

# HEADLINES TODAY

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## News Brief

### Budgam girl gets award for directing short film 'Kayam' at New Delhi

Delhi, Mar 18, : A girl from Central Kashmir's Budgam district bagged an award for directing a short film 'Kayam' in New Delhi. Sabahat Qayoom, a Class 10 student hails from Parewa village of Budgam. Due to her Board exam, the award was received by her uncle, one of the organizers told the news agency Kashmir News Trust over phone from New Delhi.

Sabahat Qayoom along with Creative Director Anil Kumar Singh directed 'Kayaam' which is a 6-minute short film. It was today in Hindi language with English subtitles under the aegis of the 18th International Film and Photography Festival, 'PRISM' by JIMS, Delhi at IIMC Auditorium, New Delhi.

This film shows the story of 'children of God' who have found, not just a home away from home, but also success in life.

### Police held 5 'extortionists' in North Kashmir's Baramulla

Srinagar, Mar 18, : Police in North Kashmir's Baramulla district have apprehended five 'goons' resorting to intimidation, extortion, and blackmailing.

A police spokesperson said that Police Station Sheeri at Baramulla received a written complaint from a man wherein he stated that on 27 February last month, he was assaulted by five 'drug addicts' who looted Rs 20,000 from him while he was back home near Shalteng Sheeri area.

The police spokesperson said that a case was registered in this regard and after hard efforts all five accused men were arrested and a booked while extortion money was also recovered from them.

The police identified these extortionists as namely Nasir Dar son of Amin of Shalteng Sheeri, Irshad Malla son Ghulam Din, Umar Akbar Ganaie son of Akbar Ganaie, Tajamul Bashir Malla son of Bashir Malla and Waseem Malla son of Manzoor Malla all residents of Sheeri Baramulla. [KNT]

### Pulwama op called off as militants escape

Srinagar, Mar 18 (UNI) Security forces have called off an operation in Kashmir's Pulwama district as the militants who engaged forces in a brief firefight managed to escape, officials said on Saturday.

The militants and the security forces exchanged fire in the early hours on Saturday at Mitrigam area of Pulwama during an anti militancy operation which was launched by joint forces after an input about presence of militants. "It appears the terrorists fled in the initial stages of the operation," a security official said. "Searches were carried out for several hours later but no fresh contact was established."

He said the security forces called off the operation on Saturday. This year, security forces have shot dead five militants in three gunfights this year.

### 2 SKUAST-K innovators bag National Aggnite Award at NARM Hyderabad

Srinagar, Mar 18 (UNI) Two student innovators, Rafiya Mushtaq and Sameena Lone,

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## Steps Underway to Boost Handloom, Handicraft Sector Across UT : LG Manoj Sinha. UT Level Awards Presented to Artisans

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, MARCH 18: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha presented the UT Level Award to the Artisans at Raj Bhavan auditorium today. The Lt Governor congratulated all the award winners for their commendable service to preserve and promote priceless cultural and artistic heritage. The Lt Governor said administration has taken several important steps to boost handicraft and handloom sector.

We are committed to provide training, design, technology, financial and



other infrastructure support that will significantly contribute to the growth of this sector and earnings of artisans, he added. The Lt Governor said an unprecedented growth has been recorded in the last three months and this sector has registered Rs 729 crore worth export despite the instability in the global market and it shows the collective efforts of artisans and handicraft

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### Lt Governor dedicates newly constructed Durga Bhawan to the devotees of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi

KATRA, MARCH 18: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha inaugurated the newly constructed Durga Bhawan at the Holy Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, today. The Lt Governor sought the blessings of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi and dedicated the facility to the devotees. Congratulating the entire team of Mata

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## Asia's largest Tulip garden in Srinagar all set to open for tourists

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Mar 18(UNI) Asia's largest Tulip garden located on the foothills of Zabarwan in Srinagar is all set to open for the tourists from Sunday onwards, officials said.

The sprawling garden located near the banks of world famous Dal Lake with about 16 lakh colourful Tulip bulbs is likely to be inaugurated by the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday afternoon for the public.

This year four new Tulip varieties with a rainbow of colors - Cap knowya, sweet heart, hamilton and



christmas dream- imported from Holland, will add to the charm of the garden, an official told UNI.

The garden usually contains 68 colourful varieties of Tulip bulbs besides eye-catching flowers of daffodil, hyacinth, muscari, spring blooming shops besides plum

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## Div Com Kmr inspects physical work progress on Z-Morh tunnel

HT NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL, MARCH 18: The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bihuri today took an extensive tour of Sonamarg area where he inspected the ongoing work process on Z-Morh tunnel.

During the visit, the Div Com was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyambir, Tehsildar Gund and other concerned.

On the occasion, the Div Com was briefed about the progress made on various works of Z-Morh tunnel including construction of approach roads, lanes, protective walls and drains besides other affiliated works of the project.

After the physical inspection of East & West Portals of Z-Morh tunnel, the



Div Com stressed upon speeding up the construction work by engaging more men and machinery. Pertinently, the Z-Morh tunnel

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## Militants give slip to forces after brief exchange of fire in Pulwama

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Mar 18: After a brief exchange of fire in the wee hours of Saturday, the militants have managed to give a slip to government forces in Mitrigam village of South Kashmir's Pulwama district, officials said Saturday.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), that a joint team of Police, Army and CRPF had launched a Cordon and Search Operation on specific information about the presence of militants in the area on Saturday.

He said that as the joint team of forces approached the suspected spot, the hiding militants fired upon them, triggering a gunfight.

He added that after the initial exchange of fire, no contact was established with the hiding militants.

The official said that cordon layers were tightened after the initial exchange of fire, however, militants managed to give a slip to forces and operation was called off. He added that after the initial exchange of fire, no contact was established with the hiding militants.

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## SIA raids Sarjan Barkati's residence, 7 other locations in Kashmir

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Mar 18: The State Investigation Agency (SIA) has carried out raids at multiple locations in central and south Kashmir districts as part of investigation with regard to a case registered at SIA.

Sources told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the sleuths of the investigating agency with the assistance of the local police and the CRPF carried out raids in summer capital Srinagar, Anantnag, Kulgam, Shopian and other districts.

He said the SIA raided the residence of Sarjan Ahmed Wagay @Barkati son of

Abdul Raziq Wagay, a resident of Reben Zainapora in Shopian district, adding that the raids are being conducted in connection with a case already registered at the SIA. Meanwhile, a statement issued to reads that SIA of J&K has launched early morning searches at eight different places to investigate the tributaries and distributaries of slush funds flowing through the known religious cleric Maulavi Sarjan Barkati of south Kashmir, ill famous for mobilising thousands onto streets during 2016 violent agitation, through his incendiary oratory.

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## 4 labourers from Bihar die, many injured in road accident in south Kashmir

LG expresses grief, DC Pulwama announces ex-gratia relief, visits SMHS, B&J

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Mar 18 (UNI) Four labourers from Bihar died and over two dozen were injured after a bus turned turtle in Jammu and Kashmir's Awantipora sub district on Saturday, officials said.

A majority of the bus passengers were labourers who were on their way to Srinagar from Jammu. Officials said the bus turned turtle this morning along the Jammu Srinagar highway near Barsoo Awantipora resulting in injuries to 32 passengers.



"The injured were shifted to a medical facility in the vicinity and four of them were declared brought dead on arrival," a health official in south Kashmir. The deceased were identified as Kaiser Alam son of Majrul Haq, Saleem son of Allawuddin, Naseeruddin son of Aslam Ansari and Rajkumar Dassie son of Shiv Dass- all residents of Bihar. The official said 10 injured people were referred to Bone & Joint hospital Srinagar, 11 to SMHS hospital Srinagar, 3 to SKIMS Soura Srinagar and six

were admitted in Sub District Hospital Pampore. "The condition of the few injured is stated to be critical," they said. Senior civil and police officials visited the spot and later went to the SDH Pampore to see the condition of injured persons. Meanwhile, J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha has issued instructions to the district administration to provide all necessary assistance to the affected persons. "I am deeply anguished by the unfortunate Bus accident in Awantipora today, in which

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## Politicians across India continue to target Govt after the arrest of Gujarat conman

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Mar 18, : The arrest of a Gujrat conman from Kashmir Valley has become a matter of debate in political circles with top politicians from across India tweeting and retweeting about the fraudster identified as Kiran Bhai Patel.

Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) MP Priyanka Chaturvedi took a swipe at the Jammu and Kashmir administration saying that when she had visited Jammu to meet the families of victims of targeted Hindu killings in Kashmir, she had been offered zilch security.

"Not that it deterred me, but as MP when I had



visited Jammu to meet the families of victims of targeted Hindu killings in Kashmir, I had been offered zilch security and here a conman manages to get z security, VIP protocol, hotel stay and mehman nawaazi. Adbhud!" The Rajya Sabha member Priyanka Chaturvedi tweeted. Former Chief Minister

of Uttar Pradesh and Samajwadi Party chief Akilesh Yadav demanded "strictest action" against the people responsible for this serious issue. "No investigation was done while giving security to Gujarat's fake officer Kiran Bhai Patel, it is playing with the security of the country. Strictest action should be taken against the people responsible for this serious issue, they should be removed from the job with immediate effect and punished," Yadav tweeted. The Aam Aadmi Party also slammed the administration for failing to identify Patel earlier. "A thug from Gujarat misused government

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## After rains, mercury drops at most places in J&K

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, March 18: Rain lashed plains in last 24 hours, leading to slight drop in mercury at most places, while as weather department on Saturday forecast more precipitation in Jammu and Kashmir till March 20. A meteorological department official here told GNS that received 1mm of rain in 24 hours till 0830 hours, Qazigund 3.8mm, Pahalgam 2.1mm, Kupwara 00mm, Kokernag 28.4mm,

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## School Edu Deptt to promote happiness zone in schools for joyful learning, cordial pupil-teacher relation

HT NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar, Mar 18: School Education Department has decided to promote happiness zones in government-run-schools for joyful learning in order to make a cordial pupil-teacher relation.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Director of School Education Jammu (DSEJ) Ravi Shankar Sharma has said, "Happiness zones need to be promoted in schools for joyful learning in order to make a cordial pupil-teacher relation."

Sharma said this in the backdrop of the proposed activities for the mega student enrolment drive for academic year 2023-24.

"It is imperative to start the enrolment drive and campaign for the session 2023-24 in all the government schools of the Jammu division by the active participation of the Teachers and School Heads including all functionaries of the School Education Department at Divisional level," Sharma said.

He also said that the new session is about to begin. "Therefore DSEJ is announcing a mega enrolment campaign starting from March-20-2023 without affecting the school work."

Stating the activities that are proposed for the campaign, Sharma said, "All schools having primary sections shall also start enrolling students in pre-primary classes."

"Existing CAL centres, ICT labs and Atal Tinkering labs are required to be put in use for e-learning," the director ordered.

He also ordered that the face-lifting of schools shall also be done for their attractive outlook. Sharma said, "List of the meritorious students needs to be displayed at suitable places in the school premises for the encouragement of students."

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## Budgam Brutal Murder Case:

# District Legal Services Authority demands action against violators for sharing videos, images of lady victim

HT NEWS NETWORK

Budgam, Mar 18, KNT: District Legal Services Authority here in Central Kashmir's Budgam district has directed the police to lodge cases against the persons who have uploaded and circulated the pictures and videos of the female victim, murdered by a carpenter in Mohandpora Soibugh area of Budgam.

In a communique to the police District Legal Services Authority Budgam has said that It has been observed that the Media and general public have been circulating the videos of the recent victim of Soibugh Budgam, who was murdered brutally. "Moreover, the pictures of the victim and the videos of her autopsy have also been uploaded

and circulated by a number of persons, thereby violating the right to wherein the identity of the victim is revealed and even her private vid-



privacy of the victim and her family. Such actions of these persons and agencies are against the law eos have been uploaded and circulated including the video of the autopsy of the deceased victim, which

is punishable under law."

District Legal Services Authority as the news agency Kashmir News Trust has asked the media and the general public to stop revealing the identity of the victim and also circulating her pictures immediately, failing which, the violators shall be booked under law.

"SSP Budgam is directed to lodge FIR against the persons who have uploaded and circulated the pictures and videos of the Victim. Further, Special Mobile Magistrate Budgam is requested to direct the concerned Social Media agencies to remove the pictures and videos of the victim from all social media platforms and also block the accounts of such violators." [KNT]

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## Scrutiny of PHH/AAY Category: Around 70% 'bogus' ration cards cancelled in Bandipora: Officials 'Surrender Ration Cards within 15 Days or Face Action'

HT NEWS NETWORK

Bandipora, Mar 18 (GNS): Around Seventy percent of 'non-deserving' households, who were holding AAY (Antyodaya Anna Yojana), PHH (Priority Households) ration cards have been weeded out from the particular categories in Bandipora district of north Kashmir, officials said on Saturday. Assistant Director, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Bandipora, Bilal Ahmad told GNS that the department has canceled around 70% of the PHH & AAY bogus ration cards in the district while the exercise to find out the authenticity of remaining 30% is in full swing. He said that among the canceled ration cards, mostly were on the names of government employees, pensioners and other financially sound households. He appealed the 'ineligible' PHH and AAY card, whose economic status has increased over the time to surrender

their ration cards in the concerned Tehsil Supply Office within 15 days, adding the department will initiate legal action after the lapse of the given time period. "Since the implementation of NFSA Act 2013 in 2016, two categories of households viz AAY & PHH identified on the basis of poorest of poor were registered for receiving ration on highly subsidized rates," reads an order issued by AD Foods Bandipora. "Since the implementation of NFSA Act 2013 more than seven (07) years have passed and reportedly the economic status of many families have improved", it reads adding "a number of representations are being received by this office on daily basis for adjusting them under AAY/PHH." "Whereas, frequent inputs have been received from various quarters that some in-eligible/non deserving households are still getting benefits of AAY/PHH Ration Cards which is quite contrary

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# DC Srinagar chairs District Level Bankers Review Committee Meet

Self Employment opportunities go up 3 fold compared to previous Financial year generating employment for 114943 youth in the district

SRINAGAR MARCH 18: A meeting of District Level Bankers Review Committee/District Consultative Committee (DLRC/DCC) was held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammed Aijaz Asad here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex to review the performance of the Banks and other Financial Institutions under various Government initiatives and sponsored schemes. At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner assessed the sector wise performance of the Banks in implementation of different Government initiatives and reviewed the achievements of Banks in lending to Priority/Non Priority sectors under Annual Credit Plan. On the occasion, the DC was apprised that an amount of Rs 2017.36 crore has been disbursed among 43197 cases in Srinagar District under different schemes thereby generating self-employment opportunities for over 114943 unemployed youth of the District during financial year 2022-23. The DC was informed that target of generating 1.50 lakh Self

Employment avenues for youth of Srinagar District is set to be achieved during current financial year which is 3 times more than the 43000 accomplished during FY 2021-22. While reviewing the bank-wise movement of CD Ratio in the District, the DC was informed that total Deposits of the District Srinagar stood at Rs 33024.07 Crore and Advance at Rs 23418.30 Crore constitute 71 percent CD Ratio in quarter ended in December, 2022. Besides, the banks operating in Srinagar have disbursed Rs. 4501.82 crore among 90904 beneficiaries under Annual Credit Plan for financial year 2022-2023, which includes Rs 1084.97 Crore under priority sector and Rs 3416.85 Crore in non-priority sector. The DC was further apprised that under Prime Ministers Mudra Yojna (PMMY) Scheme Banks operating in Srinagar have sanctioned Rs 593.46 crore among 18388 beneficiaries of the District as of February 28, 2022. Under the Pradhan Mantri Employment Generation programme (PMEGP), a total 1777 cases were sanctioned and



an amount of Rs 96.49 crore was sanctioned among beneficiaries. While reviewing performance under Mission Youth schemes, for providing self-employment,

the DC was informed that under the MUMKIN scheme, a total 109 cases have been sanctioned so far involving an amount of Rs 6.91 crore. Similarly, under TEJASWINI scheme 95 cases

have been sanctioned with an amount of Rs 3.49 crore. Similarly, under Pradhan Mantri SVANIDHI schemes, the DC was informed that Rs 7.07 crore have been disbursed among

6043 Street Vendors and almost 100 percent of target has been achieved. The DC also took over view of credit disbursement under PMF-ME scheme for which major push was given to boost Food Processing sector during last quarter. He was informed that Rs 3.01 crore has been sanctioned against 15 cases so far under the scheme and other cases are in process. The performance of RSETI, FLCs, CFLs were also reviewed during the meeting. Speaking on the occasion, the DC stressed on all the line departments and Banks operating in the District to further improve the credit facilities and educate the people about financial literacy through IEC activities besides about different banking products and government sponsored schemes particularly in rural and urban belts of Srinagar so that they can avail the benefits of such schemes by setting up income generating units. The DC also appreciated the LDM, his team and other stockholders for their work in en-

hancing CD ratio and improving their performance under priority and non priority sectors. The DC also asked the banks and all line Departments to encourage novice entrepreneurs under economic activities to inspire them for setting up viable income generating units in the district. He called upon officers to work in unison with added vigour and zeal and set realistic targets so that desired results are achieved within the set timeline. The DC emphasised on improvement of other schemes and flagship programmes of the Government and focused attention towards targets set for financial year 2023-24. Besides, Additional District Development Commissioner, Zahoor Ahmad Mir, the meeting was among others attended by Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Yaseen Lone, GM DIC, Hamida Akhtar, Lead District Manager, Abdul Majid, District officers, Cluster Heads of J&K Bank, representatives of Banks and financial institutions operating in Srinagar.

## Dr. V.K Saraswat visits ATL at GBHSS Manigam Motivates students to go further in their research & critical thinking

GANDERBAL, MARCH 18: Member NITI Aayog, Dr. VK Saraswat today visited Atal Tinkering Lab at Govt. Boys Higher Secondary School, Manigam. He was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal Shyambir, ADC Ganderbal, SDM Kangan, Tehsildar Lar, Chief Education Officer, Ganderbal, Principal BHSS Manigam and other concerned. On the occasion, Dr. VK Saraswat visited the Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL) Lab at Govt. Higher Secondary School Manigam and after that reviewed the projects made by the students working there. He lauded and praised the students and motivated them to go further in their research and critical thinking. The various projects that were presented by the students included Voice controlled Robot project, Flood detection and bridge closing system, Low cost ultrasonic glasses, etc. He was informed that 3 mentors are presently working in the ATL with 20 students having different projects. On the occasion, Dr. V.K Saraswat was informed at length about the educational scenario of the District Ganderbal. He was informed that in District Ganderbal there are a total of 5 Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) among which one is here at Boys Higher Secondary School Manigam. He was also informed about the statistics of both government and private schools and students enrolled in them.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. V.K Saraswat said that while identifying the various institutions for ATLs it was felt that Jammu and Kashmir should be given priority. And, as a result, "we have been able to set up many ATLs in this state and I am happy to learn that this school also has one of the ATLs and excellent work has been done so far", he added. The purpose of Atal Tinkering Lab is that it should be able to make our young people to think both in term of scientific area, social areas, and come out with new ideas and products and the mentors who are there in these labs will be able to support them with newer ideas and converting them into business entities, he maintained. He also highlighted the outstanding efforts of leaders, scientist's technologists, bureaucrats, who have been regularly introducing new reforms due to which the country has made tremendous progress in the last 75 years. While highlighting the objective of the new education policy, Dr. VK Saraswat said that one of the objectives of NEP is to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio to around 50 percent which is only 25 percent at present. He also emphasised on the importance of vocational education. With vocational degrees, students will have ample opportunities either to start their own business or to join some factories. This is going to improve our employment in a considerable manner, he said. Highlighting the importance of education, Dr. V.K Saraswat said our goal is that India should become a developed nation by 2047 and Education is going to play a major role as it can bring back our traditional culture, our traditional values, which will strengthen the complete ecosystem of our country both in terms of cultural.

## DC Kupwara kick-starts plantation drive at Deedikoot Over 3 lakh plant saplings are being planted in Kehmil Forest division.

KUPWARA, MARCH 18: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Dr. Doifode Sagor Dattatray today kick-started Plantation drive at Deedikoot Pyrethrum Forest Closure here by planting saplings of Chinar and Deodar trees today. The plantation drive was held under Afforestation programme of Kehmil Forest division of Kupwara district. On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the campaign has been started with the purpose to further increase the green cover in the district and in coming days more such plantation drives will be initiated in different forest compartments and panchayats of the district. Speaking on the occasion, DC Kupwara, sought the cooperation of the locals and PRIs in protection and conservation of the forests. "Kupwara district is a picturesque district due to presence of dense coniferous forests and beautiful streams. The district has vast area under forests. It is our foremost duty to protect, preserve and conserve these beautiful forests" Deputy Commissioner said. Deputy Commissioner interacted with local school children and asked them to develop the habit of planting and preserving more and more trees.



DFO Kehmil, Muhammad Ayoob Pandit on the occasion said that the Kehmil Forest division is planting over 3 lakh Deodar, Kail, apricot, wild cherry, apple, Walnut, Ash (Hardwood) and Kikker saplings in various open areas of the forest division

under CAMPA, Capex, and Har Gaon Haryali schemes. It was informed that at Hangnikoot, department has made a walnut -Wun where 400 walnut saplings are being planted. On chinar plantation it was told that more than 500 chinar saplings are

being planted at different locations at important places and community lands. It was further informed that the Kehmil Forest division is distributing 40000 male poplar saplings among farmers for planting them which are cotten-free and will prove very beneficial. Deputy Director Forest Protection Force, Ishtyaq Ahmad Tanga, Range Officers, and officials of Kehmil Forest division, PRIs of Pazipora, Karihama, Deedikoot, and Gushi Panchayats, locals besides school children of local schools participated in plantation drive. Deputy Commissioner interacted with local school children and asked them to develop the habit of planting and preserving more and more trees. DFO Kehmil, Muhammad Ayoob Pandit on the occasion said that the Kehmil Forest division is planting over 3 lakh Deodar, Kail, apricot, wild cherry, apple, Walnut, Ash (Hardwood) and Kikker saplings in various open areas of the forest division under CAMPA, Capex, and Har Gaon Haryali schemes. It was informed that at Hangnikoot, department has made a walnut -Wun where 400 walnut saplings are being planted. On chinar plantation it was told that more than 500 chinar saplings are being planted at different locations at important places.

## Director Agriculture Kashmir inaugurates distribution of vegetable/ exotic vegetable seedlings at Kulgam

Farooq Rather

SRINAGAR, MARCH 18: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today inaugurated distribution of vegetable/exotic vegetable seedlings raised on scientific lines under hi-tech poly house conditions at Kilam, Kulgam. Speaking to the farmers, Director Agriculture highlighted the importance of vegetable cultivation in the overall development of the agriculture sector for the region. He said that the department is vigorously pursuing the ambitious target of providing seedlings of different vegetable crops to the farmers of the valley and in this direction the department has already introduced many initia-



tives. Chowdhury Iqbal said that the department has established hi-tech poly houses in all the districts of Kashmir division with the aim to provide quality vegetable seedlings to the farmers of concerned districts in sufficient quantity. We are endeavoring to attract more and more educated youth towards

the vegetable sector so that they could become job providers, not the job seekers, he added. Director Agriculture appreciated the efforts of the concerned officers/officials of hi-tech poly house Kilam Kulgam and asked them to organize farmers awareness cum training programmes with the focus on vegetable cul-

tivation so that more and more farmers, Educated youth could adopt this on commercial lines. Chowdhury Iqbal said that valley wide seedling distribution will continue in a phased manner. He said demand for vegetable seedling is increasing every year as backyard farming and kitchen garden cultivation is increasing which is an encouraging trend for the overall development of the agriculture sector. Later, the Director Agriculture visited vegetable Mandi Vessu Kulgam and took stock of various agriculture activities there. Deputy Director Agriculture Planning Mohammad Younis Chowdhury, Chief Agriculture officer Kulgam, Sartaj Ahmad Shah, SDAO Qaimoh Subash Chandra.

## DLC approves 18 cases under PM-FME at Kulgam



KULGAM, MARCH 18: A meeting of District Level Committee (DLC) was held today under the chairmanship of the Additional Deputy Commissioner Vigar Ahmed Giri to discuss and approve the cases/ proposals under Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM-FME) scheme under 'one District one product (ODOP)'. During the meeting, 24 cases were tabled before the committee and after proper discussion with the candidates, the committee approved 18 cases. Among others, Chief Agriculture Officer Kulgam, Chief Horticulture Officer, LDM, Area Marketing Officer and other members of the committee attended the meeting.

## SH. Atal Dullo (IAS) financial commissioner (Addl. chief secretary) Agriculture Production JandK Visits S.M farm Tapper

Aaqib Khan

Baramulla 18: The Financial Commissioner of Agriculture Production, JandK today visited S.M farm Tapper regarding various issues. While addressing to media he said that agricultural production can prove to be a very good income source for new farmers and youth. He also said that day-by-day vegetable production is increasing and 19 lacks metric tons are currently produced within JandK and the goal is to produce 25 lakhs of metric tons of vegetables. He also said that our controlling authority constantly checks for fake fertilizers and pesticides in the market and also aims to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and switch



to organic fertilizers. He also shared his ideas regarding the construction of poly houses in jandk for regular and constant production of seeds and seedlings so farmers would not face any difficulty. The Financial Commissioner of Agriculture Production, JandK today visited S.M farm Tapper regarding various issues. While addressing to

media he said that agricultural production can prove to be a very good income source for new farmers and youth. He also said that day-by-day vegetable production is increasing and 19 lacks metric tons are currently produced within JandK and the goal is to produce 25 lakhs of metric tons of vegetables. He also said that our controlling authority.

## NCERT's 3-day HOTS Workshop concludes Experts Bat on Transforming Assessment Practices

SRINAGAR, MARCH 18: A three-day workshop on "Transformation of Assessment Practices at Secondary Stage" organized by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), New Delhi, in collaboration with the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) at the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) auditorium, Bemina concluded here, today.

Besides the NCERT experts, the workshop brought together several school boards, teachers, and other stakeholders from across the country, who worked hard over three days to figure out how secondary assessment practices could be transformed in light of the NEP-2020 postulates. Prof. P C Agarwal, Principal Regional Institute of Education (RIE), Bhubaneswar, Associate Prof Sukhvinder, NCERT, Dr Sandhya Sangai, NCERT and Kuldeep Agarwal, former Director (Academic and Vocational Education) from the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) who serves as an independent consultant to the NIOS, Dr Arif Jan, Deputy Director, Academics, JKBOSE, Anita Devraj, former Principal, DAV and Ekyimo Shitre, Joint Secretary, Nagaland BOSE were the prominent names who participated in the workshop. In his welcome address,



Mohammad Sharif Dehdar, Joint Director SCERT, urged the organisers to ensure that whatever is learned during these workshops and programmes is translated into action on the ground. Outlining the workshop's objectives, Prof Sukhvinder said the primary goal of this three-day activity is to collaborate with all school boards to bring qualitative improvement to all stages of school education in the country. "We have held multiple workshops of this nature previously with the goal of putting NEP-2020 examination reforms into practice," he said adding, "We will have to deal with the Parakh, the national assessment centre—mandate at some point, and will be concentrating more on how to create test items that support higher order thinking skills."

## Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances worth Rs.19 Cr destroyed at Pulwama

PULWAMA, MARCH 18: Continuing the drive to eliminate drug menace, Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances worth Rs 19cr seized in various FIRs was destroyed by the Committee of Officers Constituted by the Principal District & Sessions, Judge, Pulwama, Na-seer Ahmad Dar. The Committee was headed by Munsiff, Pulwama, Faizan I Nazar while other members included Tehsildars of Pulwama and Pampore, Public Prosecutor, DySP Hqr. Pulwama, Dy. SP DAR Awantipora, Field Officer Pollution Control Board, Chief Administrative Officer to PD&SJ Pulwama and all SHOs of PDs Awantipora and Pulwama besides others. The Committee destroyed the NDPS scientifically at IGC Lassipora in Kashmir Health Care Systems, the only facility in the valley for scientific disposal of bio-medical Waste. The destruction process was video-graphed by the team deputed by the Crime Branch. Committee recorded appreciation for efforts and logistic support provided by SDPO Litter and IC PP Lassipora and specially expressed gratitude to Bashir Ahmad Wani of Kashmir Health Care System for his appreciable role in prioritising the destruction in his unit. The Committee destroyed the NDPS scientifically at IGC Lassipora in Kashmir Health Care Systems, the only facility in the valley for scientific disposal of bio-medical Waste. The destruction process was video-graphed by the team deputed by the Crime Branch. Committee recorded appreciation for efforts and logistic support provided by SDPO Litter and IC PP Lassipora and specially expressed gratitude to Bashir Ahmad Wani of Kashmir Health Care System for his appreciable role in prioritising the destruction in his unit.

## Justice (Rtd.) Ali Mohammad Magray presides Seminar on 'Social Reforms and Our Responsibilities' at GDC Baramulla

BARAMULLA, MARCH 18: Human Aid Society in collaboration with District Administration Baramulla and other NGOs today held an impressive daylong seminar with the theme 'Social Reforms and Our Responsibilities' at Government Degree College Baramulla, here.

The Seminar was presided over by Ex. Chief Justice Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, Justice (Rtd.) Ali Mohammad Magray as chief guest while as Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar participated as the guest of honour.

President Municipal Council Baramulla, Principal GDC, Scholars and other Higher dignitaries also showed their enthusiastic participation in the seminar.

Speaking on the occasion, Justice (Rtd.) Ali Mohammad Magray remarked that while facing challenges in life, transformation is the need of the hour and transformation includes not only the individual's structural change, but also structural change in the social world. He added that welfare of the society is possible only when all the stakeholders play their constructive role in their respective domains.

The chief guest while deliberating on various social evils said that it is our collective responsibility



to give our part in contributing to nation building by focusing on building the careers of the youth in particular.

He also added that social injustice is a threat to the stability and sustenance of a society and every effort should be made to ensure that justice and equality prevail

which ultimately leads to social reforms.

He further said smooth delivery of justice will be ensured only if the govt functionaries and other stakeholders perform their duties with open conscience and with full devotion.

Appreciating the role of NGOs,

Justice Magrey said these organizations need to be strengthened as they play an important role in social justice and empowerment.

Addressing the Seminar, Dr Sehrish asserted that rights and duties go hand in hand and everyone should identify his/her role in the society.

The DC while pointing out the youth said that they have capabilities and can do wonders not only for themselves but for their families, for society, nation as well as for the country.

Dr Sehrish said that among other social evils existing in the society, the drug abuse poses a serious challenge to our society and urged different sections of the society to act vibrantly.

Enlisting various initiatives that are being taken towards youth engagement and empowerment, DC said that the young generation is more vulnerable and the need is to target this section through their constructive engagement towards productive pursuits.

President, Municipal Council Baramulla while speaking on the occasion said that social reform holds the key not only for reducing distress but also for changing personal and community/social life in ways that can provide conducive conditions for a constructive and positive approach to life, unleashing creativity and improving the world.

During the Seminar, a series of lectures were also delivered by the resource persons who deliberated on the social issues and also highlighted the role of every individual towards social reforms.

## Consultation Workshop on Forest Rights Act held in Budgam

Budgam March 18 A consultation workshop on Forest Rights Act (FRA) was organised by Action Aid India on Saturday in Chadoora Budgam. The meeting was attended by senior officers from Tribal Affairs Department, Forest & Revenue Departments. Members of village Forest Rights Committees (FRCs) and prominent citizens from Doodh Ganga forest range in Budgam also participated in the meeting. While speaking during the consultation workshop Special Secretary Tribal Affairs Department Mohammad Haroon Malik said that people had rights like the Forest Rights Act in past also when Sir Walter Lawrence did land settlement in J&K around 1890, but after enactment of FRA these rights have been properly identified and people have not only individual and community forest rights but they have rights over the local non forest timber produce (NTFP) as well. He said that Govt of India has launched a scheme called Van Dhan Yojna wherein J&K Tribal Affairs Department has made a MoU with the Cooperatives Department for setting up Self Help Groups (SHGs) for Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFDs). These SHGs can collect the minor forest produce at their own level and process the same. The Tribal Affairs Department will help in market linkages as well so that they get better returns from the same of these products" said Mohamad Haroon Malik. Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Chadoora P N Hamid who is also the Chairperson of Sub Division Level Committee under Forest Rights Act in Chadoora Budgam in his address said that tribals and other traditional forest dwellers must focus on the education of their children. He said that under FRA several community forest rights have been already given to people in Doodh Ganga forest range especially and the administration was working to remain more focussed on this in future. SDM Chadoora said that he will be happy to hold more such workshops in future.

## Kishtwar: Agriculture Department organises awareness camp at Jawalapur

KISHTWAR, MARCH 18: A farmer awareness camp was organised at panchayat Jawalapur, block Bounjwah today in which farmers were made aware about Kharif crops technical know-how and department schemes for farming community.

Kharif vegetable seeds were displayed for sale at 50% subsidies rate. More than 40 progressive farmers participated from various villages of block Bounjwah. JAEO Ajay Chander Sharma apprised them about soil health, KCC, organic farming and other schemes.

AEO Binoo Ampy Singh Sundyal thanked farmers for their participation and encouraged them to welcome upcoming Holistic Agriculture Development Program with enthusiasm.

## DC Rajouri discusses bottlenecks hampering execution of developmental projects

RAJOURI, MARCH 18: Deputy Commissioner, Vikas Kundal held a meeting to discuss forest clearance issues, land compensation and developmental bottlenecks on projects executed by different departments in the district.

The DC highlighted the importance of proper forest clearance procedures for ecologically responsible development projects. He called for stakeholders to work together to ensure minimal environmental damage. A detailed discussion on land compensation and other issues was held.

The DC proposed measures to fast-track development process and improve coordination with government departments for timely completion of projects. He directed authorities to resolve legal issues arising from delay in forest clearance or land compensation. DFO Rajouri, Arshdeep Singh; DFO Nowshera, Neelima; ADC Koreranka, Surinder Mohan Sharma; ADC Sunderbani, Vinod Kumar; ACR, Imran Rashid Kataria; Xen PWD(R&B) Rajouri, Maqbool Hussain; Xen PMGSY Rajouri, Subash Chander and other concerned officers attended the meeting. The DC proposed measures to fast-track development process and improve coordination with government departments for timely completion of projects. He directed authorities to resolve legal issues arising from delay in forest clearance or land compensation. DFO Rajouri, Arshdeep Singh; DFO Nowshera, Neelima; ADC Koreranka, Surinder Mohan Sharma; ADC Sunderbani, Vinod Kumar; ACR, Imran Rashid Kataria; Xen PWD(R&B) Rajouri.

## Dulloo inaugurates medicinal, Aromatic Park at Lalmandi

SRINAGAR, MARCH 18: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo, today inaugurated Medicinal and Aromatic Park at floriculture development scheme Lalmandi here with plantation of some aromatic and medicinal plants.

Speaking on the occasion, ACS highlighted the importance of commercial cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants. He said that "Promotion of commercial cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants" is one among the 29 projects, approved by the government after being recommended by the UT level apex committee for holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors in J&K.

While speaking on several aspects of medicinal and aromatic plants sector, Atal Dulloo impressed upon the officers to increase awareness among the educated youth regarding the commercial cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants. He said that development of medicinal plant sector in J&K has great scope for providing employment to the people as there is a huge market for medicinal and aromatic plants in the country.



ACS also visited Kitchen garden and mushroom development scheme of the department and took stock of various interventions adopted by the concerned wings.

Later, Dulloo visited S.M Farm Tapper Kreeri. He inspected different blocks of the farm and had an interactive session with the officers and technical experts of the farm.

Interacting with the concerned officers, he said that department has already taken a number of steps to strengthen the departmental farms. He said these farms have to work as centres of excellence for farmers and agri pruners in coming times.

The visiting dignitary was apprised by the concerned officers about the various

new interventions applied by the farm this year.

Director Agriculture Kashmir Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal, Joint Director extension, Joint Director inputs, Joint Director Apiculture and Mushroom, Director Rakhs and farms, Joint Director Agriculture Planning and other senior officers were present on the occasion. Different schemes. Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo, today inaugurated Medicinal and Aromatic Park at floriculture development scheme Lalmandi here with plantation of some aromatic and medicinal plants.

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## Reliance Jio telecommunications Launched awareness rally from Budgam to Pampore, State head Shehzan Hameed flagged off the rally



Budgam, 18 March: Reliance JIO telecommunications Budgam organized 5G awareness rally from DC office Budgam to Pampore. In this rally about hundred bikers participated and were holding hoardings, banners in their hands. In this awareness program State head "Mr. Shehzan Hameed" and other employees of the company were present and were seen fully enthusiastic about the launch of 5G services. JIO 5G will improve internet speed and will help students in online mode of education without any buffering and will improve usage of technology in health sector i.e. Through online mode specialists can treat patients anytime through online mode, especially at the time of emergency. JIO 5G will increase the

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## DLC clears land use case in Rajouri

RAJOURI, MARCH 18: The District Level Committee on Change of Land Use met in Rajouri today, chaired by Deputy Commissioner, Vikas Kundal. The committee approved one case of conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes.

The DC directed concerned departments to ensure timely issuance of NOCs to applicants after proper verification of documents and rules under land conversion Regulations, 2022.

Officers in attendance included DFO Rajouri Arshdeep Singh; GM DIC Ashwini Sharma; ACR Imran Rashid Kataria; CAO Sohan Singh; SE PWD (R&B) Kamal Kishore; DO PCB Anupam Koul and other officers.

## Haath Se Haath Jodo Prog launched to connect with people at grass roots: Rajni Patil

okernag March 18: All India Congress Committee (AICC) J&K Incharge and MP Rajni Patil Saturday stated that ongoing Nationwide Haath Se Haath Jodo Programme was launched to connect with the people at grass roots across the country and make the Modi Govt accountable and answerable to people for failing them on all counts. Patil also hit out at the Central Govt for the alienation among the people reiterating that democratic rights must be restored in J&K, without any further loss of time. AICC Incharge was

in Larnoo (Kokernag) in Anantnag District of South Kashmir to participate in Haath Se Haath Jodo Programme.

JKPCC President Vikar Rasool Wani and AICC Coordinator Bharatsinh led the party's significant movement 'Haath Se Haath Jodo' and also addressed a largely attended gathering of people, who had come to participate in the programme despite the inclement weather conditions over there. AICC Joint Secretary Manoj Yadav also participated in the programme. Speaking on the

occasion AICC Incharge Rajni Patil asserted that Congress Party shall continue to launch mass contact programmes to reach out to people in every block and at village level and seek their support for their betterment and redressal of multiple issues concerning them, which are being ignored by the Govt thereby exhibiting its failure on all counts.

People are feeling suffocated and harassed under the ruling dispensation at Centre which is fully responsible for the unprecedented economic crisis, price rise,

unemployment, lack of development at grass roots, Patil added and said Govt is making false tall claims in Parliament with regard to development, security, empowerment of women, economy etc and termed these as misleading and fabricated stories to hide failures. Referring to the J&K Situation, Patil said people are feeling alienated due to the BJP's certain misadventures and decisions such as undemocratic downgrading of State and snatching rights of people especially abandoning them of their democratic

## V.C KVIB presides over Interaction programme at Tarzoo, Sopore

BARAMULLA, MARCH 18: Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat, Vice Chairperson J&K KVIB today presided over an Interactive Session with educated unemployed youth and aspirant entrepreneurs at Tarzoo, Sopore.

The programme was also attended by officers from district administration/banks, senior officers from Board, and a large number of aspirant entrepreneurs and educated unemployed youth of the area.

During the programme, the officers gave detailed presentations about the modalities involved in implementation of em-

ployment generation programmes viz. PMEGP etc. The stakeholders were informed that these schemes are online and aspirant entrepreneurs can apply online for availing financial assistance under these schemes.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Hina stated that J&K KVIB is working in a focused manner to ensure that the benefits of Employment Generation Schemes viz. PMEGP and JKREGP are percolated among the target population and enjoined upon the prospective entrepreneurs especially women to come forward and channelise their ener-

gy for Nation building by establishment of micro enterprises.

The Vice Chairperson informed that during the current financial year, Margin Money of Rs. 131.46 crores has been released by J&K KVIB for establishment of 6000 units thereby creating employment opportunities for 46640 persons; out of which margin money of Rs. 87 crores for 4195 units has been released in favour of entrepreneurs of Kashmir Division while as margin money of Rs. 44.46 crores for establishment of 1805 units has been released in Jammu Division. She added that during the

last three years, margin money of Rs. 61.25 crores involving bank loan of Rs. 166.25 crores have been released in district Baramulla for establishment of 2789 units thereby envisaging employment opportunities for 21862 persons.

Earlier, the Vice Chairperson interacted with various delegations. She assured that every kind of hand-holding support shall be extended to aspirant/prospective entrepreneurs to ensure hassle free processing of their proposals both at Implementing Agency as well as at bank level.

## DC Kulgam distributes Vegetable seed kits among WFSGs

KULGAM, MARCH 18: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today distributed hybrid vegetable seed kits among Women Food Security Groups (WFSGs) of district Kulgam in convergence with JKN-RMLM.

This distribution camp was organised by Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare Department Kulgam at Rest house Chawalgam under Sub mission on Agriculture Extension (SAME), here.

In his address, the DC emphasized the importance of quality seeds and other inputs for profitable crop production. He impressed upon the members of WFSGs to adopt modern scientific approaches to ensure sustainability and profitability in the farming sector.



ADDC, Showkat Ahmad who also attended the programme stressed on marketing of surplus produce by adoption of e-marketing.

Chief Agriculture Officer Kulgam, Sartaj Ahmad Shah said that Kashmir valley is blessed with the diverse agro climate and distinct seasons making it special place to grow wide

range of vegetables including both local and exotic crops which are high in demand and have export potential both at national and international market besides generation of large number of employment opportunities.

He assured the members regarding every technical support by the department in attaining food security,

sustainability and to improve the livelihood.

On the occasion Shabeer Ahmad Mir (District Resource Person HADP) highlighted the role of women in addressing the issue of food and nutritional security at domestic or household level.

He said, vegetable production will prove as a boon in achieving food security through setting up of vegetable gardens besides promoting other off-farm activities.

He discussed low cost technology methods to attain sustainability in food production and environmental resources.

Dr. Nisar Ahmad Dar Technical Officer, advised participants to follow the guidelines and advisories issued by the department for betterment of the farming community.

## DC Baramulla chairs DLMC meeting; takes stock of progress of FPOs

### 04 Blocks designated to NAFED for formation of new FPOs

BARAMULLA, MARCH 18: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Dr. Syed Sehrish Asgar today chaired a District Level Monitoring Committee (DLMC) meeting for formation of Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) in the district. The meeting was attended by all the major line departments besides all Cluster Based Business Organization operating in the district. The DLMC meeting was convened by its Member Secretary CSS FPO and was organised to review the progress of the existing FPOs in the district and for approval of new blocks of the district for formation of new FPOs during the FY 2022-23.



During the presentation given by the member Secy CSS-FPO, Zubair Wasil gave an overview of the schemes and briefed that among 18 functional FPOs in the district, 05 FPOs are working

with NABARD, 09 with SFAC and rest 04 FPOs are with NAFED. During the presentation, he discussed the progress of the FPOs in the district and shared the suggestion of improving the market visibility in the district. Dr. Sehrish while speaking on the occasion emphasised on CBBOs to work in tandem with the farmers and add value in the produce of the farmer members so that the farmers get confidence in the FPO so that it should become the medium for them to explore more possibilities in forming the FPO. She also suggested that FPO should not be a one man; rather every member who is involved in the FPO.

## HEADLINES TODAY

## HT EDITORIAL

## Road Safety Measures of Kashmir's Narrow Roads and Lanes

Road safety is an essential aspect of our daily lives that cannot be ignored. It is a critical issue that requires attention from policymakers, law enforcement agencies, and the public. The situation in Kashmir with regards to road safety is a matter of concern. The region has witnessed a rise in road accidents in recent years, and needs enough attention. The statistics for road accidents in Kashmir are alarming. Kashmir alone accounted for 2206 road accidents in 2022 claiming the lives of more than 200 people. Following the trend of the past three years, Srinagar city again topped the list by reporting 53 fatalities in 426 accidents. The majority of these accidents were caused by human error, including reckless driving, speeding, and driving under the influence of drugs. Road infrastructure, including poor road conditions, inadequate street lighting, and a lack of signage, is also a contributing factor to accidents. One of the primary causes of road accidents in Kashmir is reckless driving. Many drivers ignore traffic rules and regulations, leading to a rise in accidents. Speeding, overtaking from the wrong side and running red lights are common occurrences on the roads in the region. It is crucial to raise awareness among drivers about the importance of adhering to traffic rules and regulations. Driving under the influence of drugs is another significant cause of road accidents in Kashmir. It is essential to enforce strict penalties to deter such behavior. Road infrastructure in Kashmir is a major cause for concern. Poor road conditions, including potholes and uneven surfaces, make driving dangerous. A lack of street lighting in many areas of the region makes it difficult for drivers to see the road ahead, leading to accidents. To address the issue of road safety in Kashmir, a multi-pronged approach is required. Education and awareness campaigns must be launched to promote safe driving practices. Drivers must be made aware of the importance of adhering to traffic rules and regulations. It is crucial to educate the public about the dangers of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Law enforcement agencies must also play their part in enforcing traffic rules and regulations. They must be vigilant in detecting and penalizing drivers who engage in reckless behavior. There should be strict penalties for those who violate traffic rules and must be held accountable for their actions. Road infrastructure in Kashmir must also be improved. Potholes and uneven surfaces must be repaired, and proper signage and street lighting must be installed. Roads must be constructed to high standards to ensure the safety of drivers and pedestrians. Community involvement is also critical in addressing road safety in Kashmir. Local residents must be encouraged to report any unsafe road conditions to the authorities. Community leaders, including religious leaders, can play a vital role in promoting safe driving practices and raising awareness about the importance of road safety. In conclusion, road safety is a critical issue in Kashmir that requires urgent attention. The rise in road accidents is a cause for concern, and it is essential to address the root causes of the problem through education and awareness campaigns, law enforcement, and infrastructure improvements must be adopted. Community involvement is also essential in addressing road safety in the region to create a safer environment for drivers and pedestrians in Kashmir so that families don't lose their loved ones without having to bid a last good bye.

## WOMAN. THE BEST CREATURE



Penned by Yasmee Ahad

The woman is the most beautiful creature. With her, are your present, past, and future. As mother, she brought you into this world. Nurture you and make you happy and bold. She holds your hand for a short time. But in her heart, you remain all the time. Her love is pure and pious. For you alone, she is so courageous. She must not be so smart and pretty. Her care and concern are natural and heavenly. As sister, she is your best friend. every trouble and sorrow she mends. Your childhood becomes interesting and best, She protects and remains closest. As wife, she becomes part of you. Consider your her king that's true. she loves helps and Comforts you, sacrifices everything she has, just for you. You became an important person in her life. She shares your sorrows and happiness in her life. As a daughter, she completes your life. You became Superman throughout her life. Her love and hugs remove your trouble, You became so adorable and respectable.

## The impact of corruption on the future of youth

Corruption poses a threat to their success by limiting their opportunities and impeding their potential.

education. This creates a cycle of poverty and inequality that prevents the youth from succeeding in life.

hinders the youth's ability to succeed but also undermines their sense of justice and fairness, resulting in a loss of faith in the system.

To combat corruption and safeguard the future of our youth, we must take action at all levels of society. This includes government officials, private businesses, and individuals. We need to establish a culture of transparency and accountability where corrupt practices are brought to light and punished. Additionally, we must invest in education and employment opportunities for the youth to ensure that they have the tools and resources necessary to succeed. In summary, corruption poses a significant threat to the future of our youth. It restricts their potential and curtails their opportunities for growth and development. To ensure their success and the success of our society, we must take action to combat corruption and establish a fair and just society that recognizes the potential of our youth.

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By Shahid Bashir

“Corruption is the enemy of development, and of good governance. It must be got rid of. Both the government and the people at large must come together to achieve this national objective.” – Pratibha Patil. Over the past few years, corruption has become a prevalent issue in our society. It affects all sectors, including private businesses and government, and has a profound impact on all members of society. However, one group that is particularly vulnerable to the effects of corruption is the youth.

Corruption hinders the future of the youth by creating an environment that is unfair and unjust. It deprives them of opportunities for growth and development, which impairs their ability to succeed in life. The youth are critical to the success of our society, and their well-being is fundamental to the well-being of our society as a whole.



One of the ways in which corruption impacts the youth is by restricting their access to education. Corruption often diverts funds away from education and into the pockets of corrupt officials, making it difficult for young people to access quality

Corruption also limits the youth's ability to access employment opportunities. It creates an uneven playing field where those with connections and resources can secure jobs and opportunities, while those without are left behind. This not only

## MASS PROTESTS AND FALSE HOPE: ISRAEL'S SUPREME COURT IS NO FRIEND OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE



By Ramzy Baroud

As hundreds of thousands, throughout Israel, joined anti-government protests, questions began to arise regarding how this movement would affect, or possibly merge, into the wider struggle against the Israeli military occupation and apartheid in Palestine.

Pro-Palestine media outlets shared, with obvious excitement, news about statements made by Hollywood celebrities, the likes of Mark Ruffalo, about the need to “sanction the new hard right-wing government of (Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin) Netanyahu”. Netanyahu, who sits at the heart of the current controversy and mass protests, struggled to find a single pilot for the flight carrying him to Rome on March 9 for a three-day visit with the Italian government. The reception for the Israeli leader in Italy was equally cold. Italian translator, Olga Dalia Padoa, reportedly refused to interpret Netanyahu's speech, scheduled for March 9 at a Rome synagogue. One can appreciate the need to strategically use the upheaval against Netanyahu's far-right government to expose Israel's fraudulent claim to true democracy, supposedly ‘the only democracy in the Middle East’. However, one has to be equally careful not to validate Israel's inherently racist institutions that have been in existence for decades before Netanyahu arrived in power. The Israeli Prime Minister has been embroiled in corruption cases for years. Though he remained popular, Netanyahu lost his position at the helm of Israeli

politics in June 2021, following three bitterly-contested elections. Yet, he returned on December 29, 2022, this time with even more corrupt – even by Israel's own definition – characters such as Aryeh Deri, Bezalel Smotrich and Itamar Ben-Gvir, the latter two currently serving as the ministers of finance and national security, respectively. Each one of these characters had a different reason for joining the coalition. Smotrich and Ben Gvir's agenda ranged from the annexation of illegal West Bank settlements to the deportation of Arab politicians considered ‘disloyal’ to the state.

Netanyahu, though a rightwing ideologue, is more concerned with personal ambitions: maintaining power as long as possible, while shielding himself and his family from legal problems. He simply wants to stay out of prison. To do so, he also needs to satisfy the dangerous demands of his allies, who have been given free rein to unleash army and settler violence against Palestinians in the Occupied West Bank, as has been the case in Huwara, Nablus, Jenin and elsewhere. But Netanyahu's government, the most stable in years, has bigger goals than just “wiping out” Palestinian towns off the map. They want to alter the very judicial system that would allow them to transform Israeli society itself. The reform would grant the government control over judicial appointments by limiting the Israeli Supreme Court's power to exercise judicial review. The protests in Israel have very little to do with the Israeli occupation and apartheid, and are hardly concerned with Palestinian rights. They are led by many former Israeli leaders, the likes of former Prime Minister Ehud Barak, former minister Tzipi Livni and former prime minister and leader of the opposition, Yair Lapid. During the Naftali Bennett-Yair Lapid stint in power,

between June 2021 and December 2022, hundreds of Palestinians

stand the desperation of those



were killed in the West Bank. 2022 was described by UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Tor Wennesland, as the “deadliest” in the West Bank since 2005. During that time, illegal Jewish settlements expanded rapidly, while Gaza was routinely bombed.

Yet, the Bennett-Lapid government faced little backlash from Israeli society for its bloody and illegal actions in Palestine. The Israeli Supreme Court, which has approved most of the government actions in Occupied Palestine, also faced little or no protests for certifying apartheid and validating the supposed legality of the Jewish colonies, all illegal under international law. The stamp of approval by the Supreme Court was also granted when Israel passed the Nation-State Law, identifying itself exclusively as a Jewish state, thus casting off the entirety of the Arab Muslim and Christian population which shares the same mass of land between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. Rarely did the Israeli judicial system take the side of Palestinians, and when little ‘victories’ were recorded now and then, they hardly altered the overall

trying to fight against Israeli injustices using the country's own ‘justice system’, such language has contributed to the confusion regarding what Israel's ongoing protests mean for Palestinians. In fact, this is not the first time that Israelis have gone out on the streets in large numbers. In August 2011, Israel experienced what some referred to as Israel's own ‘Arab Spring’. But that, too, was a class struggle within clearly defined ideological boundaries and political interests that rarely overlapped with a parallel struggle for equality, justice and human rights. Dual socio-economic struggles exist in many societies around the world, and conflating between them is not unprecedented. In the case of Israel, however, such confusion can be dangerous because the outcome of Israel's protests, be it a success or failure, could spur unfounded optimism or demoralize those fighting for Palestinian freedom.

Though stark violations of international law, the arbitrary arrests, extrajudicial executions and the everyday violence meted out against Palestinians, mostly take place within Israel's legal framework. All of these acts are

fully sanctioned by Israeli courts, including the country's Supreme Court. This means that, even if Netanyahu fails to hegemonize the judicial system, Palestinian civilians will continue to be tried in military courts, which will carry out the routine of approving home demolition, illegal land seizure and the construction of settlements.

A proper engagement with the ongoing protests is to further expose how Tel Aviv utilizes the judicial system to maintain the illusion that Israel is a country of law and order, and that all the actions and violence in Palestine, however bloody and destructive, are fully justifiable according to the country's legal framework. Yes, Israel should be sanctioned, not because of Netanyahu's attempt at co-opting the judiciary, but because the system of apartheid and regime of military occupation constitute complete disregard and utter violation of international law. Whether Israelis like it or not, international law is the only law that matters to an occupied and oppressed nation

– Dr. Ramzy Baroud is a journalist, author and the Editor of The Palestine Chronicle. He is the author of six books. His latest book, co-edited with Ilan Pappé, is ‘Our Vision for Liberation: Engaged Palestinian Leaders and Intellectuals Speak Out’. His other books include ‘My Father was a Freedom Fighter’ and ‘The Last Earth’. Baroud is a Non-resident Senior Research Fellow at the Center for Islam and Global Affairs (CIGA). His website is www.ramzybaroud.net

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## Institution Of Marriage In Islamic Framework



Vijay GarG

Human society at large is a single family gradually extended throughout history. So, the foremost and fundamental institution of human society is the unit of a family. Since family is the cornerstone of human society, it too is the prime and essential element in building a good society free from instability, indecency, violence and crime. Because a sane society is, in fact, an addendum of a sane family. From the Islamic perspective, this foundational institution (unit of the family) of human society is established by the coming together of a man and a woman through a legitimate marital contract called Nikah [Marriage]. This write-up is aimed at discussing the importance of the same institution within the framework of Islam. Islam considers marriage as one of the most virtuous and approved institutions. It is an act pleasing to Allah Almighty because it is in accordance with His edicts that a husband and a wife

love each other and keep the human race going through the blessing of children. It occupies a considerable place in both the Quran and Ahadith (the corpus of the sayings of the last Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)). Thoughtful consideration of the Quranic instructions and Ahadith of the Prophet (PBUH) speaks sounds about the importance of this institution in Islam because the two make the chief and preeminent sources of Islam.

Allah [SWT] says in the Holy Quran, “He has created wives for you from among yourselves that you may find peace of mind in them and has put love and tenderness between you.” [30:21]. According to this statement, the holy Quran accentuates people to marry as it is the most sufficient means through which one can live a life free from emotional hangups. It is also said in the Quran, “And Allah has made for you your mates of your own nature” [16:72]. In the context of this verse, Ibn Kathir (a highly influential expert on Quranic exegesis) states: “Allah mentions the blessing that he has bestowed upon His servants by giving them mates from their own kind. If he had given them mates of another kind, there would be no harmony, love and mercy between them.” Additionally, we have so many verses in the Quran [like 24:32, 25:74, 40:8, etc] encouraging marriage to discourage immorality. Our beloved Prophet (PBUH) also married and encouraged his followers and

ummah to marry, as can be seen from the following: “When a man marries, he has



fulfilled half of his Deen so let him fear Allah regarding the remaining half” [Tirmidhi:3096]. The Prophet (PBUH) said, “Marriage is my Sunnah & whoever doesn't follow my Sunnah has nothing to do with me” [Ibn Majah:1846]. He (PBUH) further stated, “O young people! whoever amongst you is able to get married should marry & whoever is not able to do the same is recommended to fast as fasting, diminishes sexual power” [Bukhari:5066]. All in all, these Quranic verses and the directions from the Prophet (PBUH) depict that marriage is a religious duty of every Muslim man and woman capable of fulfilling his or her responsibilities respectively and is considered to be a moral safeguard and social need. It ensures modesty, chastity and peace between the couple and keeps them away from the pitfall and

temptations of Satan. Besides, there are various other reasons why Islam has so much emphasised upon marriage, important of them we list as. Firstly, it is a way to strengthen the bond of love not only just between husband and wife but between two families and protects one from falling into sins like illicit relationships. Secondly, the passion and desire to work hard and earn money are instilled in a person to provide for a wife and children. Thirdly, a pious wife is a true companion in all situations, secrets can be shared with her and she can be a great support in difficult times, for this reason, the Prophet (PBUH) said, “The world and all the things of this world are precious but the most precious thing in the world is virtuous wife [Sahi Muslim]. Fourthly, it opens the gates of sustenance and there is no need to fear and worry about poverty. Sustenance becomes abundant when there is a wife and child in the family, as the Quran clearly reveals, “If they are poor, Allah will grant them out of his bounty and Allah is bountiful, all-knowing” [32:24]. Fifthly and most importantly, it is a sunnah of the Prophet (PBUH) and thus has a great reward in this life and the hereafter.

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## Doda Youthon 2023 Kicks off with Idea Pitching Challenge, fun activities

DODA, MARCH 18: Engaging youth and channelising their efforts towards positive and encouraging activities for a prosperous and well-groomed future is a top priority for the UT administration under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. To further these efforts and revitalise Youth Clubs established in all 237 panchayats in the district, a lively youth festival, Doda Youthon 2023 was held today at Sports Stadium Doda. Thousands of young people from across the district joined the festival was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan, along with SSP Abdul Qayoom and others. In addition to fun, food and music, an interaction with successful entrepreneurs, businesspeople, motivational speakers and counsellors was held and highly appreciated by the youth. They shared their success stories and ideas behind their achievements. Some speakers from outside the UT of J&K who are graduates from IIT with successful startups came to motivate and enlighten the youth while others interacted through virtual mode. The Idea Pitching Challenge - an initiative under ADBHUT Doda - was a great success. 23 innovative



ideas were received online from young people across the district. The ideas were explained by creative youth and discussed with a team of successful individuals and officials from Entrepreneurship Development Institute (EDI) to transform them into gainful activities that contribute to society and the nation. The best ideas were declared by a jury of three judges and awarded by the administration.

A local online service provider company called 'Doda Hub' was launched at the Youthon 2023 platform today. It offers 24/7 paid services from ITI-trained technicians and other trade experts initially for Doda Town. A job fair was held where more than 316 young people were offered on-the-spot jobs by various non-governmental agencies. Sanction and disbursement letters under

PMEGP and other schemes were distributed among selected budding entrepreneurs. On-the-spot registration forms for various self-employment subsidy-based schemes were received from young people interested in establishing their own enterprises and business units. The sports competitions scheduled for today were deferred due to rain and wet ground conditions.

## DC Kishtwar inaugurates canteen run by women SHGs

KISHTWAR, MARCH 18: Deputy Commissioner, Dr Devansh Yadav inaugurated a canteen run by women Self Help Groups (SHG) of Jammu Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM) at DC Office complex in presence of ADDC, Sham Lal and ACR, Varunjeet Singh Charak. The canteen services will be managed by women SHGs of JKRLM. Deputy Commissioner expressed satisfaction on involving women SHGs in operating the canteen and said JKRLM is emerging as a platform for rural women to attain financial independence. District Pogram Manager, Bilal ur Rehman said that members from local community have been encouraged and skilled to run the canteen. Among others, the inaugural ceremony was attended by SHG members, officials of JKRLM and various departments. Meanwhile District Development Commissioner, Dr Devansh Yadav inaugurated a



6-day training programme called "Technician Solar Panel Installation and Battery Maintenance" under SANKALP Programme at Government Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Kishtwar today. The programme aims to create skilled manpower in remote areas for providing technical services regarding solar panel installation and maintenance. DDC encouraged participants to acquire skill sets for sustainable livelihood and learn about various trainings at ITI Kishtwar. Principal ITI Kishtwar, Mandeep Dogra; Naib Te-

hsildar Marwah, Naseem Choudhary and resource persons from ITI were present on the occasion. The canteen services will be managed by women SHGs of JKRLM. Deputy Commissioner expressed satisfaction on involving women SHGs in operating the canteen and said JKRLM is emerging as a platform for rural women to attain financial independence. District Pogram Manager, Bilal ur Rehman said that members from local community have been encouraged and skilled to run the canteen.

## ADC Jammu reviews preparations for Ramzan

JAMMU, MARCH 18: Additional Deputy Commissioner, Sandeep Seointra reviewed arrangements for the upcoming holy month of Ramzan in a meeting at the DC Office complex today. During the review, the ADC emphasised the importance of ensuring basic amenities such as uninterrupted water and electricity supplies and cleanliness around mosques. He directed

relevant departments to provide standby transformers and generators and mobile water tankers at mosques. He asked Jammu Municipal Corporation to maintain cleanliness around mosques and ensure streetlights are functional. He also stressed the need for availability of essential commodities in markets and quality and price con-

trol. The ADC instructed authorities to provide adequate transport and parking facilities on shrine routes. The health department was directed to set up dedicated ambulances with paramedic staff at shrines. Representatives of religious organisations and senior officials from all relevant departments attended the meeting.

## Jammu-Poonch MP chairs meeting to review progress of MPLAD works

JAMMU, MARCH 18: Member of Parliament for Jammu-Poonch, Jugal Kishore Sharma, presided over a review meeting today at the PWD Guest House in Jammu. During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner briefed the MP on the progress of various schemes and developmental projects being carried out in the district by different agencies. The MP conducted a thorough review of both the physical and financial progress of each work under MPLAD. The MP emphasised the importance of making optimal use of available resources and instructed officials to regularly monitor and follow up on all ongoing development works to ensure



they meet quality standards. He also directed relevant agencies to complete any pending development works within their given timelines and to expedite their efforts so that targets can be achieved across the district. Jugal Kishore urged officers and field functionaries to work together as a team with close coordination in order to achieve better results and deliver public services effectively to local residents. The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Avny Lavasa and other senior officials from relevant departments, including CPO Yoginder Katoch and ACD Preeti Sharma.

## DC Ramban presides over Capacity Building Training Programme on Drug Abuse

RAMBAN, MARCH 18: Deputy Commissioner, Mussarat Islam presided over the second day of a capacity building training programme organised by the Department of Social Welfare. The programme focused on early detection and post-detection of drug abuse under the Mission Youth programme 'Revitalisation of Youth Clubs'. During the programme, youth club volunteers, students from Government Degree College Ramban, Anganwari and ASHA workers and other volunteers were trained on how to tackle drug abuse. They learned about early detection of addiction, counselling for youth and de-addiction. The programme featured lectures from Chief Medi-



cal Officer, Dr Kaml Zadu, Block Medical Officer, Dr Gumeet Kaur and mental health experts. It was organised under the supervision of District Social Welfare Officer, Rahul Gupta in association with other departments. The Deputy Commissioner emphasised the impor-

tance of raising awareness and spreading knowledge on these topics to prevent drug abuse. He also praised the efforts of collaborating departments and expressed his hope that these training sessions would help curb this menace more effectively.

## One-day Kisan Mela, Farmer's Awareness Camp held in Doda

DODA, MARCH 18: The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare conducted a one-day Kisan Mela/Farmers Awareness Camp today in Community Hall Doda. Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan and Director Agriculture Jammu, KK Sharma inaugurated the programme. The inauguration was held in the presence of SSP Doda, Abdul Qayoom; ADC, Dr R K Bharti; President MC Doda, Ved Parkash Gupta; BDC Chairman Gundana, Sarshad Natnoo; DDC Councillor Gundana, Asim Hashmi; Chief Agriculture Officer, Anil Gupta and others. Approximately 600 farmers and staff members from allied departments such as Horticulture, Flo-



riculture, Sheep Husbandry, Apiculture and Animal Husbandry

participated in the programme. Chief Agriculture Officer Anil Gupta presented the welcome address and briefed attendees on activities carried out by the department in the district. Technical sessions were held for farmers where various resource persons advised them on latest scientific agricultural practices to increase produce and double their income. Sessions on soil health management, integrated farming and formation of FPOs were held during the programme. Stalls showcasing best agricultural practices were also inspected by DC Vishesh Mahajan and Director Agriculture KK Sharma. The best stalls/products were awarded cash prizes by the department.

## DC Kathua reviews implementation of Aspirational Panchayat Development Programme

KATHUA, MARCH 18: Deputy Commissioner, Rahul Pandey convened a meeting to review the implementation of the Aspirational Panchayat Development Programme (APDP) in the district today. The meeting discussed selection criteria for the most backward panchayats based on aggregate scores obtained across 19 blocks of the district. The DC called for taking all stakeholders on board including respective Mentors of the Panchayat who visited during Back to Village (B2V). The APDP initiative aims to develop Aspirational Panchayats through convergence of various ongoing District/UT Schemes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes/Programmes. An additional financial assistance of Rs 10 lakh will be provided to selected panchayats under the scheme for further development after achieving saturation in several parameters. On the analogy of Aspirational Block Development Programme (ABDP), Jammu & Kashmir has rolled out APDP with the aim to ensure expeditious improvement in the socio-economic status of most backward panchayats across Jammu & Kash-



mir. A total of 100 measurable indicators have been identified across 9 sectors including Agriculture and Allied Activities, Health and Nutrition, Education, Rural Development and Sanitation, Beneficiary-Oriented Schemes, Skill Development, Basic Infrastructure, Environment and Good Governance. These indicators will provide insight into existing status and incremental progress over time. CPO Kathua, Uttam Singh, ACD, ACP, CEO and other concerned officers attended the meeting.

## Community Mobilisation Programme for school committees organised in Marh

JAMMU, MARCH 18: A community mobilisation programme for School Management Committees (SMCs), School Management and Development Committees (SMDCs), Village Education Committees (VECs) and PRI members was organised today under the aegis of Samagra Shiksha by the Zonal Education Office in Marh. The event took place at Government Middle School Dhateryal in Zone Marh. During the programme, community members were informed about the roles and responsibilities of SMCs/SMDCs/VECs and PRI members in the development of

government schools. They were encouraged to come forward and help revive the education system for the future of children. They were also made aware of government schemes such as the MDM programme, free textbooks, free uniforms for classes 1st to 8th, scholarship schemes for SC/ST/OBC/disabled students and National Means cum Merit Scholarship (NMMS). Community members were urged to promote enrolment by encouraging the general public to send their children to government schools to receive quality

education from highly qualified teachers and avail a range of facilities. Speakers from different school committees gave valuable suggestions for the welfare of students and to improve the education system. The vote of thanks was presented by Zonal Education Officer Ram Rakha from Marh. Others who spoke on the occasion included Principal GDC Marh, Dr Rakesh Kumar Koul; Principal HSS Gajansoo, Namarata Khajuria; Principal HSS Marh; Sarsa Ram; Headmasters, committee members and staff from government schools.

## Reasi Administration organises special grievance camp for POJK displaced in Bharakh

REASI, MARCH 18: District Administration Reasi organised a special grievance camp for displaced persons of Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (POJK) at village Bharakh of Tehsil Pouni today. The camp received a massive turnout of participants. The LG's Special Grievance Camp aimed to address issues faced by those displaced from POJK, cre-

ate awareness about various Government schemes and provide necessary support and assistance. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Abdul Star was the chief guest during the event and highlighted the objective of the camp. The POJK displaced raised various issues on the spot which the District Administration assured would be addressed in a timely

manner. District officers from various departments disseminated information about government schemes including skill development, self-employment, social assistance, studies, sports, financial inclusion and Ayushman Bharat through stalls at the camp. The POJK displaced raised various issues on the spot which the District Administration assured.

## Samoon inaugurates ICT Lab at ITI Rajouri; Emphasizes imparting quality technical education

RAJOURI, MARCH 18: Principal Secretary, Skill Development Department (SDD), Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon, today visited ITI Rajouri where he inaugurated an Information and Communication Technology Laboratory and inspected various sections of the institute. The lab has been established with an aim of providing better communication and information resources to the youth trainees. During the event, Dr Samoon interacted with the trainees and emphasised the need for a special focus on providing quality technical education in the region. Principal Secretary also highlighted the importance of integrating technology into every aspect of life to fast-track development and progress. The Information and Communication Technology lab is



expected to bridge the gap between knowledge and access for the trainees, equip them with necessary technical skills, and open up new opportunities for their future,

he maintained. During his visit, he held interactions with the students and faculty members of the ITI and inspected classrooms and labs.

While interacting with the students of the ITI, Samoon encouraged them to make best use of the resources that have been made available to them during their training period. He stressed upon the faculty to impart quality training to the students and focus on practical-oriented courses. Principal Secretary also interacted with the youth trainees identified during the 'Back to Village' program and discussed their aspirations. He also provided guidance on how to maximize their potential in terms of the knowledge and skills. It is pertinent to mention here that 120 youth were identified for skill development in the district under B2V, out of which, sixty had been identified during B2V are undergoing training in ITI.

# Committee on Coordination for Justice Delivery System meets at Bandipora

## Calls for expediting pace of work on new District Court Complex Kaloosa

BANDIPORA, MARCH 18: The Principal District and Sessions Judge (PD&SJ) Bandipora, Amit Sharma on Saturday chaired a coordination meeting between judiciary and civil administration to discuss issues concerning ways and means for effective, efficient and timely rendering of justice to the litigants, the infrastructural and other local difficulties being faced by the judicial institutions at all levels in the district.

Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad; Senior Superintendent of Police; Additional District and Sessions Judge and Chief Judicial Magistrate Bandipora were present on the occasion.

Threadbare discussions were held with regard to the infrastructural shortcomings in the courts and directions were passed for resolving several issues for the convenience of judicial staff, lawyers and litigants.

The meeting assessed the pace of construction of new District Court complex at Kaloosa and litigant shed in District Court premises at Bandipora.

The executing agency informed the meeting about the progress of the work. He was directed to expedite the pace of work with the improvement in weather so that the project can be completed at earliest.

The meeting also discussed the



steps taken for procurement of furniture and furnishing for the newly constructed court at Gurez.

Threadbare discussion on the issues concerning ways and means for effective, efficient and timely rendering of justice to the litigants, the infrastructural and security issues faced by the Judicial Institutions in the district and ways and means for developing and improving the system as a whole were held.

The PD&SJ Bandipora called upon all the stakeholders to work in tan-

dem to strengthen the justice delivery system and to maximize the judicial output.

He emphasized the participants to streamline the coordination among the Courts and other stakeholders for developing and improving the judicial system and urged them to provide assistance pertaining to the justice delivery system. Several issues were discussed and effective solutions were worked out to enhance the efficiency level of the judicial system at the district. PD&SJ Bandipora

and Deputy Commissioner Bandipora passed several directions with regard to the resolution of various issues. He called for better coordination between civil administration and judiciary to ensure the issues are resolved at earliest besides overcoming the infrastructural shortcomings. The meeting assessed the pace of construction of new District Court complex at Kaloosa and litigant shed in District Court premises at Bandipora.

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# She Leads' seeks Electoral Reforms in India; Celebrates completion of their third cohort

DDC Chairperson Safina Baig congrat "She Leads" for taking these initiatives

Delhi 18 March (KNB): She Leads, a joint initiative of Stree Shakti - The Parallel Force (founded by Rekha Mody), Indian School of Democracy (founded by Hemakshi Meghni) and Political Shakti (founded by Tara Krishnaswamy) held Certificate Distribution Ceremony on Friday, March 17th, 2023 in New Delhi on completion of training of their third cohort. "In Indian Democracy women have a definite role to play. As vital voters, women's demands are being met by political parties like free travel in public transport. We are aspiring for the Golden Period: Voting to Leading", says Rekha Mody founder of Stree Shakti - The Parallel Force. Supported by Chevening Scholarship, She Leads is a collective effort to strengthen women political leadership. The event was held at Multipurpose Hall, Kamaladevi Complex, India International Centre, 40 Max Mueller Marg, New Delhi. In their third cohort that was held from February 22nd to February 26th, 2023 they trained 50 aspiring women leaders in political space from 18 states of India.



Eminent speakers at the third cohort were Sushmita Dev MP (AITC), Bandana Kumari MLA (AAP), Mahima Singh (Spokesperson INC), Tara Krishnaswamy (Political Shakti), Charu Pragya (Media BJP), Prithvi Reddy (Spokesperson AAP) who shared their journey, challenges and breakthroughs to encourage aspiring women politicians. Safina Baig (Chairperson J&K Hajj Committee and Chairperson DDC Baramulla) remarked, "I congratulate She Leads for taking up such an important initiative. It is essential that women be considered in the decision making process in the parliament as bills are passed there." Mahima Singh, Advocate at Supreme Court of India and Congress Spokesper-

son said, "I connected with She Leads in 2021 and am a graduate of their first cohort. I realize that what She Leads is doing for women is extremely crucial as in an arena like politics one needs appropriate steering of thoughts and channelizing of energies in the right direction. She Leads does exactly that as it gives a direction to your ambition. I think every aspiring woman political leader must explore their programmes for a brighter future." Rekha Mody, who urges every woman to find her footing in their chosen space shared her thoughts, "Even after 75 years of independence India has 14% of elected women representatives in the national Parliament, only ahead of Sri Lanka (5.3%) and Maldives (4.7%)."

# NYK Doda, GDC Kishtwar host district level youth parliament

KISHTWAR, MARCH 18: Nehru Yuva Kendra Doda and NSS Unit of GDC Kishtwar organised a District Level Neighbourhood Youth Parliament at Government Degree College, Kishtwar under the guidance of its Principal, Dr Jyoti Parihar today. The programme celebrated India's G20 presidency and International Year of Millets and Mission LiFE. ADDC Kishtwar, Sham Lal attended as Chief Guest while ASP Kishtwar, Rajinder Singh was Guest of Honour and Vice-Principal, Umer Din was a special guest. Khushal Gupta, District Youth Officer welcomed guests and briefed about the objectives.

The programme was attended by more than 500 participants and anchored by Teacher cum NCC Officer Arif Rana. Prof Swami Raj gave a lecture on G20 and its Presidency by India, discussing challenges such as climate change and Mahatma Gandhi's ideas of peace, tolerance and non-violence. Prof Faisal Mushtaq briefed about International Year of Millets and



Mission LiFE with a focus on keeping the environment clean and green. NSS volunteers Asif, Mutagen UI Islam, Abhay Sharma, Kajol Devi and Affiya also spoke on the occasion about G20 followed by cultural performances by students. Students were presented with certificates for participating in District Youth Parliament Festival organised by NYK Udhampur on January 28, 2023, in virtual mode. Dignitaries and faculty members including Prof Falak, Prof Munish, Prof Vikram, Prof Romana, Prof Sarita, Prof Sehri, Prof Madhu Bala, Prof Tariq, Hidayatullah and Baldev attended the programme along with NSS Programme Officer, Prof Sonika Sen.

# Police distributes blankets and uniform kits among needy families in Pulwama

March 18: Continuing its Public outreach Programme under the Civic Action Programme, Police in Pulwama distributed blankets & full uniform Kits among needy families and students of Govt. Primary School Gujarlab Draklaran (Sangerwani) of District Pulwama. The Distribution ceremony was attended by SSP Pulwama Mohd Yousif-JKPS, DySP DAR Pulwama, SHO PS Pulwama & some other officers of District Police Pulwama. The step being taken by District Police Pulwama has been warmly welcomed by the general public of Sangerwani vicinity and other civil officers including ZEO Pulwama, Principal GPS Gujarlab Draklaran and other senior citizens of the vicinity. Soon after the conclusion of the Distribution ceremony, SSP Pulwama interacts with all the beneficiaries including children



and other personalities of the area. During interaction he advised the general public to maintain peace and tranquillity in their vicinity and to cooperate with police in time. Besides SSP Pulwama also

advised the students to whom full uniform kits have been provided to have proper attention/focus on their studies and achieve their goals/dreams. In addition to the above, SSP Pul-

wama also advised the general public and students including the whole school staff not to indulge in criminal & other subversive activities. He also assured that every possible assistance will be provided to them as and when they feel its necessity from District Police Pulwama, however despite being made such type of distribution the general public have requested SSP Pulwama that such more events should be organized in the district especially in far-flung area to have good interaction and relationship with common masses and police as well. In addition to the above, SSP Pulwama also advised the general public and students including the whole school staff not to indulge in criminal & other subversive activities. He also assured that every possible assistance will be provided to them.

# Government Polytechnic Jammu organises painting competition

JAMMU, MARCH 18: To celebrate India's G20 presidency, Government Polytechnic Jammu organised a painting competition with the theme "Green Development, Climate and Lifestyle for Environment". 20 students participated and the event was coordinated by faculty members. Principal Er Arun Bangotra praised the teams and emphasised India's G20 theme "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", focusing on sustainable lifestyles and honest conversations about climate change. Yamana Kotwal won first place while Kavita and Vaneeta Sekhri shared second place and Suhani and Harpreet Kaur shared third place. Others present at the event included Workshop Superintendent, Er IJ Singh; HoD Automobile Engineering, Er Rajesh Gupta besides faculty members and students. 20 students participated and the event was coordinated by faculty members. Principal Er Arun Bangotra praised the teams and emphasised India's G20 theme "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", focusing on sustainable lifestyles and honest conversations about climate change. Yamana Kotwal won first place while Kavita and Vaneeta Sekhri shared second place and Suhani.

# DC Ramban flags off exposure tour for progressive farmers

RAMBAN, MARCH 18: Deputy Commissioner, Mussarat Islam flagged off a group of progressive farmers on a one-day exposure tour to Jammu. The tour was organised under the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) and was attended by Chief Agriculture Officer, Ashwani Sharma and other relevant officials. During the event, Deputy Commissioner Mussarat stated that such initiatives would help farmers learn about modern agricultural technology and best practices for improving crop production. The tour also provided farmers with the opportunity to interact with successful farmers and receive expert guidance. The DC emphasised that the government is working to promote innovative agricultural farming as a source of employment and to encourage farmers to consider farming as a viable business option.

# IGR J&K inspects Sub Registrar Office Bhadarwah



BHADERWAH, MARCH 18: Inspector General Registration (IGR) Jammu & Kashmir, Sheikh Arshad Ayoub visited the office of Sub Registrar Bhadarwah and reviewed the status of registration. The records were thoroughly inspected and a meeting was held with Sub Registrar Bhadarwah and his office staff. IGR J&K appreciated the work done by Sub Registrar Bhadarwah and his team. While addressing registration staff, IGR advised them to be public-friendly and facilitate citizens visiting the office for registration. He was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Doda, Dr Ravi Kumar Bharti. Sub Registrar Bhadarwah, Dil Mir briefed the IGR on issues faced by his office while conducting registrations and assured that all possible convenience would be provided to the general public in this regard.

# KVIB conducts day long awareness camp at Panchayat Upper Rehmbal

UDHAMPUR, MARCH 18: In order to generate awareness among unemployed youth about the self-employment schemes of KVIB, today the District Office J&K Khadi Village Industries Board Udhampur organised a one-day district level awareness programme at Panchayat

Upper Rehmbal. Chairman DDC, Udhampur Lal Chand was the chief guest on the occasion. The Chairperson DDC urged unemployed youths of the district to take maximum advantage of KVIB schemes. Deputy Chief Executive Officer, J&K Khadi and

Village Industries Board, Tilak Raj also attended the camp and informed the youth about self-employment schemes being implemented by J&K KVIB i.e. PMEGP and JKREGP. He also handed over sanction letters to beneficiaries whose cases had been approved by the bank.

District Officer J&K KVIB, Surinder Paul also encouraged unemployed youths to take advantage of these schemes. Among others present at the camp were Sarpanch Pritpal Singh, Shamsheer Singh, Shushma Sharma and Sushma Abrol.

# Army releases helpline contacts for Agniveer aspirants of Bandipora

BANDIPORA, MARCH 18: Army recruiting Office in Srinagar on Saturday released helpline numbers for the Agniveer aspirants of Bandipora to know about the recruitment process to be held at Anantnag High Ground in June this year. The recruitment officer said the aspirants of Bandipora can contact Kharpora Army camp at 7051456202, Bapura at 7051504420, Chuntimulla at 9103026891, Athwatto camp at 7051469412, Panar Camp at 6005841389, Kaloosa 9682638118. Director Recruitment, ARO Colonel G. Suresh

said the Bandipora aspirants can contact these numbers for further details and relevant assistance. Colonel said the candidates can also contact Army Recruiting Office Srinagar, Haft Chinar near Shergarhi Police Station or email on arosrinagar123@gmail.com or call on 0194-231282 and 0194-2310164. ARO also urged the aspirants to watch videos on enrollment procedure, registration procedure, CEE and mock online tests on the given website for the convenience in Urdu, Hindi and English. The Colonel stated that

Army recruitment rally for recruitment as Agniveers under Agnipath scheme will be held for eligible unmarried male candidates born between 1st of October, 2002 to 1st April, 2006. He said that students of 10+2, Graduates, Government ITIs, Private Institutions and Polytechnics can also apply online and register themselves for the said Army Requirement Rally 2023 for Agniveer General duty, Agniveer technical, Agniveer Clerk/store keeper Technical, and Agniveer Tradesman. He said the eligible candidates can register and ap-

ply online up to 20th March on website www.joinindianarmy.nic.in. He said the first step is for the aspirants to register online and the registered candidates will have to undergo Computer-based CEE (Common Entrance Examination). Sharing details of the improved process, the Colonel said the website has been linked with DigiLocker so that candidates can easily access their documents. Further, a 50% subsidy in registration fees is being provided so that aspirants will only have to pay Rs 250.

## Public Notice

In my Adhaar Card under no.6524 2235 5857 my name and D.O.B is wrongly entered as Ishrat Fatima D/O Zaheer Hussain Shah and D.O.B 01/01/1991 instead of Saika Fatima, D/O Zaheer Hussain Shah 01/02/2005 while in actual Name and D.O.B is Saika Fatima, D/O Zaheer Hussain Shah 01/02/2005 d.Now i am applying for its correction if anybody have any objection in this regard he may contact Concerned Department within 7 days.After that no objection shall be entertained.

Zaheer Hussain Shah  
F/o: Saika Fatima  
MothersName: Shahzadi Fatima  
R/o Gundi Seydan Karna Kupwara

## Public Notice

The Electricity connection with Consumer ID No 020605000358 is Registered as Mohd Qasim Dar R/o:Gund HassiBhat Srinagar is to be transferred in the favour of Ghulam Mohammad Dar S/o Mohd Qasim Dar R/o: R/o:Gund HassiBhat Srinagar. Anybody having any objection in this Regard,May Contact Assistant Executive Engineer Electric Sub Division Narbal within a period of 7 days. After that no objection will be entertained in any case.

Ghulam Mohammad Dar  
S/o Mohd Qasim Dar  
R/o: R/o:Gund HassiBhat Srinagar.

## Public Notice

I Have lost My Driving Licence bearing Driving Licence No JK07 2009006695 somewhere at home .Now I have Applied for its Duplicate.If any body have any objection he may contact ARTO Office Kargil within the period of 07 days .After That No objection will be entertained.

Name Juma Malik  
S/O:-Ab Qadir  
R/O:-Chochout  
AT Present:-Baroo Kargil

# DYS&S organizes Yoga program at Dubai Grand International School Zainakote

SRINAGAR, MARCH 18: Under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and commemorating 75 years of Independence, a Yoga program was today organized at Dubai Grand International School Hokarsar Zainakote Srinagar. The programme was organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYS&S), Zone Batama-

loo. Students of Batamaloos zone including a significant number of female students participated in Yoga programme. On the occasion, Speakers said that Yoga will bring people together through compassion and kindness and foster a sense of unity. Students also spoke about the ill effects of drugs and their preventive measures.

They in their speeches said that Yoga brings joy, health and peace from within and deepens connection between an individual's inner consciousness and the external world. Emphasizing on the essential need of every individual's participation in Yoga, Principal Dubai Grand International School Parvauz Ahmad Paul said that Yoga has mental, physical and spiritual aspects that are essential.

Yoga has mental, physical and spiritual aspects that are essential for the overall well-being of the children. Emphasizing on the essential need of every individual's participation in Yoga, Principal Dubai Grand International School Parvauz Ahmad Paul said that Yoga has mental, physical and spiritual aspects that are essential.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

LG

department.  
 More than 3 lakh artisans are registered with the department. Number of steps like enhanced financial assistance, 7% interest subvention, training, assistance to 3000 Self Help Groups and cooperative societies have been taken to accelerate the development of this sector, he added.  
 The Lt Governor also spoke on the various other efforts of the UT administration such as GI tagging, labeling, brand building, incentives to increase exports and ensure access to the global market.  
 "The Department has launched e-commerce platforms to empower the artisans," the Lt Governor said.  
 Under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister, J&K has set a new record in Village Industrial Unit. In the last financial year, 1.73 lakh new jobs were generated under PMEGP alone, he added.  
 On the occasion, the Lt Governor directed the Department of Handlooms and Handicrafts to develop a mechanism for further increasing the export in the sector and changing the lives of artisans and craftsmen.  
 Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Sh Prashant Goyal, Principal Secretary Industries & Commerce; Sh Vijay Kumar Biduri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, other senior officers of Handicraft & Handloom Department, besides large gathering of awardees and artisans were present.

KATRA

Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and everyone associated with the project, the Lt Governor said the Bhawan with the capacity to accommodate 3000 pilgrims per day, will provide ease and comfort to the seekers, besides ensuring effective crowd management.  
 "The Shrine Board has started various new initiatives for providing better facilities to the pilgrims. Spiritual and cultural heritage is being revived by building modern infrastructure and administration is committed to ensure that devotees on sacred pilgrimage are looked after well," said the Lt Governor.  
 It is our responsibility to enrich the traditional values and facilitate the spiritual journey of the devotees coming from across the country and abroad, especially those who are elderly, sick and specially-abled, he added.  
 The Lt Governor said the interests of traders, pony walas, local business community and other stakeholders are being safeguarded while developing the facilities for the devotees.  
 A ropeway from Tarakote to Sanjhi Chhat will come up soon. I assure the local people, traders and all the stakeholders that the ropeway facility will be provided to only elderly, sick and specially-abled devotees. We have kept a limited capacity of devotees per day. There will be no impact on the livelihood of traders, business community and ponywalas, said the Lt Governor.  
 A committee has been constituted to discuss and resolve all the concerns of stakeholders, he added.  
 The Lt Governor also shared the efforts for bringing the prominent spiritual and religious places of the region on the spiritual tourism circuit which will also generate livelihood opportunities for the locals.

TULIP

, apricot, peach and Almond trees in the garden remain the eye-catching attractions for the visitors and the new four multicolored tulip varieties would raise the charisma of the garden.  
 A musical programme is also likely to be the part of the inauguration function tomorrow for the entertainment of the visitors.  
 Hundreds of gardeners worked tirelessly for months altogether at the Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden spread across an area of over 30 hectares and prepared it for the entertainment of the visiting tourists.  
 Though the tulip bloom remains for three to five weeks only but the ground staff has toiled very hard throughout the year to ensure that the quality of the bulbs is maintained year after year.  
 About 25 percent of the garden with more than a dozen colorful Tulip varieties have so far blossomed fully in the garden and if the weather remains favorable and temperature stays above 15 degree Celsius the Tulips would blossom fully and will represent the full glory of nature, they said.  
 Kashmir valley saw a record footfall of tourists from all across the world for the first time in decades last year and tulip garden was one of the major popular destinations for visit, it witnessed a record number of 3.60 lakh visitors including foreigners for the first time since the garden was put open in 2007.  
 To make the garden more attractive this year a water channel which was existing only in the middle of the gigantic garden had been extended to the top of the terrace. Besides, a number of fountains including a high rise one was erected at the top, making the environment look even more mesmerizing.  
 Wheelchairs have been made available for the specially abled people and senior citizens besides other facilities have been made for the visiting tourists.  
 Some green spaces have also been developed in the garden for the visitors to relax in the topography of mountains, green trees and astonishing Tulips and other attractive flowers.

DIV COM

will facilitate locals and tourists to access Sonamarg during the winter season as well which remains cutoff during winters due to heavy snowfall.

SIA

of J&K has launched early morning searches at eight different places to investigate the tributaries and distributaries of slush funds flowing through the known religious cleric Maulavi Sarjan Barkati of south Kashmir, ill famous for mobilising thousands onto streets during 2016 violent agitation, through his incendiary oratory.  
 Known as piper piper, Sarjan Barkati used to openly invite and incite youth to take to violence and pull down the Indian state in J&K, the statement said.  
 "SIA have registered a case FIR No 02/23 related to Crowd funding against Sarjan Barkati and others in which he has raised huge funds amounting more than 1.5 Crore, with his family making emotional appeals to general public to support them for day to day needs. Under this garb he not only generated huge funds but prima facia also laundered money coming from unknown sources suspected to have originated from terror outfits for further use in sustaining the secessionist-terrorist campaign," the statement said.  
 So far, SIA have identified 10 suspects whose involvement has surfaced in the initial investigation. The early morning raids spread over many districts of Kashmir are underway, it said.  
 "Each search is backed by search warrants issued by competent court, Magistrates, local police assistance, lady police team, spotters, and transport support by Security wing of J&K police," it added.  
 "With the seizures of electronic gadgets, incriminating material and other corroborative evidence during these searches, SIA is hopeful that the searches would enable it to extract some vital evidence as to who all have contributed to the Sarjan Barkati fund, what was the source of such money, how much of it was from legitimate income and how much from unaccountable sources, whether such sources had anything to do with terror and Hurriyat finances."

Preliminary investigations have shown Sarjan Barkati has diverted a substantial part of the funds for his personal benefit and purchased a piece of land worth Rs 45 Lakhs in Anantnag town in the name of his wife which he sold for Rs 72 Lakhs, making a profit of Rs 27 Lakhs and has also built a palatial house using public money, the statement said.  
 He has also purchased 5 Kanals of land to establish a Madrassa which as per credible information is meant for making money and provide platform to anti national elements and also aimed to be a breeding ground for luring youth towards militancy, it said.  
 "A large chunk of such ill-gotten money has been deposited in several FDRs in the name of his family members. Not only has the accused breached the public trust with emotional blackmail by building a personal fortune on the crowd funds donated to him by public for the daily sustenance, he as well camouflaged money coming from suspects sources under the garb of crowd funding for furtherance of secessionist-terrorists campaign," the statement added—(KNO)

SUKAST

from Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir have bagged National Agnrite Award 2023 for their innovative startup ideas at a-IDEA, National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Hyderabad, Telangana.  
 The award was presented by CGM NABARD Mumbai Devasis Padhi in presence of President a-IDEA and Director NARM CH Srinavasa Rao, CGM SBI Mumbai Shantanu Pensey, Investment Director Caspian Hyderabad Emmanuel Murray, Senior Executive Director NFDB L Narasimha Murthy, and Executive Vice President Wadhvani Foundation Mumbai Sunita Singh during first Graduate Ceremony of Agristartups on Friday, March 17, 2023 conducted by Association for Innovation Development of Entrepreneurship in Agriculture, ICAR NAARM, Hyderabad.  
 SKUAST-K is the only Agriculture University across the country to win this year's Agnrite Award among 206 applicant innovators from various Universities.  
 Mentored by BDA Innovation Cell IDP-NAHEP Naveed Hamid, the SKUAST-K innovators are among the 10 award winners from 206 contestants from across the country. The awardees were selected after the rigorous scrutiny of three screening and pitching rounds, SKUAST spokesman said.  
 Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai has congratulated the innovators and their mentor for winning the award and bringing laurels to the university.  
 Agnrite is an agri-idea competition at the National level to motivate the students towards entrepreneurship in agriculture and to educate them on startup ecosystems and entrepreneurship skill sets.  
 Besides the prize money, the award offers incubation and mentorship support for the winners.

ACCIDENT

precious lives have been lost and many others have been injured. I have issued instruction to the District Administration to provide all necessary assistance to the affected persons," office of LG tweeted.  
 "District Administration is in touch with the bereaved families in Bihar to provide all possible help. My heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased and I wish speedy recovery to those injured," he added.

MAN

machinery in the name of PMO, spent crores of public money and celebrated holidays in bulletproof car with Z+ Security. Just to clarify, the person's name is Kiran Bhai Patel," AAP tweeted.  
 Kiran Bhai Patel till a few days ago was considered a PMO official and was enjoying VIP treatment with Z-plus security cover in Jammu and Kashmir but now he is in jail.  
 The fraudster fooled the higher most rank government officials that too related to sensitive security. He fraudulently posed himself as an official from Prime Minister's Office and held several meetings with Jammu and Kashmir officials and also reportedly visited the LoC (line of control, International Border) area.  
 Patel hails from Gujarat. According to his Twitter bio, he did PHD from Commonwealth University, Virginia, USA. He did his MBA from IIM TRICHY. He has also a degree of M Tech (Computer Science) and BE Computer (L D Engineering). He called himself as "thinker, strategist, analyst and campaign manager. What amused people most was that he has a verified Twitter account.  
 Gujarat comman Kiran Patel visited tourist hotspots like Gulmarg claiming that the government had tasked him to look for improvement of hotel facilities in the area.  
 after Kiran Patel, a comman from Gujarat, posed as an 'additional secretary' in the Union government enjoyed Z-plus security cover besides other hospitality. Patel was on his third visit to the Kashmir valley and was subsequently arrested by Jammu Kashmir Police on March 3. [KNT]

SCHOOL

He also said that the public should be made aware about the availability of well qualified staff.  
 The director also ordered that an interactive sessions with the school alumni shall be done for boosting the morale of the students.  
 "All JDs and Chief Education Officers including, Principal DIETs, HODs of DIETs, Deputy CEOs, DEPOs, DIET faculty Zonal Education officers, and Zonal Education Planning officers shall visit at least one or more habitations as a part of the door-to-door campaign in order to inspire field functionaries," Sharma said.  
 The director also said, "Door to Door Campaigning by HOIs and Teachers, rallies by Children, Parent motivation camps involving SMC/VEC & other Community leaders, PRIs and Village elders."—(KNO)

WEATHER

Gulmarag 0.6mm, Jammu 1.4mm, Banihal 41.8mm, Batote 23.2mm, Katra 5.8mm, Bhaderwah 6.3mm and Kathua 7.4mm. Regarding temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 6.8°C against 6.6°C on the previous night and it was 2.1°C above normal for the summer capital. Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 3.8°C against 4.5°C on the previous night and it was 0.2°C above normal for the gateway town of Kashmir. Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 2.1°C against 1.6°C on the previous night and it was 2.0°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district. Kokernag recorded a low of 2.1°C against 4.6°C on the previous night and it was 1.4°C below normal for the place, the officials said. Gulmarg recorded a low of 0.5°C, the same as on the previous night and it was 2.8°C above normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said. In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 4.8°C against 4.3°C on the previous night and it was 1.7°C above normal for the north Kashmir area.

RPHQ Srinagar organises Civic Action Programme at Chotay Taray Foundation Bemina for specially abled children

Srinagar/March 18: RPHQ Srinagar organized a programme under civic action programme (CAP) of J&K Police at Chotay Taray Foundation at Bemina for specially abled children by donating wheelchairs, sewing machines, smart TV, School bags and stationary items.

On the occasion, DIG CKR Shri Sujit Kumar-IPS alongwith SP South Shri Gaurav Sikarwar, SDPO West Shri Shahjahan, SHO PS Batamaloo Shri Sabzar and other ranks of RPHQ Srinagar were present. The officer interacted with these little angels and showed caring for them. The occasion brought joy on the faces of these children.  
 Speaking on the occasion, DIG CKR expressed love and affection for these children and observed that it is first such function during the current year but the Police Department should make more such programmes under CAP with specially abled children. The Officer further expressed his resolve that he shall be taking up the matter with Police Headquarters to allocate more funds under CAP in future for specially abled children and also stated that he shall personally also make efforts to look after such children by taking it up with senior officers of the department for conducting more such functions under CAP.  
 On the occasion, Kehwa and snacks were also served to all those present.

PIB Jammu organizes Media Workshop 'Vartalap' at Rajouri



Rajouri, March 18, 2023 Press Information Bureau (PIB) Jammu today organized Media Workshop 'Vartalap', aimed at building a direct interface between PIB and the journalists working at district and sub-district levels, in district Rajouri. The workshop, organized at Dak Bungalow Rajouri, was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Sh. Vikas Kundal in presence of Joint Director, Central Bureau of Communication (CBC) J&K, Sh. Ghulam Abbas and Deputy Director PIB Jammu, Ms. Ayushi Puri. In his inaugural address, Sh. Kundal appreciated the efforts of PIB Jammu for organizing the media workshop 'Vartalap' in district Rajouri which he termed as the best platform for a dialogue between media and the government. He said that media being the fourth pillar of democracy acts as eyes and ears of the government and such coordination is essential to obtain necessary feedback and address the concerns regarding implementation of the schemes and programmes of the government at the ground level. He also presented the developmental scenario of the district and informed the gathering about the progress being made under various Central Government schemes and initiatives like PMAY, Jal Jeevan Mission etc. in the district. Ms Ayushi Puri, in her address, said that media is the most powerful tool for dissemination of information. Besides focusing on investigative journalism, media should also focus on development journalism, she added. She later stressed on media ethics and code of conduct for journalists before reporting on various issues. Addressing the gathering, Sh. Abbas said, the media units of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in Jammu and Kashmir are playing a pivotal role in the dissemination of information of the government schemes and programmes at the grass root level through different programs organized throughout Jammu and Kashmir by PIB, CBC, AIR and DD. Additional Superintendent of Police, Rajouri, Vivek Shekhar Sharma speaking on the media sensitivity in border districts said that media in the border districts of J&K must cross check facts with proper analysis before publishing the news in print, electronic and digital media. Breaking news syndrome sometimes has a cascading effect which can prove harmful to the security of the state, he added. He stressed that media must call for the queries especially during sensitive situations and must not publish the news in the real-time for monetary gains that can have negative repercussions. District Information Officer, Rajouri, Narender Raina in his address highlighted the achievements of the district under various schemes and programmes of the government. He also stressed that media code of conduct for journalists must be kept in mind before reporting on an event. Assistant Director, CAPD, Mohamad Arif Lone in his address said that media, being the best interface between the government and the citizens, can play a vital role in consumer sensitization. He added that media must spread awareness regarding 'Consumer Protection Act' which deals with matters relating to violation of consumer's rights, unfair trade practices, misleading advertisements, and all those circumstances which are prejudicial to the consumer's rights. Sh. Sheikh Mudassar Amin, Media & Communications Officer, PIB Jammu welcomed media and the guests and also presented vote of thanks.

Div Com reviews action plan to revive old Vaishno Devi Yatra route

JAMMU, MARCH 18: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar chaired a meeting of concerned officers today to review the action plan to revive the old Vaishno Devi Yatra route (Nagrota to Deva Mai). Representatives of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Pracheen Marg Shrines Sanstha informed the Div Com that the old Vaishno Devi Yatra route was the only route to Vaishno Devi and groups of pilgrims used that route. It was revealed that many ancient temples are on the route and pilgrims used to visit those temples during yatras during Navratras. They also discussed the significance and historical perspective of the ancient route, which passes through Jagdamba Mata Kheer Bhawani temple, Jagti, Durga Mata temple Pangali, Shiv temple Thandapani-Drabi, Shiv Shakti temple, Raja Mandleek temple and Raja Nowalgar temple Marh, Kali Mata temple Gundla Talab, Ram Darbar, Shiv Temple Bamyal and Oli temple Chhapanoo-Bamyal.

AAY

to the guidelines and is sheer injustice to those who are needy and deserving and as reported by field functionaries many families whose economic status has improved by way of Govt. Employment, Business and other sources are not cooperating with them for conversion of their Ration Cards from PHH/AAY to NPHH/EX", reads the order. "Now in view of above (observations) and through the medium of this circular, all the Households whose economic status has improved and are still having AAY/PHH Ration Cards are hereby informed to surrender their AAY/PHH Ration Cards to their concerned Tehsil Supply Office within fifteen days (15) falling which action under norms shall be initiated forthwith," the order added. (GNS)

Dozens Of Women Among Several Who Joined PDP At Bhadarwah

Amir Iqbal Khan



Bhadarwah, March 18: Dozens of people, mostly women, joined the People's Democratic Party (PDP) during the party workers meeting and joining programme at Mohalla Havelli area of Bhadarwah constituency on Saturday. They joined the party in presence of senior PDP leaders Zaffar Hussain Wani (Youth Vice President District Doda), Mohammad Salim Butt (Block President), Nazir Ahmed Shah (Zonal President), Nighat Choudhary (District Vice President Mahilla Wing), Rukhsana Begum (Zonal President Mahilla Wing) and Umar Tak (Block President Youth). They were heartily welcomed into the party fold by the leaders.

A large number of people, mostly youth and women attended the programme during which the participants raised slogans in favour of Mehbooba Mufti and pledged their support and allegiance to her.  
 "Braving the present circumstances, several people from different parts of Bhadarwah assembled at the residence of Nighat Choudhary at Mohalla Havelli of additional district Bhadarwah to participate in the party meeting," PDP leader Zaffar Hussain Wani told.  
 Speaking on the occasion, Mohammad Salim Butt said, "BJP is playing divisive politics in Jammu and Kashmir but in today's world, there is no space for fake and vote bank politics as people are mature enough to understand the designs of BJP."

Nazir Ahmed Shah said that PDP is the sole party that is committed to serving the people irrespective of caste, colour and creed. "Ever since the abrogation of Article 370 on 5th August 2019, there is unrest everywhere and the people of Jammu and Kashmir are confronted with uncalled for challenges like joblessness, rising prices of essential commodities etc." Shah lamented.

Prominent among those who joined PDP included Shilpa Devi, Asha Devi, Rajni Devi, Usha Devi, Renu Devi, Kanta Devi, Rakshi Devi, Sunil Kumar, Mohammad Shafi, Farooq Ahmed and others..

AJKPC Pledges to Launch Anti Drug Movement Across J & K



Pulwama, 18/March/2023: In continuation of its series of block wise programs, All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC), a registered organization working for the welfare of rural areas today held a Panchayat Dialogue event in district Pulwama wherein besides elected Panchayat representatives prominent locals of the district also attended the program. The program started with a welcome address greeting the Chief Guest Anil Sharma, president of the AJKPC.  
 Anil Sharma, while addressing the congregation appreciated the Panches, Sarpanches and members of his organization to organize such interactive programs to discuss community issues. Sharma said Gram Sabhas of the Panchayats are the basic democratic institutions that have legitimate cover to hold debate on all social and community issues concerning the villagers.  
 The AJKPC President informed the participants that his organization has been playing a significant role in raising all important issues of the society including menace of Drug addiction and urged the Panchayat representatives to play active role and assist the law enforcement agencies in putting a check on this social evil that is not only spoiling the lives of individuals, their families but also causing a serious threat to the general society as it give rise to crime and have the tendency to put national security at risk also.

Surnandan Bharati celebrated Foundation Day

SOURAV DUTTA,



Kolkata: Surnandan Bharati celebrated its 30th Foundation Day with a cultural evening dedicated to the memory of eminent Bengali Rabindra Sangeet singer Arabinda Biswas recently staged at the Indumati Sabhagriha on 28th February. This organization is instrumental in organizing miscellaneous events throughout the year. Artists from different genres of musical discipline are part of a book 'Refulgent Luminaries' published by Surnandan Bharati, who provides a cultural platform for aspiring and eminent artists in the field of music, dance and art. It also marks the birth centenary of rabindra sangeet exponent Arabinda Biswas and Surnandan Bharati's 30 years of its existence. In this context the spokesman of the institution Ritish Ranjan Chakraborty in his speech he felt that yesteryears artists who ushered in this golden era of Bengali culture appear to have been forgotten by new age generation. Arabinda Biswas may be deemed one among them. Among other speakers were other eminent vocalists Dr. Sree Kumar Chattopadhyay, Lopamudra Mitra, London based poet-painter-baul singer exponent Papia Ghoshal, tabla player Abhijit Ghosh and poetess Sreela Biswas. Srikumar Chattopadhyay and Lopamudra Mitra were presented the Arabinda Biswas Memorial Award. Other recipient of the Sangeetnandan Award was USA based tabla-sitar and vocal exponent Ustad Hamid Hussain. A special issue of Ra Patrika on Arabinda Biswas was inaugurated by Papia Ghoshal.

The cultural evening opened with a Rabindra sangeet rendered in the vocal Jaba Mukhopadhyay. This was followed by a session of elocution presented by Simantika Bhattacharya. Rabindra Sangeet and Ghazal were sung by Indrani Chakraborty. It was an enthralling evening for listeners who attended the cultural programme. Pt. Keshab Banerjee rendered a Kheyal and came in for praise by all those who attended. Synchronising with the rhythm of Rabindra Sangeet, Arijita Das gave a visual dimension of the melody with her brush strokes in canvas.

# Interdepartmental Women Cricket Tournament concludes at IUST

Awantipora, March 16: The final match of the Interdepartmental Women Cricket Tournament was played between Food Technology and Electrical Engineering departments. The tournament formed a part of series of sports events organized by Directorate of Physical Education and Sports, IUST under the aegis of Khelo India Dus ka Dum, with the purpose of empowering women through Sports. The match was witnessed by students and faculty. Mr. Zafar Shawl Additional Deputy Commissioner Pulwama was Chief Guest while as Prof. Naseer Iqbal Registrar IUST and Mr Sameer Wazir Finance Officer IUST were the Guests of



Honour. The winner's trophy was lifted by Department of Food Technology and Player of the match was awarded to Tazmeena and Player of the series was awarded to Rutba both from Department of Food Technology. Dr. Hilal Ahmad Rather, Asstt. Director Physical Education welcomed the guests and briefed them about the different initiatives being taken by the Directorate for promotion of

Sports among the students under the guidance of Honourable Vice Chancellor. The final match of the Interdepartmental Women Cricket Tournament was played between Food Technology and Electrical Engineering departments. The tournament formed a part of series of sports events organized by Directorate of Physical Education and Sports, IUST under the aegis of Khelo India Dus ka Dum, with the purpose of empowering women through Sports. The match was witnessed by students and faculty. Mr. Zafar Shawl Additional Deputy Commissioner Pulwama was Chief Guest while as Prof. Naseer Iqbal Registrar IUST.

# Infantino re-elected, Women's World Cup prize money increased

MUMBAI: Mohammed Shami's bowling figures of 3-17 and an unbeaten 75 by KL Rahul helped India beat Australia by five wickets in the first One-day International on Friday. Australia were bowled out for 188 in 35.4 overs after a dramatic collapse following opener Mitchell Marsh's 65-ball 81 at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai. In a tricky chase, India were in trouble at 39-4 before Rahul stayed calm and put on key partnerships including an unbeaten 108-run stand with Ravindra Jadeja, who made 45, to achieve victory in 39.5 overs. The hosts lead the three-match series 1-0 with the two teams warming up for the 50-over World Cup later this year in India. Bowlers ruled in the ODI opener with Shami and Mohammed Siraj taking three wickets each to make Australia slide from a strong 129-2 after being invited to bat first. The Australian innings turned on its head after Marsh, who is playing as a specialist batsman after recovering from an ankle injury, departed in the 20th over. He put on 72 runs for the second wicket with skipper Steve Smith and smashed 10 fours and five sixes to take



the wind out of the Indian bowlers who hit back with wickets. Marsh reached his fifty with a boundary and another four got Australia past 100 before he fell to Jadeja in his attempt to go after the left-arm spinner and got caught. Australia suddenly lost their way as Shami with help from Jadeja and Siraj ripped through the rest of the Australian order. Josh Inglis, who donned the wicket-keeping gloves after Alex Carey was ruled out sick, looked good in his knock of 26 before being bowled by Shami.

# Inter-State Volleyball Kabaddi Competitions Conclude at Kathua

Kathua March 18: Under J&K Government's Rural Sports initiative, Volleyball and Kabaddi competitions at Panchayat Taryara (Barnoti) were organised by DDC/BDC/PRI in collaboration with Department of Youth Services and Sports JK here. Hundreds of young sports enthusiasts participated in the competitions. Director, Youth Services and Sports (YS&S) J&K, Subash Chibber who was the chief guest on the occasion appreciated the efforts of co-organizers for channelizing the sport's talent of young blood through such activities. He stated that it's heartening to see such talented youth utilizing their energies in the most constructive manner. "Sports has a vital role in eradicating bad behavior in youth and it works as a supplement for inculcating discipline and a sense of responsibility in people. Current dispensation under the able leadership of Hon'ble Lt. Governor is committed to engage youth in sports activities across J&K and we are seeing a visible change in youth towards Games and Sports," Director YS&S added. Deputy Director, YSS Jatinder Mishra, DYSSO Kathua Sunil Kumar along with other senior officials of the Department



and district level field staff of the Department of Youth Services and Sports was also present on this occasion. General public in large numbers had gathered to witness the sporting event. These matches were organised under the banner of mission Youth J&K. Later on Director YS&S distributed certificates, trophies and mementos among the teams and players. General public in large numbers had gathered to witness the sporting event. These matches were organised under the banner of mission Youth J&K. Later on Director YS&S distributed certificates, trophies and mementos among the teams and players.

# RCB trainer explains Kohli's dedication towards excellence

Bengaluru, Mar 18(UNI) Virat Kohli's passion for fitness is well-known, and the batting ace's commitment towards physical conditioning has sparked a revolution of sorts in Indian cricket as the players embraced a new culture of fitness. While Kohli is the trend-setter, Basu Shanker, the strength and conditioning coach of Royal Challengers Bangalore, has been a silent catalyst. While speaking on RCB Podcast Season 2, Basu gave some insights into the fitness world of Kohli and how it impacted other cricketers. Even Basu, who has worked with several athletes across disciplines, was blown away by the commitment of Kohli towards fitness. "Virat has seen me training Deepika Palikal (India squash player and the wife of Dinesh Karthik) and that time she was in the top 10. So, Kohli told me don't treat me like a cricketer and work with me like an individual athlete. So, I told him you will have to train like an Olympic athlete and I used to quote Novak Djokovic to him then. I am not tired of telling this but I have never ever seen a guy like Virat



Kohli. He can do the simple, most boring things of life every day and it does not matter whether he is performing or not (on the field). But that zeal and extraordinary passion towards excellence is mind boggling. It helped me put across my syllabus to him," said Basu. Basu, who also worked with Team India, said once Kohli, the then India and RCB captain, was convinced of following the fitness pattern, it was easy for him to get the message across to other players, and cited the example of Dinesh Karthik.

# Tokyo success was a big boost to Indian Hockey: Thakur

New Delhi, Mar 18 (UNI) Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports on Friday while speaking at the Hockey India 5th Annual Awards 2022 identified the good showing by both the Men's and Women's teams at Tokyo Olympics as a big shot in the arm for Hockey in India. "Tokyo Olympics was not an easy tournament, it was just at a time when Covid pandemic was waning, training for the tournament was a big challenge but in Bengaluru whether it be the Men's team or the Women's team, camps were organised for both of them and meticulous preparations were done. The wait we had for 41 years came to an end when the men's team won a medal at the Games. The women's team won against formidable Australia and they performed remarkably well. Hockey was that one game



for which the entire country became euphoric they celebrated the success by bursting crackers as if it was Diwali." Thakur identified a positive growth trajectory for Hockey in the country in recent times "In Hockey today we see that Punjab and Haryana domination does not persist now Jharkhand, MP, Odisha, North Eastern states all have a huge representation in the team. Important tournaments are being organised across various parts of India, recently Odisha.

# Chennai Super Kings Eyeing Stake in Major League Cricket's Texas Team, Announcement Soon

Chennai Super Kings (CSK) could be eyeing a stake in the Texas team, one of Major League Cricket's (MLC) six sides. The four-time IPL winners on Saturday revealed that they will soon make a "major announcement" with regard to their association with the new T20 tournament in the US. San Francisco Unicorns, Los Angeles, New York, Seattle Orcas, Texas and Washington D.C. are the six teams competing in the tournament, scheduled to begin on July 13 this year. MLC had announced on Friday that another IPL franchise Delhi Capitals, co-owned by GMR Group, will partner with Seattle Orcas to "help build and operate a world-class cricket team". The Seattle Orcas' lead



investor group includes Satya Nadella, chairman and CEO of Microsoft and Soma Somasegar, managing director of Madrona Ventures, among others. In their cryptic message on social media on Saturday, CSK said, "Major announcement soon. Howdy Texas! Show some yellow to our NRI cousin, @TeamTexasMLC!" The development comes a day before the MLC Domestic Player Draft scheduled to take place in Houston with more than 100 players eligible to represent the "USA cricket community" in the tournament. "The remainder of each team's player roster will be filled with some of the

best T20 cricketers from around the globe," MLC said in a statement on Friday. A report in Esprncricinfo on March 16 had said that Kolkata Knight Riders had taken charge of the Los Angeles franchise, while Mumbai Indians will run the New York franchise on their own. The 2023 season will feature 19 matches to be played over 18 days, building up to the final on July 30. The Seattle Orcas' lead investor group includes Satya Nadella, chairman and CEO of Microsoft and Soma Somasegar, managing director of Madrona Ventures, among others. In their cryptic message on social media on Saturday, CSK said, "Major announcement soon. Howdy Texas! Show some yellow to our NRI cousin.

# HBL Pakistan Super League: Qalandars upstage Zalmi to set up another title clash with Sultans

LAHORE: A partisan home crowd at the Gaddafi Stadium had gone quiet as Lahore Qalandars looked to be faltering in another chase. Having lost all four of their matches while batting second this season, the defending champions looked headed for another defeat in Eliminator-2 of Pakistan Super League against Peshawar Zalmi on Friday night. A spot in Saturday's final against Multan Sultans beckoning the winner, Qalandars fans had seen the back of top-order lynchpins Fakhar Zaman and Abdullah Shafique, their side reduced to 69-3 in their chase of 172. They needed a partnership and it was there that opener Mirza Tahir Baig and Sam Billings combined for a brisk 50-run stand that steadied their innings and helped their fans find their voice. Tahir had seen his opening partner Fakhar perish



trying to go big; bowled by Azmatullah Omarzai in the second over, debutant Ahsan Hafeez depart for 15 when attempting to hit out and only succeeding in getting an edge off Wahab Riaz that was snapped up by keeper Haseebullah Khan. He then played his part in a horrible mix-up that saw Abdullah run out for 10. Billings could've gone early too after

ter a miscommunication with Tahir but he went to his partner and calm things down. From there on, Tahir was more assured, a cut off Wahab that got him a boundary signalling the change in mindset. Billings got his first two boundaries in the next over, the 11th, bowled by Salman Irshad — one of Zalmi's match-winners in Eliminator-1 against Islamabad United the previous night. Tahir then drove spinner Mujeeb-ur-Rehman for four over extra cover for four and then bagged consecutive fours off Aamer Jamal before reaching his six with a towering six over fine leg. He was gone next ball, though, attempting a scoop but getting an edge through to Haseeb, for a 42-ball 54 that featured seven fours and two sixes. But Billings (28) and Sikander Raza (23) ensured the momentum didn't shift.

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