliminated on net run-rate.

Summarised scores: A strong, swirling wind made conditions difficult and Mandhana was dropped four times in the outfield during a 56-ball innings which included nine fours and three sixes.

Shafali Verma made 24 and helped Mandhana put on 62 for the first wicket but both batters struggled to time the ball, although the left-handed Mandhana hit with authority after reaching her second successive half-century off 40 balls.

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Four balls later, Prendergast was bowled by Renuka Thakur without scoring. India beat Ireland by five runs (DLS method).

INDIA 155-6 in 20 overs (S. Mandhana 87; O. Prendergast 2-22; L. Delany 3-33); IRELAND 54-2 in 8.3 overs (G. Lewis 32 not out)

## India U-17 to play two friendlies against Qatar

New Delhi, Feb 21 (UNI) The India U-17 Men's National Team will play two friendly matches against Qatar U-17 on February 25 and February 28 in Qatar as part of the preparations for the AFC U-17 Asian Cup.

Coached by Bibiano Fernandes, the U-17 boys qualified for the AFC U-17 Asian Cup last year and have been training in Goa since November. The Blue Colts also played friendly matches with UAE U-20 and Uzbekistan U-17 last month.

The 23-member squad for the Qatar friendlies: Goalkeepers: Sahil, Julfikar Gazi, Tajamul Islam Defenders: Ricky Meetei Haobam, Surajkumar Singh Ngangbam, Manjot Singh Dhami, Mukul Panwar, Malemngamba Singh Thokchom, Pramveer Midfielders: Vanlalpeka Guite, Danny Meitei Laishram, Gurnaj Singh Grewal, Ashish, Korou Singh Thingujam, Lalpeklua, Huzafah Ahmad Dar, Faizan Waheed, Akash Tirkey, Prachit Gaonkar Forwards: Aman, Thanglalsoun Gangte, Shashwat Panwar, Gogocha Chungkham Coach: Bibiano Fernandes

Fixtures: February 25: Qatar U-17 vs India U-17 February 28: Qatar U-17 vs India U-17.

## Career-highs norm as T20 World Cup players notch rankings best

Dubai, Feb 21 (UNI) A bumper crop of international stars that are currently lighting up the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in South Africa have been rewarded with career-high ratings on the latest ICC Women's T20I Rankings.

India starlet Richa Ghosh has been in outstanding form so far, with the 19-year-old contributing unbeaten scores of 31\* not out, 44 not out and 47 not out before a failure against Ireland.

It saw the dashing right-hander bring up a career-high rating on the latest batter rankings, with Ghosh rising as high as 58 rating points after India's match against England.

Ghosh's first-ball duck against Ireland saw her drop valuable rating points, but she still ended the week up 16 places and 20th overall on the latest T20I batter rankings, the ICC reported.

The India teenager wasn't the only T20 World Cup star to pick up a new career-best during the week, with a pair of Kiwis and an underrated Pakistan all-rounder also claiming the highest ratings of their career.

Evergreen pacer Lea Tahuhu is tied for the most wickets at the tournament with eight scalps and the 32-year-old has picked up three places to rise to seventh and a career-best rating on the latest list for T20I bowlers. Teammate Amelia Kerr has also reached new heights in South Africa, with the 22-year-old registering career-high ratings on both the list for batters (up three places to 16th) and all-rounders (up one place to equal third) on the back of some good performances in South Africa.

## Hockey Punjab beat Hockey Himachal 2-0 in Senior Women National Championship

Kakinada (AP), Feb 21 (UNI) Action continued in the 13th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2023 Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh with Hockey Punjab, Uttar Pradesh Hockey and Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu picking up three points after victories in their respective games. Hockey Punjab defeated Hockey Himachal by a score of 2-0 in their Pool F encounter. Shalu Mann (17', 58') led her team to victory with her two goals while Sarabdeep Kaur earned the Player of the Match Award for running the show in this tightly contested affair. The second match in Pool E was a rollercoaster ride with Uttar Pradesh Hockey winning against Hockey Andhra Pradesh by a margin of 3-2. Uttar Pradesh Hockey took the through goals from Rakhi Rathor (16') and Vartika Rawat (33', 59') but Lolita Mary (39') and Garlanka Varahalamma (47') levelled the playing field for Hockey Andhra Pradesh with their goals. Hockey Andhra Pradesh conceded a penalty stroke at the end of the game, converted by Uttar Pradesh Hockey's Vartika to snatch the points back from Hockey Andhra Pradesh.

## Former captains slam Aussie batting in India

SYDNEY: Former Australian cricket captains Allan Border and Michael Clarke on Monday denounced the team's batting performance against India, calling the second innings collapse "panicky" and ill-executed. Spin bowler Ravindra Jadeja took 7-42 as he tore through Australia's batting in the second Test in Delhi on Sunday to enable India to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the four-match series. Australia repeatedly employed cross-bat sweep shots on a turning Delhi wicket and paid the price as they tumbled to 113 all out in their second innings. "I'm disappointed, I'm shell-shocked and angry about the way we went about our work," Border told Fox News. "It was a panicky, frenetic sort of batting," said Border.



Australian captain Pat Cummins said the post-match team review would look at why his players kept employing the sweep, accelerating their collapse. Cummins was among Jadeja's victims as four Australian wickets fell for no runs with the score on 95. Set 115 to win, India cruised to a six-wicket win in less than 27 overs. "They were all getting out playing sweep shots, reverse sweeps

and playing just about every ball," said Border, 67. "No one got in there and tried to stem the flow with just some good defensive cricket," he said. "You just can't get away with it on that sort of track." Clarke echoed Border's criticism. "They're not the right conditions to sweep when you start your innings," Clarke told Sky Sports radio. "And they're never going to be the right conditions to reverse sweep against the spin at the start of your innings."

## Injury sees Australia opener David Warner ruled out of India Test tour

New Delhi, Feb 21 (UNI) Australia's injury woes have continued to worsen with veteran opener David Warner set to miss the remainder of the Test series against India due to an elbow injury.

Warner was in the wars when he hurt his elbow while batting during Australia's first innings in the second Test in Delhi and the left-hander was substituted out of the match with concussion.

The concussion wasn't the only concern for Warner, as scans confirmed a hairline fracture of his elbow and the 36-year-old will return home to Australia to recoup.

"David Warner has been ruled out of the Test tour of India and will return home," a Cricket Australia statement read.

"Warner was struck on the elbow in the second Test in Delhi and sustained a hairline fracture.

"After further assessment, he will require a period of rehabilitation which will preclude any further involvement in the remainder of the Test series.



"It is currently anticipated that he will return to India for the three One-Day Internationals which follow the Test Series," the statement added.

## Security for PSL matches reviewed

LAHORE: The Punjab caretaker government on Monday reviewed security arrangements for Pakistan Super League (PSL) matches to be played in Lahore and Rawalpindi. A meeting presided over by caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi reviewed the security arrangements made for the PSL matches in the two cities, directing the authorities concerned to link the Rawalpindi cameras with Lahore's Safe Cities Authority to enhance security cover for the sports events. It ordered that a four-tier fence should be in place to ensure foolproof security for the matches in Lahore and Rawalpindi, besides ensuring security on the routes of the teams, avoiding long traffic stoppages on the roads. "An effective publicity campaign should be launched to keep the citizens aware of the alternative routes during the movement of the teams. All departments concerned should maintain good coordination in this regard," a statement issued after the meeting says. A parking facility will be provided for the visitors at Gulberg College in Lahore and a shuttle service will run from the college to the Qaddafi Stadium for the disabled and the elderly. Arrangements are being made to install lights along

## Problems mount for New Zealand as Kyle Jamieson ruled out for months

MOUNT MAUNGANUI: Injured fast bowler Kyle Jamieson was on Monday ruled out of cricket for a lengthy spell in another blow for New Zealand following their 267-run first Test drubbing by England.

Coach Gary Stead confirmed that Jamieson had been diagnosed with a back stress fracture and will undergo surgery this week, with a minimum recovery time of four months.

The 28-year-old had been poised to return from a long layoff for the Test at Mount Maunganui, but could only watch as England consigned the home side to an eighth successive Test without a win.

"It's been a challenging and difficult time for Kyle and a big loss for us,"



Stead said. Jamieson, whose absence has coincided with the side's poor run, had been "fantastic" when part of the New Zealand team, Stead said.

"We will know more in about three to four months about what that end prognosis looks like for him," he added. Jamieson's pace and bounce was missed by New Zealand, whose inexperienced attack struggled to contain England's aggressive batting in the day-night Test at the Bay Oval.

Stead confirmed pace bowler Matt Henry will join the squad for the second Test starting in Wellington on Friday after attending the birth of his first child.

Seamer Jacob Duffy and leg-spinner Ish Sodhi have been released from the squad.

Stead urged his team to find a way to hit back at an England side who dictated terms in the first Test.

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