■ 13TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

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Killers of Sanjay Sharma Gunned Down in Pulwama Gunfight: J&K Police

Two Militants, A Soldier died during the Encounter

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Feb 28: Two militants and a soldier were killed in an encounter with security forces in Padgampora village of Awantipora in South Kashmir's Pulwama district in the early hours of Tuesday.

Police said that the duo killed militants affiliated with the Resistance Front(TRF), which is an offshoot of the Lashkar-e-Taiba were reof Kashmiri Pandit Sanjay Sharma on Sunday. a cordon in Padgampora village of Awantipora,"



operation, based upon opened indiscriminate said.

sponsible for the killing the J&K police said in while neutralizing one a statement. "During terrorist on spot. One the search, terrorists of the jawans later on "In a bravely executed hiding inside a mosque attained martyrdom," it

specific input, joint forc- fire upon search par- The police said extreme es of the Army, J&K Po- ties and in this initial caution and limited firelice and CRPF launched exchange of fire, two power was used in view jawans of Army sus- of the sacred precincts. tained grievous injuries Civilians praying inside

were also evacuated on time preventing any collateral damage. "Resuming the search for the second terrorist who had holed up inside a bathroom of an adjacent building, again caution was exercised and 14 civilians were rescued from the place before he was neutralized," it said.They have been identified as Aqib Mushtaq Bhat of Malangpora, Pulwama (A Category) associated with Proscribed terror outfit HM and for past few months working with TRF and Aijaz Ahmad Bhat of Syedabad Pastuna Tral (C-Category) associated with terror outfit JeM and also working in coordination TRF. Aqib CONTINUED ON → PAGE 07

5G Service is Need of the Hour to Ensure Socio-Economic Development : LG Manoj Sinha

LG Congratulates People of J&K after Launching Jio 5G Services

HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 28: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha launched Jio True 5G Services for Jammu & Kashmir to-

Congratulating the citizens of the J&K UT, the Lt Governor said the 5G services will play an active role in socio-economic development, enable integrated action for prosperity and bring transformational benefits to the

"The 5G technology for the common man will realize the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of Digital India and give a boost to growth opportunities in tourism, e-governance, agriculture, education, healthcare, information technology and small & micro enterprises," said the Lt Governor. The Lt Governor underscored the significance of adopting future technologies and their effective utilization for holistic
CONTINUED ON » PAGE 07



Lt Governor interacts with citizens who had filed their complaints on JKIGRAMS; several cases disposed on the spot

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 28: Lieu- pressed their gratitude to the Lt tenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today interacted with citizens, who had filed their com- cials to safeguard the interests of plaints on JKIGRAMS, during the common citizens and ensure the "LG's Mulaqaat- Live Public that the grievances are attended Grievance Hearing" at the Civil promptly. Secretariat.

al cases were disposed of on the tives including feedback spot for which the applicants ex-

Governor.

The Lt Governor directed the offi-

JKIGRAMS complaint mecha-During the public hearing, sever- nism is serving a range of objec-

CONTINUED ON → PAGE 07

'Digital J&K' to usher in a golden chapter in the UT: CS

Launches integration of services with Digi Locker & Umang app

HT NEWS NETWORK

FEBRUARY 28: Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today remarked that the progress achieved towards the goal of 'Digital J&K' in recent times is one of the brightest down as the most transformative part in the history of the UT.



chapters that would go He made these remarks Umang and artisan reintegration of services Locker applications.

while launching the lated services on Digi of Municipalities with CONTINUED ON » PAGE 07

Take stringent action against **OGWs: DGP to officers**

HT NEWS NETWORK

Jammu, Feb 28: Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh Tuesday chaired a meeting of State Investigation Unit (SIU) officers at PCR Kashmir to review the progress of under investigation UAPA cases besides took stock of cases

Swain, ADGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar, DIG SIU Abdul Qayoom, SSP Srinagar Rakesh Balwal,



DD Prosecution besides under trial. all CIOs of SIUs of Kash-Spl DG CID J&K R.R mir Zone attended the meeting at PCR Kashmir while ADGP (Coordination) PHQ,

CONTINUED ON → PAGE 07

Amid clamour for troop-cut, MHA team arrives on 3-day JK visit news agency—, that the progress on the

Prashant

To review security on today

HT NEWS NETWORK

Jammu, Feb 28: A high-level team of top officers of the Home Ministry on Tuesday reached Jammu and Kashmir for a three-day visit to review security situation and developmental works amid clamour for troop-cut from the UT.

Official sources

Jammu and Kashmir. uled for March 1.

will return on March 2.

a team headed by Prime Minister's De-Lokhande, velopment Joint Secretary (Jam- (PMDP) and issues permu, Kashmir and Lada-taining to Kashmiri kh), Union Ministry of Pandit migrants, Paki-Home Affairs and other stan occupied Jammu senior officers reached Kashmir (PoJK), West here this afternoon and Pakistani refugees and displaced persons (DPs). On the first day the team However, a detailed called on Lieutenant security situation was Governor Manoj Sinha reviewed with stake-and held a detailed holders including army, meeting regarding the police and other para security situation in military forces sched-

The team also reviewed CONTINUED ON » PAGE 07

NEWS IN BRIEF

DMA issues 'low danger' avalanche warning in **Ganderbal district**

Srinagar, Feb 28 (UNI) Authorities in Kashmir valley on Tuesday issued a 'low danger' level avalanche warning over the higher reaches of Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district, officials said.Jammu and Kashmir Disaster Management Authority (JKDMA) today issued a 'low danger' level avalanche warning over higher reaches of Ganderbal district for next 24 hours. The avalanche is likely to occur in the areas 2500 metres above sea level in the district. People living in these areas have been advised to take precautions and avoid venturing in the avalanche prone areas till fur-

Man killed after hit by a moving train in Baramulla

Srinagar, Feb 28 (UNI) A 40-year-old man was killed when a moving train hit him in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district on Tuesday, officials said. Police identified the victim as Hafeez-ullah-Gani of Chanderhama Pattan, who was hit and subsequently run over by the moving train at Pattan-Hamray railway station in north Kashmir at around 10.15 am. The victim was apparently mentally unsound and died on the spot instantlv. they said.

CRPF jawan allegedly shoots self to death in Rajouri

Jammu, Feb 28 (UNI) A jawan of Central Reserve Police Force on Tuesday allegedly committed suicide by shooting himself with his service rifle in Nowshera area of Rajouri.Police said that the CRPF jawan posted at Tain Bridge Nowshera allegedly shot himself with his service riffle.

They said that an in-house inquiry has been ordered to ascertain the reason behind the extreme step.

Tourist from Kerala dies in Srinagar

Srinagar,,28-Feb; A male tourist from Kerala died at a hotel in summer capital Srinagar on Tuesday As per official reports, one tourist

identified as 55-year-old C M Babu, a resident of Kerala, state CONTINUED ON → PAGE 07

Aao School Chalein Hum...

Over 13,000 schools to resume academics today after 90 days of winter vacation

New school timing within Srinagar limits notified from 9Am to 2Pm

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Feb 28: More than 13,000 private and government schools of Kashmir valley and winter zones of Jammu division are all set to resume academics on Wednesday following a three month long winter vacation.

According to the news agencv-the School Education Department on November-25 announced closure of schools for winter vacations in a phased manner in Kashmir and winter zones of Jammu division from December-01-2022 to Febru-

ary-28-2023. The vacations for primary level classes' upto 5th standard was observed from December-01 to February-28 while for the 6th



to 8th standard, the closure of schools for winter vacations was observed from December-12 to February-28.

Likewise, in case of secondary and senior secondary level students, vacation was observed from December-19 to February-28.

According to official figures, a total of 10,851 government and 2550 private schools are functioning in the Kashmir division. In the meantime, the School Education Department Tuesday changed school timing in Srinagar city from 9Am to 2 Pm.

CONTINUED ON → PAGE 07

Indian Army sets up the first of its kind CRS in world's second coldest place Drass

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Feb 28 (UNI) Radio Dras would en-Indian Army's Dras deavour to reach out Warrior Brigade on Tuesday set up the first bers with an aim to of its kind Community Radio Station in the world's second coldest inhabited place, officials said.

It is an epic moment for schemes, the people of Dras as today, Radio Dras (90.4 MHz) goes 'On Air', a defence statement said. Government of India has approved an Indian Army initiative for establishing a Community Radio Station (CRS) at Army Goodwill School Dras to address

The CRS has become a It will strengthen the ralifeline for the people dio sector, create capacin far flung and remote border areas due to lim- continued on » page 07

ited presence of main-

stream media. to all community memprovide updates and information related to various relevant issues.

This would include various government agriculture and rural development, education, youth and women empowerment, career prospects, cultural promotion and other issues relevant to people of Dras.

Community Radio Station aims towards development of local communities for improving local issues for the ben-their quality of life & efit of the community at addressing issues of local concern.

ity building and

Floriculture, Skeikh Fayaz

Ahmad, said that there will

Secretary

Police arrests 02 gamblers in Baramulla: stake money seized

HT NEWS NETWORK

Baramulla February 28): Acting tough against social crimes, Police in Baramulla have arrested 02 gamblers and seized stake money from their possession. A Police party of Police Station Sheeri during patrolling in village Heewan found 04 persons busy with gambling activities in orchards near under construction Hospital Building Heewan. On noticing the police party, gamblers tried to flee from the spot who were chased by the police party and 02 persons were arrested on spot. However, 02 among them managed to flee and efforts are on to nab the absconding gamblers. The arrested gamblers have been identified as Suhail Ahmad Sofi son of Mohd Ayaz & Bashir Ahmad Rather son of Mohd Abdullah both residents of Heewan Baramulla. Officers have also seized stake money of ?3850/- and playing cards from the gamblers. They have been shifted to police station where they remain in custody. Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Sheeri and further investigation has been initiated.

School Edu Deptt to distribute free sanitary napkins among female students

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Feb 28: School Education Department has decided to distribute sanitary napkins in government educational institutes among all female students of 8th to 12th standard.According to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), OSD with Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) said this in a communique to Chief Education Officers (CEOs) of the region regarding promotion and awareness of menstrual hygiene.The officer said that the Government of India, having recognized the importance of menstrual hygiene to the health, well-being and educational achievements of girls and women has been implementing schemes and programmes to improve menstrual hygiene management. It has also said that it will disseminate knowledge, access and disposal of menstrual waste and sanitation in schools"The Department has launched a new scheme for promotion and awareness of menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls in schools," the official said.

Preliminary census suggests over 50K migratory birds in famous Wular Lake

HT NEWS NETWORK

Bandipora, Feb 28 A preliminary census by Wular Lake Wular Conservation and Management Authority (WCMA) in Asia's largest fresh

CONTINUED ON → PAGE 07

Srinagar to get Japanese Cherry Blossom Theme Garden Floriculture Department discusses modalities with SAKURA

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, **FEBRUARY** 28: The summer capital 'Srinagar' would soon have a splendid Cherry Theme Garden on the pattern of Japanese Sakura with all the modalities being finalised in this regard.

This was revealed during a virtual meeting of officers of Floriculture Department ties and Union Ministry of External Affairs.

Professor A K Chawla Advisor (Japan) East Asia Division MEA mediated the meeting.

The meeting had elaborate sion plan for Tulip Garden, contours of the project,



with the Japanese authori- deliberation on various is- Srinagar to make it more atsues regarding the project tractive and magnificent for like procurement of planting material from Japan and technical guidance.

the visitors. The project is istry of External Affairs, "Cherry Theme Garden' is a Government of India.

Rs 10 crore project, an exten- While highlighting broad

be requirement of about 2500 cherry trees in the first instance and certain varieties have been identified that will suit our place. He said that the department will be preferably exporting plants in a phased manner to ascertain the behaviour of the plants and later go for expansion. He also informed that a 3-member team of officers will visit Japan to get a being facilitated by the Min-first hand experience of the plants and will make sure the best plant material is exported for the Cherry

Commissioner

CONTINUED ON → PAGE 07

Central Bureau of Communication organises awareness programme under Swachhta Action Plan in Budgam

Budgam, February 28, 2023The Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India on Tuesday organised a one day Integrated Communication and Outreach Program (ICOP) on Swachhata Action Plan (SAP) in Budgam. The programme awareness was organised by CBC's Field Office Anantnag at the Shiekh-Ul-Alam Hall.The outreach programme was organised for mobilisation and mass awareness regarding the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (SBA).

Ahmad Mushtaq Bhat, President Municipal Council, Budgam (MCB) while addressing a gathering of prominent citizens, officers and field staff of CBC, MCB and Department of Forests and Ecology, detailed out various initiatives undertaken by the MCB

Mission (SBM). He called for people's active participation and support in ensuring the cleanliness of towns and villages. He said SBM is a landmark initiative by the Government of India driven by community participation for achieving Mahatma Gandhi's dream of a Clean India.Field Publicity Officer, CBC Sh. Shahid Mohammad Lone informed the participants about the objective of the awareness programme. He said that people need to be educated on how to handle different types of domestic wastes. He said that in house treatment of certain food wastes and segregation at the source will largely reduce the burden on the civic bodies and also benefit the households. He said people should religiously avoid single use

under Swachh Bharat

Information Deptt accords warm & affectionate farewell to AIO, Bilal Ah. Bhat on his superannuation

The Joint Directorate of Information Kashmir on Tuesday accorded a warm and affectionate farewell to Assistant Information Officer, Bilal Ahmad Bhat on his superannuation today after rendering his service for four decades in the department on various designations.

In this regard, the department organized a farewell programme to honour and bid warm adieu to the retiring official, and to recall the service rendered by him.

Deputy Director, Information & Public Relations, Bilal Mukhtar speaking on the occasion applauded the official for performing his duties with due diligence, dedication and honesty, and wished the official a joyful post retirement life.

Cultural Officer Kashmir, Burhan Hussain also spoke about the experience and in-depth knowledge of work that the retiring official had possessed in

Other colleagues who spoke on



the occasion shared their memorable moments that they have spent with the retiring official besides they recalled the helping hand he had rendered to everyone while executing official

On the occasion, the official

quet and memento as a token of love by officers and staff of the department. The Joint Directorate of Information Kashmir on Tuesday accorded a warm and affectionate farewell to Assistant Information Officer, Bilal Ahmad Bhat on his superannuation today after render-

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Cultural Officer Kashmir, Burhan Hussain also spoke about the experience and in-depth knowledge of work that the retiring official had possessed in his service career.

Other colleagues who spoke on the occasion shared their memorable moments that they have spent with the retiring official besides they recalled the helping hand he had rendered to everyone while executing official matters.On the occasion, the official was presented with gifts, bouquet and memento as a token of love by officers and staff of the department. Other colleagues who spoke on the occasion shared their memorable moments that they have spent with the retiring official besides they recalled the helping hand he had rendered.

Police facilitates meeting with NOKs of police martyrs in Pulwama

February 28: Acting tough against social crimes, Police in Baramulla have arrested 02 gamblers and seized stake money from their possession. A Police party of Police Station Sheeri during patrolling in village Heewan found 04 persons busy with gambling activities in orchards near under construction Hospital Building Heewan. On noticing the police party, gamblers tried to flee from the spot who were chased by the police party and 02 persons were arrested on spot. However, 02 among them managed to flee and efforts are on to nab the absconding gamblers. The arrested gamblers have been identified as Suhail Ahmad Sofi son of Mohd Ayaz & Bashir Ahmad Rather son of Mohd Abdullah both residents of Heewan Baramulla. Officers have also seized stake money of 3850/- and playing cards from the gamblers. They have been shifted to police station where they remain in custody. Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Sheeri and further investigation has been initiated.

Persons found indulging in criminal activities shall be dealt as per law. Community members are requested to share information regarding the crimes in their neighbourhood with the local police units.

MD, JJM (Prabhari Officer) visits Panchayat Halqa D H.Pora

KULGAM, FEBRUARY 28: Prabhari Officer to Panchayat Halqa D .H. Pora, Dr. G.N.Itoo (Mission Director Jal Jeevan Mission) today visited D. H. Pora.

During the visit, the Visiting Officer met PRI members, general public and took stock of the development scenario in the said panchayat. He also interacted with the Officers of line departments and enquired about the steps being taken for the overall development of the Panchayat.During his visit, Prabhari Officer also reviewed implementation status of self-employment generation schemes and enquired about the status of saturation of the schemes. People also raised various issues during the interaction with the Officer.He informed the public that 'Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur' is a campaign launched by the UT government for Redressal of Public issues and to provide services at their door steps. Earlier ACD Kulgam also apprised the Prabhari Officer about the developmental works going on in the panchayat halqa.

Intensive cleanliness drive held at DC Office Complex Kulgam

KULGAM, FEBRUARY 28: An intensive cleanliness drive was today carried out at Mini Secretariat Complex Kulgam. The Drive was led by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat.

ADDC, Showkat Ahmad Rather; ADC, Viqar Ahmed Giri; ACR Mir Imtiyaz-ul-Aziz; ACP Shurjeel Ali and other district officers and staff members of various departments housed in Mini Secretariat enthusiastically participated in this cleanliness drive.

Sweeping staff from the Municipal Council were also involved in this sanitation drive.

During this drive, paper waste/Plastic waste was removed from the area inside the Mini Secretariat Complex and lawns were also cleaned up. The staff also carried out Dusting/Cleaning of offices

The DC instructed the staff of all the departments to ensure proper hygiene around their respective place of

13th Installment of PM Kisan released: Budgam Admin organises live relay of programme for farmers

BUDGAM, FEBRUARY 28: The District Administration Budgam made elaborate arrangements for live telecast of release of 13th installment of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi event by Prime Minister Narinder Modi at district headquarter, besides at Block and Zonal Agriculture Offices. Additional District Development Commissioner, Akaramullah Tak along with Chief Agriculture Officer, Syed Tafazal Hussain, officers and officials of Agriculture and allied sectors besides as many as 100 farmers of Budgam block attended the live telecast programme in the Conference Hall of DC office Budgam. Farmers hailed the message of the Prime Minister for promoting agri start-ups and pro-farmers initiatives. Interacting with the farmers, the ADDC informed that 49000 beneficiaries (farmers) of the district have been provided Rs 2000 through DBT mode under the 13th installment of PM Kisan. The farmers were also apprised about initiatives of the government to support the Agriculture sector. Similar, live telecast events were arranged at the block, Zonal and Panchayat level by officers and officials of the Agriculture department for the farmers where large numbers of Farmers participated. Interacting with the farmers, the ADDC informed that 49000 beneficiaries (farmers) of the district have been provided Rs 2000 through DBT mode under the 13th installment of PM Kisan.

The farmers were also apprised about initiatives of the

government to support the Agriculture sector. Similar, live telecast events were arranged at the block, Zonal and Panchayat level by officers and officials of the Agriculture department for the farmers where large numbers of Farmers participated.

DDC Member Rafiabad Mr. Shabir Ahmad Lone calls on Hon'ble Chairperson J&K Waqf Board, Dr Darakshan Andrabi at Jammu

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 28: The District Development Council (DDC) Member, Rafiabad, Mr. Shabir Ahmad Lone today called on the Hon'ble Chairperson J&K Waqf Board, Dr Darakshan Andrabi in her Office Chamber at Jammu.

The DDC Member apprised the Hon'ble Chairperson J&K Waqf Board about various ongoing works in his DDC Constituency and conveyed satisfaction with regard to quality and pace of

Mr. Shabir Ahmad Lone also apprised the Hon'ble Chairperson regarding extension of work on Ziyarat Sharief of Hazrat Syed Malik Sahib Bukhari at village Nadihal.

People from all over the UT of J&K have high regards of this revered shrine and visit the place round the year to pay their obeisance.

The DDC Member put forth his demand for bringing such ziyarat on religious tourism map and also demanded that the remaining work at the ziyarat be also taken up on war-footing basis.

The DDC Member also flagged-off his demand for bringing other ziyarats of Rafiabad under the ambit of tourism such as Baba Qadir Sahab of Tragpora, Ziyarat Shah-i-Hamdan Sattarwan Ladu Rafiabad and Ziayarat Soin Sadinar etc. The Hon'ble Chairperson J&K Waqf

Board, Dr Darakshan Andrabi gave pa

tient hearing to the demands of the DDC Member Rafiabad and assured him that all these demands shall be met in a time bound manner. Mr. Shabir Ahmad Lone also apprised the Hon'ble Chairperson regarding extension of work on Ziyarat Sharief of Hazrat Syed Malik Sahib Bukhari at village Nadihal.

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DC Kulgam chairs monthly District **Level NCORD Committee meet**

Faroog Rather

KULGAM, FEBRUARY 28: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a monthly meeting of the District Level Committee under the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) to discuss various measures to curb the drug abuse and narcotic trade in the district and review the implementation of decisions and directions passed in previous meeting.

At the outset of the meeting, SSP Kulgam Sahil Sarangal informed that 28 cases were registered under NDPS in the month of February across the district. He also added that 34 drug peddlers were arrested w.e.f 01 February,

During the meeting, threadbare discussion was held on various issues related to incidence of drug addiction, areas of concern and hotspots



taken by the concerned departments with regard to curbing the menace of drugs

The DC sought details from the concerned departments about the measures taken to control the drug menace.

Concerned from the Education department were instructed to submit a list of health and wellness clubs to schedule a training programme ac-

under project 'Rehnuma' which is an initiative of District Administration to hold a systematic set of activities, to reach out the people to make them aware about drug men-

Besides, it was decided that joint teams will launch aggressive poppy destruction drives across the district to put an end to poppy at an early stage this season.

Chief Justice inaugurates customized training for officers of Labour Department

Jammu and Kashmir Judicial Academy organized a three day customized training programme for officers of Labour Department, which commenced here today.

The program aims to further enhance efficiency, knowledge and skills of officers in discharging the quasi-judicial functions while presiding over the courts under various legislations concerning labour laws. The training programme

was inaugurated by Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Patron-in-Chief of J&K Judicial Academy, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, in presence of Justice Sindhu Sharma, Chairperson, J&K Judicial Academy, Justice Rahul Bharti, Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Justice Bansi Lal Bhat, Former Judge, High Court of J&K

Besides, officers of Registry and Labour Department participated in the Inaugural function. Delivering the inaugu-

ral address, Chief Justice stated that to achieve continuous improvement in any activity involving human effort and skill, giving training to those who are required to execute the activity plays an important role in achieving the goal. He said that the objective of training is to bring a systematic development of knowledge, skills and attitudes required by an individual to perform a given task or job effectively.

Chief Justice compli mented the J&K Judicial Academy for organising this customized special programme to sensitize the officers of Labour department on the issue of Labour law jurisprudence and the welfare



schemes meant for the marginalized section of society. He further stated that while adjudicating, the Labour Officers assume the role of a Judge and become part of the judicial system so they should be fair, transparent and stick to the rules

while deciding a case. Justice Sindhu Sharma, in her special address stated that with the initiation of the concept of a realm of independence of our country, various legislative efforts have made their first move in the direction of welfare equitable rights, social justice, social equity and equitable participation of the labour as a stakeholder at parity.

A plethora of labour laws have been enacted to ensure elevated health, safety, and welfare of workers; to protect them against oppressive terms as an individual worker is economically weak and has little bargaining power: to encourage and facilitate the workers in the organization; to deal with industrial disputes; to enforce social insur-ance and labour welfare schemes and alike, she added. She further stated that the relevance of the dignity of human labour and the need for protecting and safeguarding

Illegal extraction and transportation of minerals;

Police arrests 07 persons, seizes 07 vehicles in Budgam & Baramulla

Baramulla February 28: Acting tough against the persons involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals, police have arrested 07 persons and seized 07 vehicles in Budgam & Baramulla. In Budgam, Police Station Chadoora received an information that some unknown persons are illegally extraction soil from Government land at Hayatpora Chadoora. Accordingly, a police party of Police Station Chadoora seized 03 clay laden tippers and arrested 03 persons on spot. The arrested persons have been identified as Ishfaq Ahmad Dar son of Abdul Ahad Dar resident of Rawalpora, Danish Ahmad Bhat son of Ghulam Muhammad Bhat resident of Gowherpora & Mehraj-Ud-Din Wani son of Mohammad Yousuf Wani resident of Zolwa.In Baramulla, a police party led by SHO PS Kunzer under the supervision of SDPC

Tangmarg Shri Javid Ahmad-JKPS during naka checking at Tarhama Kunzer arrested 03 persons and seized 03 vehicles involved in illegal extraction and transportation of mineral from Ferozpora Nallah Kunzer Baramulla. They have been identified as Abdul Khaliq Rah son of Ab Rahman resident of Nundreshi Colony Bemina, Dawood Ahmad Malla son of Bashir Ahmad resident of Aboora & Zubair Ahmad Wani son of Hafizullah Wani resident of Katchmatpora. Meanwhile in another action, a police party under the supervision of SDPO Kreeri Shri Khalid Ashraf-JKPS assisted by Incharge PP Wagoora, during routine patrolling at Ningli Nallah Wagoora arrested 01 person and seized a vehicle involved in illegal extraction and transportation of mineral from Ningli Nallah

SNA with JKHPMC & IUST conduct joint visit of JKHPMC's CIC Achabal, Anantnag

ANANTNAG, FEBRUARY 28: A joint visit of State Nodal Agency (SNA) with Host Institute (JKHPMC) and Mentor Institute (IUST) was held to JKHPMC's CIC Achabal, Anantnag, for verifying the actual physical progress (completion) of the project including installation, commissioning and trial run of the incubation facility for submitting the Utilization Certificate (UC) to the Ministry

vis-à-vis allocation of funds. It is worth here to mention that the JKHPMC has established Common Incubation Center (CIC) in Achabal, Anantnag for Fish under PM-FME Scheme of MoFPI, GoI to offer short- and long-term hands-on training (skill development) to rural youth, Women Self Help Groups (SHGs), Producers, Students, new and experienced entrepreneurs & other stakeholders. The Incubation Center has installed various processing lines viz: Fish Pre-processing line, Fish mincebased product processing line, RTE fish products in cans/pouches, production of feed from fish processing waste and a testing laboratory.
On the occasion, MD, JKHPMC, Imam

Din briefed the visiting team headed by Farooq Ahmad Dar, (Special Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, Go-J&K, SNO, PM-FME (ODOP)) about the process flow of the Processing lines and the Accessories installed by JKHPMC for fish and fish-based value-added products at CIC in compliance with the FSSAI norms. The SNA expressed satisfaction over the facility created and assured that more and more farmers/SHGs/FPOs would be benefited and encouraged for the optimum utilization of the facility.

Besides, District officers of the Fisher ies Department, District Nodal Officer (ODOP), JKHPMC officials/Young Professionals and Engineering Consultants were also present.

NIT Srinagar celebrates National Science Day Apart from curriculum, we have to equip students with latest technologies: Prof. HC Verma

al Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar on Tuesday celebrated the National Science Day 2023 to commemorate the discovery of 'Raman Effect' by Sir C.V. Raman in 1928. The event was organized by the PG Department of Physics in collaboration with Indian National Young Academy

of Sciences (INYAS). The daylong event was attended by 500 participants and Padma Shri awardee, Professor H. C. Verma was Chief Guest of the daylong event. .While Director NIT Srinagar Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal, Institute's Registrar Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari, Dr. Anju Sehgal, ex. Principal GDC Hamirpur and Head Physics Dr.

Honor' on the occasion In his presidential address Prof H.C. Verma (Padma Shri) awardee said that apart from curriculum, we have to equip our students with the latest technologies

"Teaching science there-

and techniques.

fore requires a different approach. We have to provide opportunities to our students to learn the various methods and processes. Educational institutes that combine classroom or textbook teaching with science laboratory experiments are able to derive the best results for thei students, he said.Prof. Verma said conducting experiments, reviewing them closely and



tion of scientists, engineers and medical professionals.

Verma cited some examples of his school in Kanpur where students have developed technologies from trash materials. Although

in the system, but we have come forward to learn new things, he said."Apart from learning, teaching in classrooms, there is a need for innovative, informative methods to expose our students to new things," Prof. Verma said.Director NIT Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal the ultimate aim of technology is to provide benefit to the common man. Technology can help improve efficiency and productivity in various industries, leading to greater affordability and accessibility of products and services for the common man, he said. Prof. Sehgal said the heterogeneous character of society is the need of the hour because whatever is the contribution of science, common man is the ultimate gainer. "It can be in the field of Agriculture, Horticulture, engineering or medicine, our goal is to make the life of the common man easier, ' he said.

"Our teachers have to inculcate a passion for learning and understanding science among our students. From school to PG level the Government has approved many scholarship and fellowship schemes to learn science," he said.

Prof. Sehgal said research and technology are the need of the hour. We need to develop and test solutions; predict outcomes and mitigate harm and make informed policy decisions, he said.Institute's Registrar, Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari said the role of Science

responding to analytical We have come forward and equipped labs, facilities comments, are some of the MA Shah were 'Guest of valuable skills that help in interactive

DDC Kupwara reviews RDD schemes

Over 1500 works completed under MGNREGA

KUPWARA, FEBRUARY



progress of developmental works being implemented under Rural Development sector in Kupwara District, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of District 2. Commissioner (DDC) Dr.Doifode of District Development Sagar Dattatray here at the Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex.

The meeting was attended by ADC Kupwara,Gh Nabi Bhat, Joint Director Planning, Abdul Kupwara Majeed,ACD Hilal Ahmad Mir, ACP Kupwara, Shabir Ahmad Executive Engineer REW, BDOs of all Blocks of dis-

District Development Commissioner took a detailed review of different schemes being executed under the RDD sector in all Blocks of Kupwra Dis-

On the occasion, the Development Commissioner directed the Officers to prioritise implementation of all Government sponsored schemes so that targets are achieved in time with tangible results on the ground so that people are benefited with these schemes. He directed the RDD officers and field functionaries to redouble

their efforts to ensure cent percent saturation of all the deliverables under the programme in all Panchayats of the District.

The DDC also reviewed physical and financial progress made under MGNREGA 2022-23 and was informed that as many as 2343 works were taken up during the current financial year and out of them 1500 works have been completed with expenditure of Rs 5.42 crores material component(MC) and 51.95 crore Labour component (LC).

District has achieved a record of 26.08 lac man days which consists of 151 percent against the target of 17.26 lac.

It was told in the meeting that out of target of 48505 soakage pits 47502 soakage pits were taken up, out of them till date 35250 soakage pits have been completed.Under Amritsarovar 661 works of construction and renovation of water bodies related works were taken up out of them 464 are completed and work on 197 is ongoing.While reviewing the Area Development Fund 2022-23, It was informed that as many as 1650.

Agriculture Production Department to give online training to farmers under HADP

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 28: The Agriculture Production Department has planned to implement the Holistic Agriculture Development Plan (HADP) with a mission for transformative and holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors across Jammu & Kashmir.

To this end, Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production, Atal Dulloo, chaired a comprehensive review meeting at Civil Secretariat here

During the meeting, ACS took an exhaustive review of the online Learning Management System for skill programs for entrepreneurship development under HADP. He reviewed the development, monitoring and implementation of the ongoing scheme while setting deadlines for completion of each component of the program.

Dulloo emphasised the importance of delivering course content in the easiest way possible, calling for the addition of voice overs to expert lectures, which would help convey information more clearly to the

The HADP identifies 29 projects aiming at com-



agriculture in Jammu & Kashmir by reaching out to 13 lakh farmer households and 2.9 lakh marginal farmers. Within the Learning Management System, a total of 43 courses across 29 different programs are being planned and developed. These courses will comprise of 10 lectures each delivered in various local languages such as Dogri and Kashmiri, alongside Hindi and Urdu.

To facilitate the initiative, the Agriculture Production Department is meticulously planning, making training schedules, conducting orientation exercises and preparing material for information dissemination. The department, in association with various agencies like SKUAST, is set to launch an online por-

tal where any farmer can learn more about a project and respective schemes or activities. Once an application is submitted, it would be forwarded for scrutiny and approval by the appropriate office. The OTP based login facilitates easy enrollment.

Post-learning stage, the courses involve practical training and business incubation and hand-holding for running business enterprises in subsequent stages and as per the applicant's requirements. NICCI (NIC Chat Interface), a chatbot of the National Informatics Centre (NIC), will also be available on the portal for assisting farmers with their queries.

The review meeting was attended by Commissioner Directors of Agriculture.

of the country in the field

of Physics, Astronomy,

Medicine and Biotechnol-

ogy. He said the students

should emulate scientists

Police solves burglary case in **Baramulla**; Accused arrested

Baramulla February 28: Police in Baramulla solved a burglary case by arresting an accused person involved in commission of crime and recovered stolen property from his possession. Police Post Palhallan received a complaint from one person namely Mohd Shafi Pandith son of Ali Mohd Pandith resident of Hamrey Pattan stating therein that during intervening night of 27th & 28th February-2023, some unknown burglars broke the lock of his storeroom of his home and stole electric transformer, battery and submersible water pump.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 64/2023 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Pattan and investigation was initiated.

During the course of investigation, with the help of technical and human resources, one suspect identified as Bilal Ahmad Dar son of Ghulam Mohd Dar resident of Chankhan Sopore was called for questioning. During sustained questioning, officers learnt about his involvement in the commission of crime. On his disclosure stolen property was also recovered from his possession. Moreover, the vehicle used in the commission of crime has also been seized.

Community members has lauded the efforts of police for cracking/solving the case within the shortest possible time. Our consistent actions shall assure community members that Police has resolved to act tough against individuals involved in any kind of criminal activities.

NRLM organises 290 **Awareness camps on Drug Abuse at Anantnag**

ANANTNAG, FEBRUARY 28: Continuing its efforts to spread the awareness among general public particularly among members of Self Help Groups regarding the ill effects of drug menace - eradication of this social evil, campaigns like Anti-drug -Nasha Mukht Bharat, say yes to life, no to drugs etc, the NRLM Anantnag has organised 290 camps/awareness programs across the district during February 2023 Month.

Morethan 3400 SHG members, PRI's, etc participated in these programmes.

The focus areas of these camps remained Awareness generation among the general public about the ill effects of drug abuse, campaigns like Anti-drug -Nasha Mukht Bharat, say yes to life, no to drugs etc harmful effects of drug menace on society, identification, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addict persons.

These camps were organised across district Anantnag at Village Organisations, Cluster level Federations and JKRLM Block Training Centres which include Khoveripora, Pahalgam, Achabal, Shangus, Chittergul, Qazigund, Larkipora, Dooru, Breng, Sagam, Larnoo, Srigufwara, Ranipora, Veesu, Hiller Shahabad

Awareness programme for senior citizens held at Anantnag

ANANTNAG, FEBRUARY 28: On the directions of JKSLSA and under the guidance of chairman DLSA Anantnag, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Anantnag today organized an awareness programme on the Rights of Senior Citizens at newly established Old Age Home 'Ahata-E-Waqar' in Pazalpora Bijbehara, here under constitution of India and, Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007.

The programme was organized in collaboration with District Social Welfare Department Anantnag, Sakhi One Stop Center Anantnag and Elderline Anantnag. The senior citizen clubs were provided with Carrom

boards and other recreational materials. A harmonium was also provided by the Social Welfare Department to 'Ahata-E-Waqar' inmates.

The secretary DLSA Anantnag, Mir Wajahat delivered a detailed lecture on the said Act, the essence and need of old age homes and all the facilities for elderly persons. Senior citizens, members of NGOs, Deputy Chief LADC Anantnag, and Assistant LADC Anantnag participated

SP College Sgr warmly farewells Prof. Zargar, Prof. Wani

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 28: SP College, Srinagar gave a warm send-off to two senior faulty members of the college Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad Zargar, Head Department of Statistics and Professor Mohammad Ashraf Wani Department of Chemistry and Coordinator Examination Committee, who attained their superannu-

ation today on 28th February 2023. The Principal of the college Professor (Dr.) Khurshid Ahmad Khan, Dr. Wilayat Rizvi Principal GDC Bandipora, Prof. Bashir Ahmad Mir Head Department of Chemistry, Prof. Manzoor Ahmad Wani Head Department of Botany, Prof. Shuja Hussain Hakim Head Department of Electronics, Prof. Shahid Ahmad Wani Head Department of Environmental Science and Secretary Staff Council, SP College, Srinagar were present at the farewell event.

College Non-Teaching President, Syeed Imran, Mr. Rafiq Ahmad Charagi and other senior Officials as well as the non-teaching staff of the college also attended the farewell meeting held at College Auditorium. On this occasion, The Principal of the College, Profes-

sor (Dr.) Khurshid Ahmad Khan congratulated them on the successful completion of their active services. He also highlighted their zeal and dedication towards their work. He added that their punctuality and commitment towards the institution will continue to inspire them and wished retirees a very happy and fulfilling post-retirement life.At the end of the function, Prof. Shahid Ahmad Wani Secretary Staff Council SP. College, Srinagar extended the vote of thanks on behalf of Staff Council to all the staff members and guests who

Banks in Bandipora disburse

BANDIPORA, FEBRU- witnessing 181 percent ARY 27: The District achievement. Consultative Committee/ Besides, ther District Level Review Committee (DCC/DLRC) meeting of Bandipora District was held on Tuesday at Mini Secretariat on Monday.

ed by Additional District Development Commissioner Ali Afsar Khan; JD Planning Imtiyaz Ahmad; Dr Asif DDM; Lead District Manager Bandipora, Shabir A. Dar; NABARD and District Coordinators of all the Banks, Govt. departments and other development agencies.

It was given out that Banks operating in Bandipora district have disbursed an amount of Rs 292.94 Crores in priority sector against the annual target of Rs.895 crores registering 33 percent achievement and Rs.231.96 Crores in non-priority sector against the annual target of Rs.128 Crores with joint coordination.

Rs 292.94 Cr loans in priority sector

Besides, there has been a total credit disbursement of 524.49 crores against the yearly target of Rs.1023.30 crore registering an achievement of 51% of the annual credit The meeting was attend- plan 2022-23 for quarter ending December 2022. District Manager Lead

Bandipora informed the meeting that J&K Bank has disbursed Rs.227.26 crores under priority sector and 159.48 crores under Non priority sector aggregating to total credit of Rs. 386.74 cr showing an achievement of 73 68% contribution towards total credit dispensation in the district.

The performance with respect to social security schemes under Mission Utkarsh was also discussed and the chair emphasized the need for roping in the people under social security schemes

CUK commemorates National Science Day

Prof. Faroog, Prof. Andrabi for inculcating scientific temper among students, masses

tral University of Kashmir Vice Chancellor Prof. Farooq Ahmad Shah Tuesday underscored the need for inculcating and promoting scientific temper among the students and masses for the growth, progress and development of the nation on the scientific front."People across the world including our country are confronting numerous challenges and issues on the environment, health, social and economic front which need scientific and technological intervention. Hence, it is extremely important to develop scientific temper among the students so that quality research would be conducted and solutions arrived at," Prof. Farooq Ahmad Shah said while inaugurating the National Science Day 2023 organised by the Department of Zoology in association with the Directorate of Students Welfare (DSW)

Ganderbal, Feb 28: Cen-



the theme "Global Science for Global Well Being,"at Nuner campus here.Former Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir, and eminent scientist, Prof. Khurshid Iabal Andrabi, who was the chief guest on the occasion, said the scientific and digital technology has drastically transformed all the sectors ranging from automobile to robotics and has eased the way of living. "Technology which has drawn inspiration from nature has revolutionised every sphere of life and has increased the longevity of

human life," he said, adding that there have been breakthroughs in genome mapping and sequencing, which is helping in early detection and cure of several dreaded diseases. He also spoke about the different scientific areas like Fibre optic technology, Computer technology, Robotics, Bionic Eye, White Genome technology, CRIS-PAR-CAS Technology and Genome editing technology.Speaking on the occasion, Registrar, Prof. M. Afzal Zargar, highlighted the immense contribution of the eminent scientists

like Aryabhatta and conduct research and development for the welfare of mankind. Prof. Afzal further spoke about Ayush, Unani, Homeopathy fields of medicine introduced by the country to the world He said the world acknowledged the scientific prowess of the country during the Covid when India was successful in developing the vaccine to counter the pandemic. CUK Registrar asked the faculty members to inculcate the scientific temper among the students of other disciplines. Prof. Pawan Kumar Dhar, Professor, School of Biotechnology JNU, who was the expert speaker, talked about "The Making of a Scientist". In his address, he discussed various aspects of understanding the

DC Ganderbal & Director I&C visit Panchayat Halqa Rangil

Distribute Sanction letters of self-employment among beneficiaries, also listen grievances of locals

GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 28: The Director Industries & Commerce (I&C) Kashmir, Saloni Rai today visited Panchayat Rangil Ganderbal as a part of follow up programme of phase four of Back to Village (B2V-4), as the Prabhari Officer and conducted scheduled ac-

The Prabhari Officer accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyambir along with the officials of line departments organized Gram Panchayat and conducted inspection of stalls installed by various departments there.

An overwhelming response of the public was witnessed during the follow up programme.

The DC and Visiting Officer interacted with PRIs, SHGs and the general public who also projected several demands and highlighted their problems. The line departments apprised her about the developmental works going on in the Panchayat. Speaking on the occasion, the DC shared

the Action Taken Report of the grievances and issues raised during the B2V4 and said that the issue of playground is also resolved which was lingering for over the last two decades. He assured the locals that maximum demands shall be fulfilled very soon.

Director I&FC interacted with the Officers of line departments and enquired about the steps being taken for early redressal of grievances projected during Back to Village phase

The Prabhari Officer advised the Officers present on the occasion to work in close coordination for the development of villages. She also urged the local youth to take benefit of self-employment schemes as the objective of such schemes is to ensure saturation of demand for self employment.



On the occasion, the duo distributed sanc tion letters to the beneficiaries of self-employment.Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani, Chief Planning Officer Irfan Giri, Assistant Commissioner Development Dr Bashir Ahmad, ACP and other district and sectoral officers were present on the occasion. The DC and Visiting Officer interacted with PRIs, SHGs and the general public who also projected several demands and highlighted their problems. The line departments apprised her about the developmental works going on in the Panchayat. Speaking on the occasion, the DC shared the Action Taken Report of the grievances and issues raised during the B2V4 and said that the issue of playground is also resolved which was lingering for over the last two decades. He assured the locals that maximum demands shall be fulfilled very soon. Director I&FC interacted with the Officers of line departments and enquired about the steps being taken for early redressal of griev-

HEADLINES TODAY

HT EDITORIAL

Man-Wild Animal Encounters on rise across Urban Kashmir

uman-Wild Animal Conflict is on continues rise across Kashmir Valley. Just Yesterday a Posh Srinagar Locality was on tender hooks when a Leopard was spotted in the area. Frequently we receive reports of leopards or bears being spotted in residential areas of Kashmir Valley. The entire population living near the Woods of Kashmir Valley is in distress after these incidents.

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

In the trouble-torn Kashmir valley people not only have to put up with roaring guns but those of them who live close to forests have to put up with the destruction wrought by wild animals. Now the residential areas which have come up at the cost of encroachment over the forests are bearing the brunt. The Wildlife Department has come under severe criticism from all quarters, however the we need to understand the fact that when we try to encroach on wildlife habitats, it definitely comes at a very heavy cost. According to an impartial analysis, more than 60 incidents of man-animal conflict have taken place during last six months, in which three people died and more than twenty-five injured including some children. Fear and panic has gripped a majority of the villages and even some of the urban areas falling in and around Srinagar City, in the Shopian area of South Kashmir and some areas of the Kupwara district after leopards repeatedly entered residential areas and attacked villagers. In retaliation angry mobs killed some leopards. Although the wildlife department is working as tirelessly to prevent these man - wild animal encounters however when there is any loss of human life people throw onus on the wildlife department as they alledege that as if the Wildlife department does not even exist in the UT of J&K.

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

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

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

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

The officials concerned on the conditions of 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.

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.

IN FRONT OF ME



Poet: MIRZA GHALIB Translator: SHAHID SHAMSHAD

A sports ground is the World – in front of me Thus, featuring a game day night – in front of me Don't ask me my condition behind You Look and see the colours – in front of me While pulling me this KUFR, it is my faith who support me! Behind me there is KABA and a CHURCH – in front of me I am a paramour of disloyal beloved and unfortunately it's

my work To MAJNU; Laila is saying, "you are bad – in front of me

Will Lithium Lionize Us?



Abid Hussain Rather

ammu and Kashmir has been continuously in headlines for something good or bad for the past many years. Whether it is erratic weather or political instability, we have some breaking news from this region of the world. It won't be wrong to say that it has turned out to be a hot spot for journalists and media platforms. Despite being conferred with the titles like 'Paradise on Earth', 'Switzerland of Asia' or 'Crown of India' due to its unparalleled scenic natural beauty, lush green forests and valleys, lofty and majestic mountain ranges, glistening lakes, pristine rivers and streams and verdant meadows, Jammu and Kashmir has remained economically underdeveloped as compared to other parts of the country due to its political instability and volatility as it has not been paid necessitous attention from the concerned authorities which it demands. It is very unfortunate on the part of Kashmiris that they have been suffering from many mental traumas and tensions due to the political tension prevailing here. But fortunately, two weeks ago we got a good news from this region when on 10th February the Union Ministry of Mines announced that lithium reserves have been found in Jammu and Kashmir. The Geological Survey of India established 5.9 million tonnes of inferred lithium resources in the Salal-Haimana area of Reasi district in Jammu and Kashmir. With this discovery, it is believed that the manufacturing of rechargeable lithium based batteries for electric vehicles, smartphones, solar equipments and laptops will get a boost and cut India's dependence on lithium imports as the discovery could boost the manufacturing of rechargeable batteries for electric cars, smartphones, and laptops and cut India's dependence on lithium imports which are currently imported from China and other countries.

also called as 'white gold' due to its high demand for rechargeable batteries. Besides, it is also used in thermonuclear reactions and making allovs with aluminium and magnesium which in turn are used in armour plating, aircrafts, bicycle frames, high speed trains etc. When we look at the world scenario, we find that the world is

estimated that India has imported 165 ther, can it be expected that a genuine part crore lithium batteries between the financial year 2017 and the financial year 2020 which has costed over \$ 3.30 billions. In 2020-21, India imported Rs.173 crore worth of lithium. With every passing year, the demand for lithium is soaring significantly as in the present technological world, the use of electronic gadgets is increasfacing an acute shortage of lithium due to ing fast and the battery technology is on



rising demand for rechargeable batteries, which is estimated to reach two billion by 2050. It is important to mention here that lithium reserves are very rare. There are only 98 million tonnes of lithium globally out of which India has only 5.5% of these resources while as 54% of the world's lithium reserves are found in Argentina, Bolivia and Chile and collectively these three countries are known as lithium triangle of the world. India's recent find of 5.9 million tonnes of lithium could catapult it into the top three countries in the world with the highest lithium reserves. Further, discovery of lithium in Jammu and Kashmir region can help address global shortage of lithium and give a boost to Indian economy by exporting lithium and its products to world market. Besides exporting, India itself heavily depends on lithium products as Central Electricity Authority of India has estimated that the country will need massive amounts of lithium for the 27GW grid-scale battery energy storage systems required by 2030. Further, it has been

rise with the emergence of EVs (electric vehicles). As India is aspiring to control the carbon emission and increase in the production of electric vehicles by 30% in the coming seven years, so it is apt to say that the discovery of lithium reserves will definitely be helpful in this dimension and will strengthen, revolutionize and boost our economic and IT sectors.

It is pertinent to mention here that these reserves have been yet referred as 'inferred resources' which means that tonnage, grade and mineral content has been estimated with a low level of confidence. So there are further stages of assessment before proven reserves of lithium can be identified in the Salal-Haimana deposit. Now from the local perspective, many questions arise on the discovery of these reserves. Will the discovery of these lithium deposits pave a way for the development of Jammu and Kashmir region and will it become a fountain of welfare for the common masses by providing employment opportunities to local people? Fur-

of revenue collected from these reserves will be used to strengthen essential sectors of the region like education, health, road and building infrastructure etc. Will it be a turning point for the overall development of the concerned region? Only future times will answer these queries but we should keep positive hopes from the discovery of these deposits. Besides, we should not forget that mining of lithium has many negative impacts on local ecology and environment and it may result in many environmental hazards. This process is water extensive and it is estimated that extraction of one ton of lithium approximately requires 2.2 million litres of water. It also results in air, water and soil pollutions. Reasi being a hilly district has a fragile ecology and hence it is highly vulnerable to catastrophes. Any change in climate due to mining may reduce access to drinking water, affect the health of the poor, and will also pose a serious threat to food security in this region which may ultimately result in human displacement. We have already example of one of the Himalayan states viz. Uttrakhand before us which has been reeling from the effects of unchecked economic activities that have devastated the environment in the state and caused many fatalities. The subsidence of Joshimath and 2021 Chamoli disaster in Uttarakhand state are the results of fiddling with the natural environment. So before extraction of lithium deposits from this region, the concerned authorities must take a balanced assessment and analysis of the high eco-sensitivity of Jammu and Kashmir region as this region lies in high tectonic and disaster prone zone and they must pay their attention towards maintaining the ecological stability and balance of the region as these reserves lie around Chenab River amid tall trees and lofty mountains. The concerned authorities must make sure that if the mining of lithium deposits is done in the Reasi district in the near future it must be done in sustainable manner and due consideration should be given to environmental

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Jaswinder Pal Sharma

odernity has brought many technological advancements, social progress, and economic growth, but it has also led to the loss of some simple joys that were once integral to human life. As societies have become more urbanized and industrialized, people have become increasingly disconnected from nature and the natural world, which has led to a decline in many of the simple pleasures that were once common.

One of the joys lost in modernity is the simple pleasure of being outdoors. Many people now spend the majority of their time indoors, either at work or at home, and have little opportunity to enjoy the natural world. As a result, people are often disconnected from the seasons, the changing weather patterns, and the beauty of

Another joy that has been lost is the joy of physical labor. In the past, people often engaged in physical work, whether it was farming, hunting, or gathering, which provided a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment. However, with the rise of machines and automation, many people now work in jobs that are sedentary and

JOYS LOST IN MODERNITY



offer little opportunity for physical labor. The loss of community is another joy that has been lost in modernity. In the past, people lived in small, tight-knit communities where they knew their neighbors and worked together to solve problems. However, as people have become more mobile and urbanized, communities have become more fragmented, and people are often disconnected from their neighbors and the broader community. Finally, the joy

of simplicity has also been lost in modernity. With the rise of consumer culture, people are often encouraged to value material possessions over simple pleasures. This has led to a culture of overconsumption, where people are constantly striving for more, rather than taking pleasure in the simple things in life.So what can be done to reclaim some of these lost joys? One solution is to reconnect with nature, whether it's by going for a hike, spending

time in a park, or simply taking a walk outside. Another solution is to find ways to incorporate physical labor into daily life, whether it's through gardening, cooking, or other household tasks. Building strong community connections can also be bene ficial, whether it's through volunteering, joining a club, or simply getting to know your neighbors. Finally, it's important to take time to appreciate the simple things in life, whether it's a beautiful sunset, a good book, or a home-cooked meal.

In conclusion, while modernity has brought many benefits, it has also led to the loss of some simple joys that were once integral to human life. By reconnecting with nature, finding ways to incorporate physical labor into daily life, building strong community connections, and tar ing time to appreciate the simple things in life, we can begin to reclaim some of these lost joys and find greater happiness and fulfillment in our lives

SS Master GSSS Hakuwala Sri Muktsar Sahib Punjab

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TIPS TO PLAY SAFE HOLI

high because of all the fun that comes along with it. Holi holds a special place in everyone's heart. The sacred festival brings an opportunity to connect, rejoice and rejuvenate. Down the ages, people have been delighted to splash colours on their near and dear ones to celebrate the occasion with gaiety and fun. The use of colours during Holi is not just for fun. The traditional Holi colours were extracted from plants like turmeric, neem and Palash and therefore had several positive health benefits

To make sure that Holi 2023 is the happiest for you, here

Young babies have very delicate skin and immature immune systems. It is best not to put any colours on babies younger than six months because of their delicate skin. A red sandalwood tika should be enough to symbolically celebrate the festival.

We often do not pay attention to the protection of our eyes while playing Holi.

Avoid wearing contact lenses. The harsh chemicals can cause an infection by smearing your lens. Wear sunglasses/goggles to avoid any sort of optical injuries from any misfired water balloons and to prevent colours from coming in contact with the eyes. Avoid touching your eyes while playing Holi. Do not rub your eyes! Rubbing can aggravate the problems further.

Dress yourself and your kids in full-sleeved clothes to create one more barrier between your skin and the colours. Moisturizing skin with a natural oil-based moisturizer before heading out to play with colours is very important for a smooth, supple and healthy

skin. This creates a barrier between your skin and the colours. It also helps the colours to be taken off easily

oli is here and the excitement is at an all-time Remember to apply sunscreen 20 minutes before going out in the sun. Use a sunscreen of SPF 20 and above on the neck, arms, and whichever part of your body is exposed to the sun. . If your skin is prone to pigmented



SHAHNAZ HUSSAIN'S BEAUTY TIPS HT EXCLUSIVE

in moisturizers. If your skin is very dry, first apply the sunscreen, wait for a few minutes and then apply a moisturizer. Apply moisturising lotion or cream on the arms and exposed areas.

Apply leave-on conditioner or hair serum on hair before playing Holi. Oil your hair or wear a bandana/ scarf/ cap

Hair Cream containing sunscreen is also available in the market. Take very little, spread on both palms and massage light into the hair, or smooth palms over the hair. Or, apply pure coconut oil/ mustard oil and massage it lightly into the hair. Oil will make sure your hair doesn't get too dry and the colour also does not go deep into your hair, causing breakage and dryness. . This also provides protection against colours.

You'll need to protect your nails too! Paint your nails with two coats of good quality nail paint to prevent your nails from getting stained. . This helps to protect the nails

Holi. Rinse the face with plenty of plain water and then and daily Headlines Today doesn't Own, Acknowledge or use a cleansing cream, or lotion. Apply and massage it on Support the same

the face. Then wipe off with moist cotton wool. Remember to cleanse the area around the eyes too, using a light touch. A cleansing gel helps to dissolve the colours and facilitates their removal.

To make your own cleanser, take half a cup of cold milk and add one teaspoon of any vegetable oil, like "til," olive or sunflower oil. Mix well. Dip cotton wool into this mixture and use it to cleanse the skin.

Use ubtan, a pack made with gram flour, curd and turmeric to remove the colour from your skin gently. This pack will not only help to reduce the colour of your skin, but it will also nourish it in the process and keep the dam-

Sesame seed (til) oil can be used to remove colours from the body, massaging it on the skin. This not only helps to remove the colours, but gives added protection to the skin. Sesame seed (til) oil actually helps to counteract sun-damage. While bathing, scrub the body gently with a loofah or wash cloth. Immediately after your bath, apply a moisturizer on the face and body, while the skin is still damp. This helps to seal in moisture.

If there is itching, add two tablespoons vinegar to a mug of water and use it as a last rinse. This helps to reduce itching. However, if the itching continues, and there is rash and redness, there may be an allergic reaction to the colour. Consult a doctor as soon as possible

While washing the hair, first rinse with plenty of plain water to wash away the dry colours and tiny particles of mica. Then apply a mild herbal shampoo, working it into the hair with the fingers. Massage the scalp gently and rinse thoroughly with water again.

The real problem is the removal of colours after playing The Openion / Views expressed by the Author are his own

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CMO reviews implementation of RBSK scheme in Block Assar, Ghat



DODA, FEBRUARY 28: Chief Medical Officer Doda, Dr Abdul Hamid Zargar today reviewed implementation of Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) scheme in the Block Assar and Ghat, besides assessing the functioning of DEIC in the District.

At the outset, the DPM NHM, Jahangir Mehta and Manager DEIC RBSK, Faizan Elahi briefed the chair about the achievements and block wise work done by the RBSK Teams through PPT.

While reviewing the component wise progress, the CMO Doda directed the RBSK Teams to conduct screening of the Children as per protocol of set by the GOI for their timely treatment and further management. He asked the concerned to chalk out a comprehensive action plan for visits to the schools and anganwadi centers by the designated teams ensuring full coverage of the beneficiaries.

He DPM NHM & Manager DEIC Doda were directed to formulate an action plan of visits to schools and Anganwadi centers to achieve 100 percent coverage under

Among others, the meeting was attended by Medical Officers, FMPHWs and Pharmacists working under

Health Checkup Camp held in DC office Doda

DODA, FEBRUARY 28: A daylong health care camp was today organised by Health Department Doda in the DC office complex. Hundreds of the employees of DC of fice and adjoining offices stationed at headquarter were screened for diabetes. BP and other health issues

The camp was inaugurated by District Development Commissioner (DDC), Vishesh Paul Mahajan.

Highlighting the importance of conducting such medical camps, the DDC said regular screening is must to stay fit and healthy. He advised the employees working in the district and the general public to go for regular health check-up, exercise daily, take healthy food and keep track of the health record

The DDC complimented the Health Department and Chief Medical Officer Doda, Dr Hamid Zargar for conducting the health care camp at DC Office complex

He appealed to the employees and the general public to register for health schemes, including AB PMJAY SEHAT / Golden Card, to avail Rs. 5 lakh health insurance cover per annum and treatment benefits at both government and empanelled private hospitals free of

Stone Sculptures believed to be thousands of years old found in Bhalessa

BHALESSA, FEBRUARY 28: The locals from Siwli village of Gandoh (Bhalessa) Sub-division have found stone sculptures believed to be thousands of years old. The Sculptures were found 10 feet underground while excavating for a water source. The paintings on stone depicting ancient art, tradition and religious figures have been preserved by the locals.

The locals have sought intervention of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to establish the historical significance of the sculptures

Deputy Commissioner Doda, Vishesh Paul Mahajan. on receiving the information, confirmed the same from SDM Gandoh, Arun Kumar Badyal. After confirmation, the DC has taken up the matter with the Secretary to the Government Culture Department, UT of J&K. Secretary Culture has assured an appropriate action on the reported matter soon.

PSPS GCW Gandhinagar celebrates National Science Day

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 28: Department of Physics, Government PG College for Women today celebrated National Science Day under the theme "Global Science for Global Well being".

The programme started with formal address by Dr B D Sehgal , HOD Physics. He informed the students that National Science Day is celebrated every year to commemorate the path- breaking discovery of Raman Effect which led to the winning of Nobel Prize by Prof C. V. Raman. Dr Sehgal brought out several inspirational aspects of Prof's Raman personality besides his scientific contribution. During the occasion, self made Science Project was displayed by the students of the college.As many as 10 students of this college participated in this event. This event was adjudged by Prof. D. S. Manhas, Dean Placement Cell Cluster University of Jammu and Prof. Rajinder Sharma, Controller of Examination, Cluster University of Jammu, Oiasvi Verma student of B.Sc. Sem Ist stood first in the competition while 2nd and 3rd positions were secured by Nilakshi Sharma and Sana Chouhan, both students of B.Sc. Sem 1st. The function was organised by Prof Prabhjeet Kour, Dr Rawan Kumar, Prof Renu Rajput, Prof. Rajinder Kumar, Dr Ujwal Gupta, Sukriti under the guidance of Dr B D Sehgal. Principal of the College, Prof Minu Mahajan lauded the efforts of Department of Physics advised the students to participate in such events in large number so as to make academic environment of the college more vibrant.

Parbhari Officer reviews progress under MTMP at MC Surankote

POONCH, FEBRUARY 28: To review the progress of works under My Town My Pride, Parbhri Officer, Suram Sharma today visited MC Surankote and convened a meeting of Committee members and officials.

Vice president MC Surankote, Sanjeev Kesar, Councillors, prominent citizens, District and sectoral officers of various departments were present. The progress on the decisions taken in MTMP 2.0 was reviewed the officers were exhorted to complete works unanimously selected by the Councilors and Visiting Officer. The visiting officer stressed on the saturation of employment generation schemes being run by different departments and spreading awareness about all beneficiary oriented schemes. The Councilors and prominent persons lauded the government for reaching out to the far off ULBs and redressing their grievances by deputing Parbhri Officers under MTMP. The visiting officer stressed on the saturation of employment generation schemes being run by different departments and spreading awareness about all beneficiary oriented schemes.

Visiting officer reviews saturation of dev schemes in Panchayat Shiendra Lower

meeting to review the implementation of Back to Village (B2V4) works was held today at Panchayat Ghar, Shiendra Lower Panchayat, Block Lassana of District Poonch

Director General, Floriculture Parks and Gardens, Jammu Jatinder Singh -as the Prabhari/Visiting Officer chaired the meeting.

Sarpanch of the Gram Panchayat, Wajahat Bhukhari along with all the Panchs attended the said meeting.

Panchayat Secretary, Yougal Raina conducted the meeting, Prominent Citizens of the Gram Panchayat also attended the Gram Sabha and review meet-

The Frontline Workers Officers/Officials of the different Departments including Revenue, Agriculture, Education, Youth Services & Sports, Rural Development, Health and Medical Education, ICDS, Floriculture, PWD (R&B), Jal Shakti (PHE), JPDCL (PDD), Animal Husbandry and Representative of JK Bank Lassana were pres-

ent in the meeting.

During the meeting, Prabhari/ Visiting Officer took a detailed review of the development of indicators including status of deliverables in the Panchayat. He also undertook review of works approved after B2V4 in response to demands raised by the general public.

The Prabhari/Visiting Officer also stressed upon different Departments to achieve 100% saturation level in all the beneficiary schemes of the Government so that genuine persons are not left out of any scheme. It was informed that all the departments have switched over to the online mode as per directions of the Government.

No Domicile Certificate/Cat-Certificate/Mutation is pending with the Revenue Authority of the Panchayat as reported by the Concerned Revenue Official.

Out of a total requirement of 100 electric poles in the Panchayat, 20 poles have been installed in ward 1, 2 & 3 and the remaining poles shall be installed shortly as reported by JPDCL

Repair of the main road of the Panchayat by way of pothole filling, pending due to bad weather, shall be done before 30th April 2023 as reported by the Junior Engineer of concerned department.

The Bank official reported that one loan case from the Panchayat has been sanctioned under the Self Employment Scheme.

The Prabhari/Visiting Officer asked the Sarpanch/Panches and Frontline workers of the different departments to send more cases under different Self Employment Schemes to the Bank so that these could be sanctioned within time for the benefit of the needy persons.

The representative of the Jal Shakti Department informed that one scheme of water supply has been sanctioned for the Panchayat under Jal Jeevan Mission and efforts would be made to supply drinking water to all the households of the Panchayat in a phased manner by the department.

It was informed that 94% Golden Health Cards have been prehave been done in the Pancha-

Three Dairy units have been established under IDDS (Integrated Dairy Development Scheme) and one under TSP (Tribal Sub-Plan) in the Panchayat as reported by the VAS. Under the Agriculture Sector, 340 cases of Soil testing and 208 cases under PMKY have been completed for farming families. It was suggested for promotion of cultivation of Mushroom, Ginger & Turmeric and purchase of machines on 50% subsidy through the department.

The general public demanded the establishment of a Park or Recreation Centre in the upper area of the Panchayat. The Assistant Floriculture Officer of the Department was asked to submit its feasibility report immediately.

The Prabhari/Visiting Officer of the Panchayat directed all the concerned for ensuring uploading of all activities of the panchayat on JK Panchayat Portal. Awareness about Encroachment Free Land and

also discussed in the Gram Panchayat. The Prabhari/Visiting Officer also advised all Frontline workers to be readily available to the public and work with dedication for the benefit & welfare of the public of the area. He also stressed to comply with the directions of the Government in letter and spirit. Three Dairy units have been established under IDDS (Integrated Dairy Development Scheme) and one under TSP (Tribal Sub-Plan) in the Panchayat as reported by the VAS.

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DLSA Samba organise Special Mega **Medical Camp for Senior Citizens**

sightful directions of Mr. Justice Tashi Rabstan, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority and also under the radiant guidance and overall supervision of Sonia Gupta, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority Samba (also Pr. District & Sessions Judge, Samba), District Legal Services Authority Samba today organised a Special Mega Medical Camp for Senior Citizens of District Samba at Ahata-e-Waqar (Day Care Center) Samba in coordination with Department of Health and Medical Education Samba which was inaugurated by Sonia Gupta, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority in presence of Rakesh Dubey, Additional Deputy Commissioner Samba; Vidhi Khajuria, Chief Medical Officer Samba; Deep Kumar, District Social Welfare Officer Samba; Durga Dass, retired Registrar Administration, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, A/P Member, District Consumer Commission Samba and Kathua, Block Medical Officer, Anju Bala and her team of Medical Officers and also senior citizens etc. The team of the Medical Officers was comprising of Sushil Sharma, Consultant Ortho Technician, Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Medical Officer (Ayush), Dr. Balika, Mid Level Health Provider, Dr. Akanksha Mehra, Medical Officer, Dr. Jahida Choudhary, Medical Officer (Eye Specialist), Sahil Gupta, Lab. Technician and this team conducted a total of 106



OPD (Ortho OPD-35, Ayush OPD-15, Eye OPD-28, General OPD-28, AWA ID-10, Lab test-46 which includes Blood test-28, Blood Sugar test- 18) at Ahata-E-Waqar Samba. Besides this, DLSA Samba also organized a Legal Awareness program at the same venue on the "Rights of Senior Citizens" for the senior citizens who were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Sonia Gupta who was the chief guest stressed upon how the senior citizens are a reservoir of experience and knowledge and yet in many cases they are marginalized and almost wished away by the younger generations of the society as a burden on the society. She also highlighted.

Narco Coordination Committee meeting held at Udhampur

ARY 28: The district level Committee meeting under Narco Coordina-(NCORD) tion centre was held today under the chairmanship of District Magistrate, Udhampur, Krittika Jyotsna at Mini Conference Hall DC Office Complex Udhampur Senior Superintendent of Police, Dr Vinod Kumar; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Moĥammad Syed Khan; District Social Welfare Officer, Kanika Gupta and other officers attended the During the meeting. meeting, it was informed by the Senior Superintendent of Police Udhampur that 97 NDPS Act cases have been registered during the Year 2022 till Dec 31, 2022

The DC stressed upon strengthening of nakas to keep strict vigil on any attempt of drug trafficking. The DC advised to ensure that Investigations under NDPS Act are conducted in a most professional manner so that the

culprits do not go scout free. She further asked to track the persons caught in drug addiction in the district and share details for thier de-addiction and rehabilitation.The CMO informed that a 5 bedded De-addiction centre is functional in the District Hospital. The DC directed CMO to publicize the helpline number 14416 to draw the attention of those in need of help. The ACD was asked to furnish the list of Nasha Mukt Panchayats in the District. DC stressed upon vigorous tracking of the cases of drug abuse & directed the stakeholders to furnish the data about

who are affected by Drug Menace, to the District Administration. Tehsildar Udhampur informed that the Revenue papers of State land measuring 04 Kanal identified at Village Jhakhar for District level drug de-addiction and rehabilitation centre this regard, the ACR was directed to process the case for allotment.Principals of Colleges and Chief Education officer Udhampur were directed to designate Nodal officers of each educational institution for organizing der Nasha Mukt Bharat.

DC Kathua discusses status of land acquisition for BSF, disbursement of compensation

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 28: Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rahul Pandev chaired a meeting of concerned officers to discuss issues concerning BSF here at DC office complex

While discussing the issue of pending land compensation in Tehsil Hiranagar and Marheen, the DC directed concerned tehsildars to organize camps for distribution of compensation to displaced persons affected by land acquisition.

The SDM Hiranagar was directed to submit the report for transfer of land in Paharpur village so that BSF authorities can move ahead with the process. Regarding the



issue of Social Impact Assessment (SIA) exemption, the DC directed concerned officials to put up the requisite documentation for its early issuance so that the process of BOP and Bund could be taken The DC also directed

SDM Hiranagar to make a draft of relief and rehabilitation plan for affected populace in Bobia and Londi border area.

The meeting also discussed the issue of appointment of administrator for the purpose of award wherein DC issued

directions to the concerned officers to set the process in motion.

The DC further directed revenue officers to handover the revenue document of community bunkers for design analysis by BSF. The meeting was also attended by ACR Kathua, Tehsildars and other concerned. The meeting also discussed the issue of appointment of administrator for the purpose of award wherein DC issued directions to the concerned officers to set the process in motion. The DC further directed revenue officers to handover the revenue document of community bunkers for design analy-

ARTO Doda suspends 5 Registration Certificates. 02 Permits of vehicles involved in Bovine smuggling

DODA, FEBRUARY 28: Assistant Road Transport Officer Doda, Er. Kuldeep Singh has suspended RC/Permit of 5 vehicles for a period of 03 months under section 53 and 86 of Motor vehicles Act, 1988 amended Act 2019.

"Taking Cognizance of Prima-facie use of five Motor Vehicles in the commissioning of the offence of illegal Transportation of Live Stock of animals especially bovine animals and in view of violation/contravention of all the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Act & Rules framed there under for transportation of Bovine Animals, besides in contravention of rules prescribed for Transportation of Animals under Animals Transportation Act, 1978, the permit and RC of Vehicles bearing registration No JK06B-1557, JK06B-2363 and Registration Certificate of Vehicles bearing number JK06A-9916. JK06B-0862 and JK06-6734 have been suspended for 3 months" a communiqué of ARTO stated. The RC and Permit of vehicle bearing Registration No. JK06B-3128 has also been suspended earlier. The owners of these vehicles have been directed to surrender the registration Certificate and Permits of these vehi-

cles to the Registering Authority. It has been further

informed that the Police and MVD authorities have

geared up to launch a major crackdown.

AHD organizes workshop for capacity building of dairy farmers

In an endeavor to facilitate dairy farmers with adequate exposure regarding latest schemes and scientific practices of dairy management, the Animal Husbandry Department (AHD) organized a day long workshop cum seminar for capacity building of the fraternity

here today

Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo, was the chief guest on the occasion Director Animal Husbandry, Jammu, Dr. Shubhra Sharma was the guest of honour.

Jammu, Rajinder Singh Tara, Director Sheep Husbandry, Jammu, Krishal Lal, Director Agriculture, Jammu, K K Sharma, Director Horticulture, Jammu, Ram Sevak, Secretary Kisan Board, senior officers of AHD Jammu besides members of Kisan Board and dairy farmers were present on the occa-ACS, while addressing

on the occasion, said that the main purpose of this technical interaction is to acquaint the farmers with latest advancements taking place in dairy sector for maximizing milk



production. He stressed on importance of working collectively besides group formations for farmers in

order to reap the benefits of scale being offered by departments in the form of various welfare schemes.

the approved projects under the recently announced Holistic Development of Agriculture and Allied Sectors Programme especially those connected with dairy development and feed and fodder development which are to be implemented over the next five years.

During the programme, the Advisory Board members and farmers highlighted the issues being faced by them, which were adequately responded to by the subject matter specialists present on the occasion.Experts GADVASU-Ludhiana and

farmers about the latest management practices in dairy farming aimed at enhancing the productivity of the sector. They also talked about various farmer oriented welfare schemes being run by the department of Animal Husbandry for better implementation on ground.

On the occasion, a progressive dairy farmer from Punjab, Balwinder Singh Aulakh, interacted with the farmers present and shared his experiences regarding successful dairy farming via online

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri launches awareness campaign to promote Self Employment Schemes

28: Deputy Commissioner of Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, launched an awareness campaign to promote the various schemes implemented by the Employment Department under Mission Youth.

The event was attended by the Deputy Director Qadeer Employment, Ul Rehman, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Imran Rashid Kataria. District Statistical and Evaluation Officer, Sandeep Sharma, and all the staff of the Employment Department.

The goal of this initiative is to inform the people of Rajouri about the different schemes offered by Mission Youth, which will provide the youth of the district with employment and self-employment opportunities. The awareness campaign will



span all 19 blocks of the district and will last for a week.

The nodal officer of Mission Youth, Deputy Director Employment, has instructed all staff to ensure the success of the awareness campaign. The week-long schedule will cover various areas of the district, and the team will engage with the people to

make them aware of the

schemes and the associat-

At the event, Deputy

Kundal stated, "The Mis-

sion Youth scheme is an

incredible initiative by

the government to pro-

vide employment oppor-

tunities to the youth of

our country. I am confi-

dent that this awareness

ed benefits

Commissioner

aware of the schemes. We hope that the people will take advantage of these schemes and improve their lives," reiterated the Deputy Commission-The district administra-

people to understand the

various schemes and take

advantage of the benefits

provided by the govern-

"Our aim is to reach out

to every corner of the dis-

trict and make the people

tion is encouraging the people of Rajouri to take advantage of this opportunity and participate in the awareness campaign. This initiative will help the youth of the district to find employment and self-employment oppor-tunities, which will ultimately contribute to the overall growth and development of the district.

Awareness programme for parents on **Drug Abuse organized in District Samba**

28: Social Welfare de-Samba, partment collaboration with the health department, today organized an awarenesscum-counselling session for parents on Narcotics & Drug abuse here at district Conference Hall

Deputy Commissioner Samba, Anuradha Gupta - the Chief Guest along with Senior Superintendent of Police, Benam Tosh and other officers inaugurated the programme attended by parents, teachers, students and locals.

The Deputy Commissioner, while outlining the objectives of the event, underlined the need to protect the children from falling into clutches of drugs, She said that sensitization of parents is of utmost importance for strategizing

SRINAGAR FEBRUARY 28:- Dep-

uty Commissioner(DC) Srinagar,

Mohammad Aijaz Asad Tuesday

undertook an extensive tour of var-

ious interior areas in Dal Lake to take onsite assessment of the mea-

sures taken up to further improve

the socio-economic conditions of

the farmers of different hamlets

in Dal Lake through promotion of

During the visit, the Deputy Com-

missioner visited Akhoon Mohalla,

Kachri Mohalla and other adjacent

hamlets in the area and took on spot

Lake with a total yearly production



the eradication of drug abuse completely in the district. She called upon all stakeholders to put in collective effort to wipe out the malaise of narcotics and drug abuse. District Administration has taken many steps like launching a sustained IEC campaign, heightening of vigil on drug peddlers, installation of feedback boxes in schools, colleges etc, CCTV monitoring of chemist shops.

"However with parents' support we can achieve a 100% drug free district" added DC Samba.

The participants also

pledged to counter the drug menace with vigorous awareness drives against drug peddlers across the district with the help of youth. Dr. Vinod Dhar, key

speaker, delivered a thought provoking lecture. He said drug abuse starts among youth with hol and later turns into other forms of drug dependency. He further added that Parents must keep watch on the gestures, performance, friend circle and ant behavioural change among children as these are early signs of addiction. The early the detection the better it is to address the drug abuse issue, added the guest speaker.

Additional SP Surinder Choudhary, CMO Dr Vidhi Bathial, DIO Ajay Sharma, DSWO Deep Kumar, besides other officers and officials were also present. The participants also pledged to counter the drug menace with vigorous awareness drives against drug peddlers across the district with the help of youth. Dr. Vinod Dhar, key

speaker, delivered a

Reasi: 15 Day Bamboo Ornaments making training concludes at Bamboo rich Chhapanoo village

REASI, FEBRUARY 28: A 15 day Skill Development training in Bamboo Ornaments making craft organised by District Administration Reasi under SANKALP scheme concluded successfully in village Chhapanoo here today.

The training was organised by Assistant Director, Handicrafts Reasi and Member Skill Development Committee Reasi involving trainees of the village

The training was imparted to the participants by renowned Bamboo Craft designer Neera Sarmah and her team of expert master artisans. The trainers stayed in the village for the entire duration of the training and trained villagers in the diligent craft of Bamboo Jewellery making and acquainted them about



the economic potential waiting to be tapped in the Bamboo rich vil-

The valedictory event was attended by elated trainees in presence of Panchayat members and the staff of Assistant Director Handicrafts

At the closing valedictory ceremony, the master trainer reiterated how the Bamboo Jewellery craft means earning one lakh from one humble bamboo shaft. The sarpanch and the PRI members also graced the occasion and were fascinated by the display of Bamboo Jewellery products made by the Artisans. The Panchayat committee felicitated the visiting trainers and thanked District Administration Reasi for considering the Panchayat for conducting yet another Bamboo related training in the vil-

SKICC officials given warm send off on superannuation

Srinagar February 28 The chef Abdul salaam and SRashpal Manager Finance superannuated today and we're given warm send off by the

SKICC colleagues. Abdul salaam an expert continental chef had a privilege to serve imglobally famed delegates and VVIPS who have experienced the MICE services of skicc and Rashpal ji while serving in the finance section SKICC contributed well in his field

Director SKICC while wishing them best of the life ahead praised their capacities of head and heart and stressed the skicc Human Resource to carry their legacy for-

Bakhshi Humayun Javed also termed the SKICC Human Resource as best among the rest in the UT in all respects,he also mentioned about the contributions of all previous employees who have given their best to establish SKICC as one of

the best Conference centre in the country.

Shahnawaz A shah Manager Marketing mentioned about the best professional atmosphere of the SKICC and credited the superannuated officials and incumbent team for their work in this regard ,Qazi Aftab presented vote of thanx before the Director garlanded Ab Salaam and Rashpal ji with traditional shawl ,later the retiree's were taken to their home in a cavalcade by their colleagues.Bakhshi Humayun Javed also termed the SKICC Human Resource as best among the rest in the UT in all respects,he also mentioned about the contributions of all previous employees who have given their best to establish SKICC as one of the best Conference centre in the country.

Shahnawaz A shah Man-Marketing mentioned about the best professional atmosphere of the SKICC and credited the superannuated

assessment of cultivation of Lotus The DC inspected the measures adopted by Lotus Stem (Nadru) farmers for harvesting Nadru produce from Dal Lake and was informed that Lotus Stem is cultivated in an area of 99.50 Hectares in the Dal

of 450-500 metric tonnes. The Deputy Commissioner also held an interaction with the members of recently formed Farmer Producer Organization(FPO), "Dal Lake Lotus Stem Producer Company Limited" promoted under the Central Sector Scheme of NAB-ARD in Srinagar District which is involved in growing Agriculture crops, Market gardening, Horticulture produce etc.

On the occasion, the DC was apprised that there are around 250 Farmers (Shareholders) including over 100 females in the FPO and it is working on branding of different value added products like Vacuum dried Lotus stem besides fresh Exotic vegetables. The FPO has been able to export 02 consignments of their produce to the UAE with the support of the Department of Agriculture.

During the visit, Farmers projected various issues and demands before the Deputy Commissioner including setting up of marketing outlets at prominent places for Ag-



of drying units, support for the beekeepers, providing carrier vehicles for home delivery of Agriculture products and support under KCC

DC Srinagar conducts extensive tour of interior Hamlets in Dal Lake area

After listening patiently to the demands, the Deputy Commissioner assured the FPO members that all the possible support shall be provided by the District Administration including providing marketing outlets at important locations in Srinagar. He further assured the farmers that 100 beekeeping Units will be established in the area to generate employment avenues for local youth and diversify their income. Besides, high tech poly greenhouses will be provided to the

The DC directed the concerned officers to expedite the support to the FPO for establishing the drying units and provide them the vehicles under Mumkin Scheme.

The DC said that a focused tion is being given for upliftment of the socio-economic sector to generate employment opportunities for the local people. He said under this programme, the on-going schemes of the Government may also be converged to enhance the cost effectiveness of FPOs and create valuable infrastructure in the sector.

He directed the concerned Departments to sensitize farmers about the advantage of FPO for taking maximum benefits from their crops by selling their produce in an organized and profitable way.

The DC explained that the FPO is an institutional mechanism to reduce cost of production, increase per unit production and facilitate better market linkage so as to enhance the income of farmers. He further said that by the formation of FPOs an end to end solution of the problems confronted by the farmers is being provided and farmers are free to manage their affairs from the production level to post harvest and marketing of their branded products thereby eliminating the clutches of the middle man and doubling farmer's income.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Yaseen Lone, Chief Agriculture Officer, Mohammad Yonis Chowdhary, District Mineral Officer, DDM NABARD, Area Marketing Manager, Executive Engineer LCMA and Lead District Manager, besides members Cluster Based Business Organization(CBBO) and other concerned.

DC Ramban reviews shifting work of HT towers

RAMBAN, FEBRUARY 28: Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Mussarat Islam today convened a meeting to discuss the issues related to relocation of HT towers on the new alignment of national highway (NH44) here in his office chamber. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Harbans Sharma;

ACR, Gias-Ul-Haq; DFO, Ramban, Rajan Singh; DFO, Social Forestry, Mahesh Thakur; Engineers from TLMD besides other concerned officers attended the meeting. The officers discussed in detail issues related to land acquisition. Forest clearance and other allied issues regarding the execution of work on the prestigious NH-44 four laning project.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the progress on shifting of TLMD HT towers and other utilities on the new alignment of Highway four-lane project, especially in Mehar area.

He directed the concerned department to take up the shifting of tower work in time to avoid any power breakdown and untoward incident besides ensuring immediate protection of vulnerable towers. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Harbans Sharma; ACR, Gias-Ul-Haq; DFO, Ramban, Rajan Singh; DFO, Social Forestry, Mahesh Thakur; Engineers from TLMD besides other concerned officers attended the meeting. The officers discussed in detail issues related to land acquisition, Forest clearance and other allied issues regarding the execution of work on the prestigious NH-44 four laning project.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the progress on shifting of TLMD HT towers and other utilities on the new alignment of Highway four-lane project, especially in Mehar area.

Public Notice

I have lost Number Plate of my motor cycle bearing registration no JK05D 2464.Now I am applying for its duplicate if anybody have any objection in this regard He//She may contact ARTO Sopore within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

AJAZ AHMAD KHAN S//O MOHD MAQBOOL KHAN R/O DOLIPORA KREERI

Public Notice

I Have lost RC of my vechile M | Cycle Ragistration No JK05K | 1856 somewhere at home .Now I have Applied for its Dublicate. If any body have any objection he may contact ARTO Office Baramulla within the period of 07 days .After That No objection will be entartained.

Name Ab Rasheed Rather S/O:-Ab Ahad Rather R/O:-Tilagam Baramulla

Public Notice

My Name in School Records has been wrongly entered as Abdul Mueed Batchoo SIO Shabir Ahmad Buchoo instead of actual New name: Abu Bagar S/o Shabir Ahmed Batchoo, Now I intend to make necessary correction accordingly in my School Records. If any person having objection to it may please fill his/ her objection before the Principal Dabui Grand School International Srinagar within a period of seven days of publication of this notice falling which no any objection shall be entertained.

Name..Abu Baqar Buchoo F/o ...Shabir Ahmad Buchoo M | Name..Suhila Jan R/o... GalibAbad Salteng HMT Srinagar

Public Notice

I Abdul Rashid Kabli S/O, Sanaullah Kabli R/O No. 168 Sector No. 168, Nursing Coloney Sanat Nagar RawalPora original allottee/transferee of Plot 168 Housing Coloney and have applied for transfer of leasehold rights to freehold rights of above said plot in my favour. Objection, if any, may be conveyed to the Managing Director, J&K Housing Board, Green Belt Park, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice. However, no objection will be entertained after the expiry of the above said

Abdul Rashid Kabli S/O, Sanaullah Kabli R/O No. 168 Sector No. 168, Nursing Coloney Sanat Nagar

Sarita Chauhan tours Samba under MTMP 2.0; Assess saturation of deliverables under self employment schemes

SAMBA, FEBRUARY 28: Commissioner Secretary, Labour & Employment, Sarita Chauhan, today Samba, in contoured nection with her follow up visit under My Town My Pride 2.0 as Prabhari Officer, to assess status of saturation of deliverables under self employment schemes.

President MC Samba alongwith Councillors, district officers and departments dealing with self employment schemes besides others were present on the occasion.

Secre-Commissioner tary laid stress on saturation of self employment schemes in the Municipal Council Samba. She had a detailed discussion regarding department wise number of cases sponsored and sanctioned



besides deliberating on scope for sanction of more cases.

She exhorted upon the Councillors to disseminate the information in their areas so that more people are brought under the ambit of self employ-

fourth phase of 'Back to

Village' programme.

ment schemes. In MC Samba, 71 persons have been benefitted under different schemes of Mission Youth, DIC, KVIB and NULM involving a loan amount of Rs. 108.73 lakh with Rs 13.52 lakh as subsidy.

Commissioner Secretary asked the banks to minimise the time for disbursement of sanctioned/ sponsored cases. She also directed for holding special camps in MC Samba with participation of concerned departments, EOs, members of Council, banks in coordination with district administration to create awareness regarding self employment assistance under various schemes.

The departments dealing with self employment schemes like KVIB, DIC, NULM, Handloom/ Handicrafts, Employment explained in detail the guidelines of the schemes, eligibility criteria and quantum of financial assistance that can be

Bipul Pathak visits Badhori Panchayat; Reviews development projects

SAMBA, FEBRUARY 28: Director General, Jammu and Kashmir Institute of Management, Public Administration and Rural Development (IMPARD), Bipul Pathak, today visited Badhori Panchayat of Bari Brahamana block as Prabhari Officer.

Development Block Council Chairman Bari Council Camba, Additional Development Commissioner, Samba,

Sarpanch, BDO among other officers and PRI members were present on the occasion DG IMPARD had a detailed review of development programmes being executed in the panchayat. He took stock of grievances and demands of people of the area besides seeking follow up on several deliverables of

Bipul Pathak emphasised on saturation of deliverables under Self Employment in panchayat through various government sponsored schemes. He also laid focus on ensuring enhanced basic amenities like Electricity, Tap Water Connections, Education, Roads, Health, and others. He stressed on responsiveness and coordination of line department officials with the PRI representatives for overall development of the panchyat. DG also had discussion

on saturation of all deliverables under "Swachh Gram Programme, Jan Bhagidari, Land Passbooks, Golden Cards, completion of pending inheritance mutations, distribution of e-Shram cards, 100% Aadhar Seeding/ Penetration, rejuvenating self-employment.

5G

development of J&K UT.

"The latest 5G technology and enhanced connectivity will bridge the rural urban divide, improve productivity, generate more employment and it will ensure growth of grassroot enterprises, self help groups and knowledge connectivity for rural schools," observed the Lt Governor.

The 5G will also enable citizens and the Government to remain connected on real time basis and will assist & improve the implementation and efficacy of Government schemes and public service delivery, the Lt Governor noted.

Highlighting the digital initiatives of the government, the Lt Governor said the UT Government is providing around 440 services online for the convenience of the common man. We have also ensured the hassle free delivery of those services which are impacting the majority of our population, he added.

The e-office has made the working of the administration more transparent and accountable. On an average J&K is recording a higher number of digital transactions than many bigger states & UTs, the Lt Governor further added.

LG

on the quality of services and strengthening transparency, integrity and accountability in the system to respond to people's needs," observed the Lt Governor.

On one grievance filed by Sh Sanjay Sharma from Akhnoor regarding non-functioning of tube well in his area, the Deputy Commissioner Jammu informed the chair that it would be replaced with a new one within 3 days.

In another grievance, an applicant had urged the authorities for providing road connectivity to an ancient temple in village Bagoona, Vijaypur. The Lt Governor directed the Deputy Commissioner, Samba for necessary action.

On the grievance regarding release of due subsidy under the PMEGP Scheme, the Chairman, J&K bank apprised the chair that the issue will be resolved within 15 days. The Lt Governor asked the concerned officers to process the subsidy cases on priority to clear any backlog.

On the issue of water supply in Jaganu, Udhampur, the Deputy Commissioner informed the chair that the matter will be resolved soon as the works have already been taken up under relevant scheme. The Lt Governor also directed the Deputy Commissioner to make advance arrangements so that people do not face any issue of water supply in ensuing summer season.

In a complaint filed by an applicant from Poonch regarding delay in financial assistance under Marriage Assistance Scheme, the Lt Governor directed Deputy Commissioner, Poonch to conduct an enquiry into the matter and submit a detailed report within 15 days.

In another grievance filed by Sh Mir Irsheed Hussain regarding encroachment within the premises of Govt. Middle School Hajipora in Anantnag, directions were issued to District administration to remove encroachments from the School land and restore it as per the revenue records.

Sh Waseem Ashraf from Kupwara expressed his gratitude towards the LG led Administration for prompt resolution of the issue through JKIGRAMS regarding provision of pipes for water supply.

Ms Narinder Kour, Additional Secretary, Public Grievances cell, J&K conducted the proceedings of the LG's Mulaquat.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, Administrative Secretaries; Divisional Commissioners; Deputy Commissioners; SSPs; HoDs and other senior officers, in person and virtually, were present

MILITANTS

was active since January 2021 and Aijaz was active since May 2022.

"Incriminating materials, arms & ammunition including 01 AK-47 rifle, 01 AK-74 rifle, 01 pistol, 03 grenades, 02 pouches, 05 AK magazines, 02 pistol

magazines, 103 AK rounds, 20 pistol rounds and 02 Aadhar cards were recovered from the site of encounter," it added.
"Investigation so far revealed that both the terrorists, although joined through different terrorist

organisations, had come together to conspire and attack minorities, outsiders, other vulnerable targets and security forces," the police said. It said that they were involved in FIR No. 14/2023 of PS Litter (recent killing of Kashmir Pandit Sh. Sanjay Pandita at Achan, Pulwama), FIR No

of PS Litter (recent killing of Kashmir Pandit Sh. Sanjay Pandita at Achan, Pulwama), FIR No 82/2022 of PS Pulwama (attack on 2 outside labourers at Lajoora), FIR No 115/2022 of PS Tral (weapon snatching attempt), FIR No 76/2022 of PS Tral (OGW module which supported them for grenade lobbing) among many other cases.

ADGP Kashmir paid rich tributes to the martyr soldier and appreciated joint efforts of police and security forces for conducting such a complex operation where a hostage situation was defused tactfully and also the sanctity of the mosque was maintained.(KNS)

CS

On the occasion Commissioner Secretary, Information Technology; MD & CEO, J&K Bank; SIO, NIC; representative from H&UDD and other concerned officers were present either physically or virtually.

Dr Mehta observed that the government has launched digital services for ease of living of the public and to bring transparency in delivery of services to the citizens. He said that the IT enabled governance has reduced the gap between intent and delivery.

He maintained that the transition to Digital J&K has empowered people like never before as it has brought government to the doorsteps of people. He pointed out that the digitization of services not only ensures promptness in delivery of services but equally aids in maintaining highest degree of transparency and accountability.

He established that the endeavour of the LG administration is to bring every possible comfort to the citizens. He emphasized that there is no better way to do it but to enable them to assess all the services from the comforts of their homes. He lauded the IT Department and the local chapter of NIC for making it possible to switch to online mode of service delivery in such a short period of time.

The Chief Secretary impressed that onboarding the services on mobile applications like Umang and DigiLocker will make the services more user-friendly and easily accessible. He reiterated that the time is not far when all the citizen-centric services will be integrated with such platforms including the RAS for feedback with an additional feature of auto-appeal to ensure timely delivery and fixation of responsibility in case of any undue delay.

GARDEN

Theme Garden in Srinagar.Commissioner Secretary added that Jammu and Kashmir has huge potential for floriculture activities with modern farming technologies as game changer for J&K's economy.President Sakai International Interchange Association, Tadashi Nishiyama (Japanese Sakura Expert) while answering various queries, suggested that the government of Jammu and Kashmir should send them variety wise total number of plant material required for the proposed garden. He also assured to provide all possible technical help in this regard. The summer capital 'Srinagar' would soon have a splendid Cherry Theme Garden on the pattern of Japanese Sakura with all the modalities being finalised in this regard.

This was revealed during a virtual meeting of officers of Floriculture Department with the Japanese authorities and Union Ministry of External Affairs. Professor A K Chawla Advisor (Japan) East Asia Division MEA mediated the meeting. The meeting had elaborate deliberation on various issues regarding the project like procurement of planting material from Japan and technical guidance. "Cherry Theme Garden' is a Rs 10 crore project, an extension plan for Tulip Garden, Srinagar to make it more attractive and magnificent for the visitors. The project is being facilitated by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

TOURIST

complained of chest pain at a hotel located in Rajbagh. They said that the tourist was immediately shifted to SMHS hospital for treatment, where doctors declared him dead with the reason cited as cardiac arrest.

Meanwhile, after completion of medico-legal formalities, the body of the deceased will be handed over to his family members for last rites.

A police officer confirmed the incident and said that they have taken cognizance of the incident and further investigation into the matter is on.(CNS)

DGP

Danesh Rana, IGP (CIV), B.S Tuti, AIG Training J.S Johar and AIG (CIV) Dr. G.V Sandeep Chakravarthy attended the meeting through Video conferencing

In his opening remarks, DGP complemented the SIU officers for the work done since the creation of the Unit. He said that effective investigation is no less than a weapon in the hands of investigators to demolish the militancy ecosystem and is as important as carrying out CI operations to eradicate this menace.

He stressed upon the officers to speed up the investigation process and disposal thereof of cases on merits and enjoined upon the officers to ensure that the investigation of UAPA and other cases of special nature is foolproof, taking into account every evidence in order to achieve conviction.

DGP directed that stringent action is to be taken against the OGWs and the organizations providing any kind of support to militants, besides properties used for militant activities to be seized under law

MHA

Sources said that Union Home Minister Amit Shah deputed the officers for assessing the situation, as Union Territory is heading for scheduled local bodies and Panchayat Elections by end of this year," sources said.

The team also reviewed the progress on various centrally sponsored schemes. Issues of migrants and other refugees were also part of discussion.

The meeting among others will be attended by Additional Chief Secretary (Home) RK Goyal and Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh among others.

Recently, a high-level meeting was also held by the Union Home Ministry in New Delhi to discuss phased replacement of Army from some districts of Jammu and Kashmir and its replacement with Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). However, this issue is unlikely to figure in the meeting of the Home Ministry's team with the Jammu and Kashmir administration.

The Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP) and other Centrally Sponsored Schemes will also be reviewed at a high-level meeting of the Home Ministry team with top officials of Jammu and Kashmir administration, sources said.

A number of projects are under execution under PMDP in Jammu and Kashmir besides various works are going on under different Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

The works are progressing smoothly, they added. The Home Ministry team will return to New Delhi on March 2 and submit a detailed report to the Union Home Minister, sources said—(KNO)

LAKE

water lake, Wullar Lake in northern Kashmir has suggested that the lake hosts more than 50,000 birds.

A WCMA official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), that the bird census was carried by the WCMA in the Wullar Lake. "In the census, bird enthusiasts participated and carried

AJKPC Demands Security Audit of Political Leaders and Retired Bureaucrats

Jammu, 28/Feb/2023: While condemning and expressing serious concern over recent attacks on civilians in Kashmir including a former Panchayat member and a bank Security Guard namely Sanjay in district Pulwama of Kashmir division, All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference(AJKPC) has urged the government of India to take stringent action against the culprits and given them unprecedented punishment for their heinous acts against the humanity.

Today, while addressing a press conference Anil Sharma, President of AJKPC along with other senior functionaries of the organization have demanded security audit of leaders of the political parties and former bureaucrats residing in Jammu division and using the services of additional cops to sensitive areas of J & K.

cops to sensitive areas of J & K.

The AJKPC President alleged that Several District Police Officers(Districts SP) of Jammu zone have allotted Personal Security officers (PSOs) to the ineligible and insignificant leaders of the political parties and retired officers without even accessing any security threat to them and these people without facing any actual risk are using these PSOs as status symbol.

Sharma claimed that other than twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch most of the districts of Jammu division are peaceful but even there the district Superintends of Police have accorded PSOs to the retired officers and self claimed Netas without following any Standard operating procedure(SoP). Other than retired Officers and Netas, self acclaimed Social activists have also been provided the security cover without any actual risk.

security cover without any actual risk. He demanded immediate security audit of all such protectees who are residing in peaceful areas of Jammu region but enjoying security protocol with their political clout just to please their sense of self esteem.

Sharma requested the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Principal Secretary Home Sh R K Goyal and DGP Dilbagh Singh Singh to issue immediate orders for relieving the PSOs of all such people who actually do not need any security cover and depute these police cops to the terror effected districts of Kashmir and Jammu region.

Administration misleading people on 'Property Tax' issue: Rattan Lal Gupta

JAMMU, FEB 28: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) accused the J&K Union Territory Administration of misleading the people on the 'Property Tax' issue.

In a statement issued to media here today the senior National Conference leader while appealing to the people not to be led away by the false propaganda unleashed by the incumbent UT Administration with clarifications being issued on the issue by the bureaucrats right from the Dep uty Commissioners to top officials just to befool the people and get the said tax imposed on the people. He said that it is quite surprising to witness even the Lt Governor make ing frivolous statements quoting figures and facts that do not match the reality. He controverted the LG's statement that very meager people will have to pay property tax as maximum constructions in the city cover less than 1000 sq ft. He said that the property tax when imposed as per the mandate of the issued notification will burden about 75 to 80 per cent population residing in urban areas with property tax.Rattan Lal Gupta said that though the constructed area on ground may be less than 1000 sq ft but maximum such houses are double storied and even triple storied which means that all such small houses will exceed the floor area of 1000 sq ft by totaling all floors and thus subject to property tax. The senior NC leader clearly exposes the ill intentions of the Administration as the bureaucracy is being used as a tool to mislead the people on this vital is sue. He said that it is really unfortunate that even the high ups of LG administration making misleading statements. which are under no circumstances in the right spirit of Democracy. Further accusing the UT Administration of not matching its words with deeds, Rattan Lal Gupta said that the statements issued by the officials can't be trusted any more. He questioned the LG on his earlier promise that property tax would not be imposed in J&K without consulting the duly elected representatives. He said what was the urgency to impose property tax in J&K and break the promise made by him in a huff?

Institute of Hotel Management organizes Yuva Tourism Club activities



Srinagar, February 28, 2023An awareness session regarding 'Yuva Tourism Club' activities was organized in the Auditorium of Institute of Hotel Management, Srinagar on 28.02.2023. Besides awareness, a quiz and a painting competition as a part of Yuva tourism club activities were also organized. The event saw enthusiastic participation from the students of IHM Srinagar as well as students from various Kendriya Vidyalas. The competition was aimed at promoting tourism among the youth and creating awareness about the various tourist destinations in J&K. The quiz tested the students' knowledge about history, culture and geography of India while the painting competition gave them an opportunity to showcase their creativity and imagination.Mr. Anil Oraw, Regional Director (North) India tourism, Principal of IHM Srinagar, faculty of IHM and Kendriya Vidyala, Members of Downtown legacy tour were present at the event. Mementos and appreciation certificates were presented to winners, runners and students who participated in the

Katra traders protest against proposed Tarakote-Sanji Chhat ropeway project, observes shutdown

Jammu, Feb 28 (UNI) Hundreds of traders on Tuesday observed total shutdown in protest against proposed Tarakote-Sanji Chhat ropeway project in Katra town of Reasi district in Jammu and Kashmir.Amidst slogans, the local traders this morning took out a protest rally and staged sit-in outside office of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board. The protesting traders said that they will submit a memorandum to the Shrine Board requesting for the cancellation of the proposed passenger ropeway project between Tarakote Marg and Sanji Chhat along the 12-km track to the revered shrine atop the Trikuta hills in Reasi district.Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on February 20 during his visit to Katra, said that the tender process for a ropeway for the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine is the final phase and the project will be undertaken with "utmost sensitivity"

IRP 21st Bn bids fairwell party in the honor of 02 outgoing officers.

JAMEEL ANSARI



Jammu and Kashmir Armed police 21st Bn Organises a farewell party for its officers for attaining superannuation at its

headquarters Parihaspora Pattan. The party was headed by Commandant (CO JKAP-21st bn) were given for outgoing SP Shri Muneer Ahmad and ASI Rekh Pal Singh.

Speaking on the occassion SSP Shri Shabir Ahmad Malik appreciated the work and dedication of the officers towards their duties. The officers according to him were very punctual in their duties, honest and officers of highest integrity. Their retirement are a loss to the department but at the same time inspiration for new recruits to follow their foot steps in the interest of society and nation. He wished the officers good health and happiness in the times to come.

DYSP Shri Farooq wani also spoke on the occassion and praised the work, behaviour and conduct of the retired officers and prayed for good and healthy post retirement life.

In his introductionery speech Farooq Wani threw light on the tenure of departing officers and commended their supervisory skills, professionalism, humane nature and decision making during toughest situations.

The retiree officers also spoke on the occassion, shared their experience working on different posts and places in the department and thanked all officers/officials for organising the farewell party in their honour and promised that even after retirement they will continue to work for needy people, society and the nation.

needy people, society and the nation. On the occasion, Commandant (SSP) 21st Bn, Deputy COMMANDANT, DySP Shri Farooq wani, Senior officers of IRP 3rd bn IRP 9th bn, IRP 20th bn and other officers were also present.

Later on, the departing officers were given mementos and gifts as a goodwill gesture and SSP Shri Shabir Ahmad Malik extended best wishes for them for their future assignments

Unclaimed water bottle creates IED scare in Rajouri

M S Nazki

Jammu, An unclaimed water bottle caused panic in Panja Chowk of Rajouri with police and paramilitary CRPF rushing to the area, suspecting it to be an IED, officials said

They said at about 7:50 a.m., Police's Special Operation Group along with Bomb Disposal Squad and CRPF cordoned off Panja Chowk after information that there was unclaimed object. Without taking any chances, they said, the object was thoroughly checked.

"After inspection, it turned out to be a water bottle," a police officer told HT Asked about the panic due to it, he said, "Security establishment does not take any chances."

Exempt Schools from Property Tax Schools already under Financial stress due to situation during past 3 years

Srinagar: Private Schools Association of Jammu and Kashmir (PSAJK) has asked the government to exempt educational institutes from the ambit of property tax.

The Association said that the schools have suffered a lot during the last few years and this has plunged majority of educational institutes into a financially precarious situation. "Our schools are under huge debt. The inflation has broken back of our institutes. We cannot go for a major fee hike as we have to consider the financial situation of the parents too. In such conditions when our hands are tied, the imposition of property tax will further burden us," said the spokesperson of the Association.

The Association said that the imposition of any tax ultimately has to be borne by the end consumer and in case of schools it is the parents. "There are two ways where schools can absorb the shock of any more taxes. In first case the parents have to bear the burden as tax component will directly reflect in the fee of children. Secondly if parents are not in a position to pay more, then school will have to go for cost cutting exercise. Schools will downsize or remove facilities aiming to provide quality education to children," the spokesperson said. "In all cases it is the society that will suffer."

The Association said that under the New Education Policy (NEP) schools have to upgrade their facilities. "We have to meet the standards of NEP and for that we need to upgrade. But when we are financially unstable how can we provide quality education to children," said the Spokesperson.

The Association appealed the government to reconsider their decision to impose property tax on educational institutes keeping in view its impact on the schools and parents

BRO starts Snow clearance work on Sgr-Leh highway

Ganderbal, , 28-Feb: The snow clearance operation on 434 KM long Srinagar-Leh highway was started by Border Roads Organisation (BRO). The road was closed on January 6 this year following heavy snowfall.

A Beacon official said that the snow clearance work on the strategic highway was started from Baltal side and is going in full swing.

The sophisticated snow cutters have been pressed into service to clear the snow accumulated on the highway. However, he said that every year due to the huge avalanches at several places of Zojila Pass including Captain Morh, Shaitani Nallah, Mandir Morh, Bajri Nallah the highway is buried under 40 to 50 feet of snow and is pos-

ing a severe challenges to BRO 122RCC. He said that the road runs on mountains with deep gorge on one side. The men and machinery have to take extra precautions to avoid the loss of life and property while resulting on the road.

working on the road.

The road connecting Ladakh with the rest of India is not just a stretch of asphalt and concrete, but a lifeline for the people living in this remote region. For centuries, Ladakh has relied on this road to transport essential goods and supplies, and to connect with the outside world.

An official of BRO said that due to heavy snow, there is a chance that the Srinagar-Ladakh Highway might take a longer time to reopen than last year. (CNS) The road connecting Ladakh with the rest of India is not just a stretch of asphalt and concrete, but a lifeline for the people living in this remote region. For centuries, Ladakh has relied on this road to transport essential goods and supplies, and to connect with the outside world.

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NZ set England 258 to win series after record-breaker Williamson's century

cord-breaker Kane Williamson stroked a superb century on Monday to steer New Zealand to 483 all out in their second innings and set England a target of 258 runs to win the second Test here at the Basin Reserve.

Former captain Williamson hit 132 and Tom Blundell was last man out for 90 as the hosts fought back after being asked to follow

England were 48-1 in their second innings at stumps

delivery that nipped back from New Zealand skipper Tim Southee.

Ben Duckett was unbeaten on 23 and nightwatchman Ollie Robinson on one, leaving England needing 210 more runs on Tuesday's final day for a 2-0 series sweep.

The tourists won the first Test by 267 runs.

"We're excited about chasing that [target] down tomorrow," said England spinner Jack Leach, who



us sticking to that process. We're confident.' "We know how we want to New Zealand need nine

go about it and it's a case of wickets to pull off only the fourth victory by a side following on in the history

Williamson said of Zealand's historic bid."It's pretty exciting going into day five and we want to make sure our bowling is on. There's all to play for."The hosts resumed their second innings on Monday at 202still trailing by 24, but Williamson led the charge with his 26th Test century. It fell to England's new batting star and parttime seam bowler Harry Brook to claim Williamson's prized wicket.After

finally caught down the leg side by wicket-keeper Ben Foakes off a fine edge after a sixth-wicket partnership of 158 with Blundell.

Williamson trudged off to hearty applause from the Wellington crowd after dragging New Zealand back into the match.

It was his second standing ovation of the day, having eclipsed Ross Taylor in the morning session to become New Zealand's most prolific Test batsman with

get a hit in Indore Test Indore, Feb 28 (UNI) Ravi Shastri wants to see Shub-

Shastri wants Gill to see him

man Gill given another chance during the remaining Border-Gavaskar Tests against Australia.

Despite some impressive recent form against both the red-ball and in the limited overs arena, Gill has been overlooked for the opening two Tests against Australia as selectors have opted for more experienced options at the top of India's batting order.

Gill hit his maiden Test century against Bangladesh

in December and has put his name at the forefront of selectors' minds with four white-ball centuries for his country - including a magnificent 208 in an ODI against New Zealand last month - already this year. Shastri was speaking with host Sanjana Ganesan on the most recent episode of The ICC Review and the former national coach believes the time is right for Gill to be parachuted back into India's XI and be given another opportunity to show his wares.

"He (Gill) is that good at the moment and whether he scores or doesn't score, on form, on merit, he deserves a chance," Shastri said

Automatic qualifiers for ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 confirmed

Dubai, Feb 28 (UNI) The automatic qualifiers for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 have been identified after the end of the eighth edition of the tournament that saw Australia win their sixth titleEight teams earn direct qualification while remaining two spots to be identified through a Global QualifierAs per the qualification process, the top three teams from each group earn direct qualification along with the hosts and the highest ranked team outside of the six direct qualifiers from the 10-team tournament.Australia, New Zealand and South Africa are the teams to earn direct qualification as the top three teams of Group 1 in the league stage while England, India and the West Indies similarly make it from Group 2.Bangladesh qualify as hosts of the ninth edition of the tournament while Pakistan make it by virtue of being the next highest ranked team in the ICC Women's T20I Team Rankings as of February 27, 2023.

India U-17s determined to dish out better fare against Qatar

New Delhi, Feb 28 (UNI) The India U-17 Men's National Team will take on their Qatar counterparts in the second friendly match at the Aspire Academy in Doha, Qatar, on Tuesday. The Blue Colts will be looking to make a comeback in their second game after they suffered a 1-3 defeat at the hands of the same rivals on Saturday. Head coach Bibiano Fernandes sounded upbeat on the eve of the game."The mood in the camp is great. Yes, we faced defeat in the first game, but the boys are determined to get back in the second match and get a positive result against Qatar. This is the kind of determination one always looks for in the players, and I hope that we can erase our mistakes from the last game and move

Starc still feels discomfort in finger but eyes return for third Test

SYDNEY: Australian paceman Mitchell Starc said he still feels some discomfort in his finger after snapping a tendon in a fielding mishap in December but he expects to return to the side for the third Test against India beginning on Wednesday at Indore.

The left-armer suffered the injury to the middle finger of his bowling hand and was sidelined as Australia lost the opening two Tests of the four-match series against India. With skipper Pat Cummins and batter David Warner ruled out of the contest, the tourists are likely to welcome back Starc and all-rounder Cameron Green.

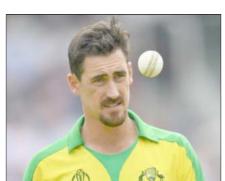
"There's going to be a level of discomfort for a while, I don't think it is going to be 100% for a fair while," Starc said on Monday. "But it's certainly good enough. The ball's coming out quite nicely and I feel I'm pretty much at full tilt.

"It wouldn't be the first Test match I've played in some sort of discomfort. If I only played when I was at 100% I would have only played five or 10 Tests.

"I'm happy with where it's at and I've got enough of a pain threshold to deal with that stuff over the last 10 or 12 years.'

Cummins has returned home to be with his ailing mother, leaving Steve Smith, who captained Australia between 2015 and 2018, to lead the side in his absence.

Starc felt the quicks still had a big role to play in the series, which has so far favoured



the spinners. "It's been a challenge in the last couple of weeks, the first two Tests," he said.

"We do see spin playing a huge part in this Test series but the quicks have still played a particular role, whether it be with the new ball, if it does reverse-swing, and being able to bowl that skiddy ball and bring the stumps into play.

"So there's certainly an important role to play for the seam bowlers." "It wouldn't be the first Test match I've played in some sort of discomfort. If I only played when I was at 100% I would have only played five or 10

"I'm happy with where it's at and I've got enough of a pain threshold to deal with that stuff over the last 10 or 12 years."

Messi recognized as best football player of 2022: FIFA

Switzerland, Feb 28 (UNI) Lionel Messi who plays as a forward for Paris Saint-Germain Football Club and for Argentina's national football team, has been honored with the best player of 2022 award by the FIFA. The Best FIFA Football Awards 2022 ceremony was held in Paris on Monday. Kylian Mbappe from the French national team, who also plays for Paris Saint-Germain as a forward, and Karim Benzema, who plays for Real Madrid, were nominated for the award alongside with Messi.

Messi won the World Cup in Qatar in December 2022 for the first time in his career and was chosen the best player of the championship.In the final match Argentina bested France in a series of penalty. Mbappe scored a hat trick in the game. Having successfully scored 8 times during the championship, he became the best player of the World Cup 2022.

Benzema missed the World Cup because of a trauma and announced his withdrawal from the national team in December. As a Real Madrid player he won Champions League, UEFA Super Cup and Spanish national Championship in 2022. In October, he won the Golden Ball for the first time in his

Alexia Putellas was recognized as the Best FIFA Women's Player for the second year in a row. She plays for Barcelona and won



her second Golden Ball in 2022. Messi won the World Cup in Qatar in December 2022 for the first time in his career and was chosen the best player of the championship. In the final match Argentina bested France in a series of penalty. Mbappe scored a hat trick in the game. Having successfully scored 8 times during the championship, he became the best player of the World Cup

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