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HEADLINES TODAY

R.P. School GIRLS WING (LAWAIPORA) NURSERY 15th Sept 9962222222 BOYS WING (HMT) NURSERY to 1ST REGISTRATION OPEN

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mysterious blast in Poonch

M S NAZKI HT CORRESPONDENT

Jammu, Sep 16 (UNI) A private vehicle of a District Development Council member was damaged after an explosion in Surankote area of Poonch district in Jammu and Kashmir. No injury was reported, police said. "The personal vehicle of DDC member Surankote, Sohail Malik got damaged late last night after a mysterious explosion took place in front of his house, within the boundary wall," the police said.

Army to Commence Agniveer Recruitment at Pattan

Srinagar, Sep 16: Agniveer Recruitment Rally for male candidates will commence on 17 Sep 2022 at Haiderbeig area of Pattan in North Kashmir's Baramulla district, army said on Friday. The PRO defense in a statement issued to KNS said that male candidates of ten districts of UT of J&K and two districts of UT of Ladakh will be appearing for the recruitment for next few days. He said that the candidates who have applied for the rally have been allotted specific dates to appear for the rally. The rally has received overwhelming response, he said. He further said that the military, UT and district authorities have joined their hands to make the event a great success, which shall provide employment to large number of youth of the region. "All candidates are advised to beware of false promises made by various frauds and touts. The entire recruitment process is automated and no person can influence the result of any candidate. They should have faith in their own capabilities," he said.

Tremors Felt In Ladakh

Ladakh, Sep 16: An earthquake of magnitude 4.8 on the Richter scale occurred 189 km north of Leh's Alchi, said National Center for Seismology on Friday. The earthquake occurred at 4:19 am with a depth of 10 km below the ground. "An earthquake of magnitude 4.8 occurred 189 km north of Leh's Alchi. The depth of the earthquake was 10 km below the ground," National Center for Seismology (NCS) said in a tweet. Recently, Jammu and Kashmir witnessed over 8 earthquakes in a span of three days.

Police refute reports of kidnapping of minor children by non-locals in Ganderbal

Ganderbal, Sept 16: Jammu and Kashmir police on Friday refuted the reports of kidnapping of a minor child by some unknown non-locals in Yanihama locality of Lar in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. In a statement, issued to the news, a spokesperson said that some media groups have circulated news on social media platforms that some unknown non-locals tried to kidnap minor children at Yanihama, however, the matter got verified on ground. The statement reads that statements of house owner and other eye witnesses have been recorded which confirms that they were not involved in any criminal act. "They also stated that they were begging in the area and neither they tried to kidnap any minor children nor they indulged in any theft attempt," it reads. It added that social media platforms circulated this video without verifying the facts from local Police. "All Social Media platforms are directed not to circulate this fake news on social media. Whosoever shall be involved in circulating such fake and baseless news shall be held under relevant sections of law. Moreover, rumour mongers will be dealt strictly under law," it reads.

ACB raids Sonamarg Development Authority office in Ganderbal

Ganderbal, Sept 16 The Anti Corruption Bureau on Friday raided the office of Sonamarg Development Authority in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district, officials said here. An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer that a team of ACB raided the office of SDA today afternoon. He said that the team was scrutinising some records regarding permission granted to hoteliers for construction purposes—

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Empowering Divyangjan is and will remain the Topmost Priority of the Government : LG Manoj Sinha

HT News Network

Jammu, Sep 16 Stating that our objective is to achieve 100 per cent saturation of schemes for Divyangjan, women, senior citizens in the current financial year, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said that aids and assistive devices for empowerment of Divyangjan and bringing them in the mainstream of society have always been one of the topmost priorities of the Government. "Such initiatives are fitting tribute to the ideals and values that our society stands for," said the Lt Governor after inaugurating a free artificial limbs and calipers distribution camp at SKUAST, Jammu to mark birth centenary celebrations of Late Dr Uttam Chand Shastri. The Lt Governor appreciated Chudamani Sanskrit Sansthan, Basohli, Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, Mahavir Seva Sadan and Abha Bagodia Charitable Trust, Kolkata; SKUAST-Jammu and Central Sanskrit University, Ranbir Campus, Jammu for the remarkable, self-less and noble initiative.



The Lt Governor felicitated Dr Sanjay Sharma of GMC Jammu and Dr Vikas Padha of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Super speciality Hospital for their exemplary service and endeavour towards the noble cause of serving the people. "Selfless efforts to help others in need are the true service of mankind. It is our primary responsibility to mobilize resources for the Divyangjan, create infrastructure and facilities to make them equal partners in the nation's development journey," said the Lt Governor. He added, "enlightened citizens of the society and voluntary organizations must come forward and complement the government's efforts to provide succour to the sufferings of the people and contribute to the accessible India campaign." Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the UT Government is making dedicated efforts to bridge the gap

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 10

Decision of Sept 23 Holiday acknowledged of Maharaja's great contribution: LG Sinha

Jammu, Sep 16: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said that the decision to declare the birthday of Maharaja Hari Singh as a public holiday was taken to acknowledge the contribution of late Maharaja and respecting the sentiments of the local people. "The decision of Holiday (September 23, Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh) is a tributes and acknowledgment of contribution of Late Maharaja," the Lt Gov said, who recently announced public holiday on late Maharaja Hari Singh's birth anniversary. Maharaja Hari Singh was born on September 23, 1895 and died on 26 April, 1961. "Respecting the sentiments of the local people, this decision has been taken in view of the contributions of late Maharaja Hari Singh. I expect the official orders to be issued in a 2 or 3 days."

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Chairperson, J&K Haj Committee convenes meeting at Haj House

Take overview of Haj-2022, discusses preparation for Haj-2023

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 16: Safina Baig, Chairperson, J&K UT Haj Committee convened a meeting at Haj House Bemina, here to take an overview of Haj-2022 and discuss preparation for Haj-2023, Budget Estimates, repair/ renovation of infrastructure and auction of unserviceable/ scrap items. Among others, Talib Husain Choudhary, Member; Mohammad Rafiq Chishti, Member; Molvi Mohammad Ashraf, Member; Syed Mohammad Rafiq, Member; Dr. Abdul Salam Mir, Executive Officer; Irshad Ahmad Budoo, Haj Officer and Mohammad Irfan Akhoo, Accountant attended the meeting. The meeting held threadbare discussion regarding the agenda points and it was decided that the matter regarding hardships faced by Haj pilgrims of J&K UT on account of haphazard grouping/ congestion in rooms and distant accommodation for old aged pilgrims shall be taken up

with HCoI / CGI Jeddah to avoid recurrence of such accommodation problems during Haj - 2023. It was also decided that two members from J&K UT Haj Committee shall be kept in the Selection Committee for the interview of KhadimU-Hujjaj and no repeater KUH shall be selected for next Haj - 2023. Regarding the performance of KhadimU-Hujjaj, it was informed that there would be more accountability, reception of daily updates from KUHs, besides recommendation of strict disciplinary action to the respective departments of KUHs against the defaulters. It was also given out that two members of J&K UT Haj Committee shall proceed to Saudi Arabia to see the arrangements for the ensuing Haj 2023. For the convenience of Haj Pilgrims in Azizya Category, HCoI shall be requested to have a system of a single bus service instead of two for ferrying the pilgrims to and from Haram Sharief. The meeting decided

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New Curtailment schedule with less Power cuts on cards this winter

Schedule to be out next month: CE KPDCCL

Srinagar, Sep 16: With the augmentation of power infrastructure further in Jammu and Kashmir, the Valley would likely witness less power curtailments in the upcoming winter season while as the officials said that the new power curtailment schedule will be announced in next month. Talking to the news Chief Engineer, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCCL), Javed Yousuf Dar, said that the power infrastructure has further been augmented in the past one year. "There were less power curtailments in the last winters and with the further augmentation of power infrastructure, more relief is expected to the consumers this winters as well," Dar said. Asked about the new power curtailment schedule for winters, he said that the present schedule will continue for the next one month and new schedule will be announced once the temperature plummets in Kashmir—Asked about the new power curtailment scheduled for winters, he said that the present schedule will continue for the next one month and new schedule will be announced.

Govt accords sanction for shifting of paediatric services of GB Pant to Children's hospital Bemina

For shifting of CD hospital to GB Pant, Principal GMC asked to share detailed action plan

HT News Network

Srinagar, Sep 16: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday accorded sanction for shifting of paediatric services of GB Pant hospital to 500 bedded children's hospital Bemina. According to an order, a copy of which lies with the news Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Surgical services will continue to function at GB Pant hospital. In order to shift CD hospital Srinagar to GB Pant hospital Principal GMC Srinagar has been asked to share a detailed proposal delineating holistic action plan. "In the interest of seamless patient



care, sanction is hereby accorded to shifting of entire pediatric services of GB Pant Hospital Srinagar to newly constructed 500 Bedded Children Hospital Bemina Srinagar, by Principal, GMC Srinagar after assessing the proper functionality of all vital aspects and continuation of Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology and Surgical Services along with dispensaries and commercial services at GB Pant Hospital Srinagar as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)," reads the order.

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CBI arrests 3 accused in J&K over alleged irregularities in JKSSB SI recruitment case

HT News Network

New Delhi, Sep 16: In a recent update on the Jammu and Kashmir Sub-Inspector recruitment scam, three persons have been arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Friday morning. Notably, this came two days after CBI registered a case against 33 accused in allegations regarding malpractices in the examination for the posts of Sub-Inspectors. Police constable Raman Sharma, Akhnoor Toot Suresh Kumar, and Akhnoor Teacher Jagdish Sharma have been arrested by CBI. The residences of all three accused were raided on Tuesday. Several digital devices and documents have been seized by CBI and more arrests are likely in Jammu over alleged irregularities in Jammu and Kashmir SI recruitment. CBI raids multiple locations in Jammu Notably, the Central Bureau

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Minor girl taken away by leopard in Uri, search ops launched

HT News Network

Baramulla, Sep 16: A minor was taken away from outside her home in Gawashar village of Uri in North Kashmir's Baramulla district on Friday evening even as a massive search operation has been launched. An official told the news that the leopard entered into the courtyard of her house and took her. He said that the family members tried to chase the leopard but it disappeared into the dark. He said that the family members later raised alarm and gathered the villagers following which they along with police launched a massive search operation to trace the minor girl. The official identified the

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CS chairs 5th Governing Council Meeting of Ayushman Bharat

Gives concurrence to adoption of 'e-RUPI' for meeting out of pocket expenditure made by patients



HT News Network

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 16: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today chaired the 5th Governing Council Meeting of State Health Agency (SHA) and also reviewed its performance regarding the implementation of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)/AB-PMJAY Sehat here in the UT. The meeting was attended by

Additional Chief Secretary, Finance; Commissioner Secretary, Labour and Employment; Secretary, Health; Secretary, IT; Principals of Medical Colleges, Srinagar/Jammu; Directors of Health Kashmir/Jammu, Nodal Officer, SHA; SGNO, SHA; and other officers of the concerned Departments. Jammu based officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing. Dr Mehta impressed upon the officers to ensure that each person is facilitated to obtain the available benefits. He asked them to work for registering each person under the scheme so that the end person receives free medical care as envisaged under the scheme. The Chief Secretary also emphasized upon the health authorities to work towards creating health history of the patients starting from those of students in our schools. He urged them to make it convenient for every person to register for the scheme at his doorsteps. He maintained that the scheme should be saturated fully in both urban and rural areas. He exhorted upon them to conduct the Governing body meetings quarterly for timely

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COVID: J&K reports 23 fresh cases, no death

TAJAMUL BUKHARI HT CORRESPONDENT

Srinagar, Sep 16: Jammu and Kashmir Friday reported 24 fresh cases of Covid-19, taking the number of active cases to 269 while no more death was reported in the UT in last 24 hours and death toll stands at 4,784. An official told the news agency—that among 23 new cases, 16 belong to Kashmir division while as 07 to Jammu division. He said that the total number of positive cases in Kashmir have reached to 304,987 including 302,417 recoveries and 2,433 deaths, while total number of positive cases in Jammu division have reached to 173,907 including 171,444 recoveries and 2,351 deaths. He further said that the total number of active cases in Jammu and Kashmir are 249 including 137 from Kashmir division and 112 from Jammu division. With 43 more recoveries, the tally of total recoveries in J&K has reached to 473,861 which is 98.95 per cent of the total cases. "Among the fresh 23 cases total, 05 are from Srinagar, 02 from Baramulla, 06 from Budgam,

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Ahead of Navratras, DIG reviews security of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine

HT News Network

Jammu, Sep 16 In view of forthcoming Navratra festival and visit of pilgrims, the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Udhampur-Reasi Range Mohd Suleman Choudhary on Friday conducted security review meeting for Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine at Katra town in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting was attended by Amit Gupta SSP Reasi, Commandant CRPF, SP Katra, SDPO Katra, Dy.SP Bhawan, SHO Police Station Katra & Bhawan and Officers from Army, IB, CID, Railway and other intelligence agencies. During the meeting special emphasis were given to ensure fool proof security of the yatrias at track upto Bhawan in which strict directions have been passed to carryout thorough checking of all the suspected people, so that no unwanted elements is allowed to indulge in any kind of criminal activities or any action which may prove prejudicial to the security of the area, besides this joint long range patrols of JKP/CRPF have also been launched round the clock in the entire area of Katra and Bhawan and its surrounding areas. SSP Reasi presented a detailed security grid in place for Katra town, discussed various security

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Willow shortage hits Kashmir bat industry, manufacturers worried

Hundreds of families staring at job losses if shortage continues

HT-BOTTOM

HT NEWS NETWORK/KNO

Srinagar, Sep 16: Kashmir's bat manufacturers are facing losses in the face of willow shortage. A spokesperson of Bat Manufacturers Union Fawzul Kaber told news agency—that the industry has been producing bats and is meeting about 85 percent of world cricket demand of world cricket since 1920. Fawzul, who is also

owner of the GR8 Sports and has provided bats to international cricketers, said that no-body plants willow trees now causing the ongoing shortage. "The government can intervene by planting willow saplings on wetlands, banks of water bodies, state land, marshy land and other land available so that the willow will remain available in abundance and then bat can reach to every corner of the world," he said. Fawzul said that presently there are one lakh skilled and unskilled labourers associat-



ed with the industry besides five thousand families who are completely dependent on this industry and if this industry collapses, they will be jobless. "The 50 percent of our work is getting affected as there is shortage of supply and manufacturers are just able to produce 30-40 percent of bats as compared to their demand," he said. Willows are on the verge of extinction now in Kashmir and if the government won't intervene, it is going to collapse." Firdous Ahmad Khan, owner

of Khan International Sports and senior member of the association told KNO that out of 205 units in Halmulla-Sethar area of Anantnag, 50 have already closed their units while rest are not even able to produce 50 percent of the demand. He said that willow is being given to other sectors like ply which must be stopped and willow must be kept only for bat industry as other sectors have options available. He thanked the government that last they distributed 1500 willow saplings among

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Two week long Swachhata Pakhwaada concludes at NIT Srinagar

Srinagar, Sep 16: The two week long Swachhata Pakhwaada 2022 concluded on Friday at National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar and during the program many activities were organized by the organizers.

The program was organized by the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) Committee of NIT Srinagar from 1st September 2022 to 15th September 2022. Both faculty members and students took active part in all activities on the campus.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal along with Registrar Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari and Dean Students Welfare Prof. Abdul Liman felicitated the winners with mementoes and certificates.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. Sehgal said "Swachhata Pakhwaada" is a part of "Swachhata Abhiyan" and it was initiated, with the objective of bringing a fortnight of intense focus on the issues and practices of cleanliness.

"The main purpose of this Programme was to create awareness among our students about the need and importance of a clean environment," he said.

Prof. Sehgal said they will get complacent and the



continue to support such programs on the campus, so that everyone will benefit from these initiatives. Institute's Registrar, Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari said it is not just the responsibility of one person, but the entire society should come forward and make their surroundings neat and clean.

"People should fear the consequences of pollution and filth. As long as the fear exists, people won't

campaign won't lose footfalls," he said, adding that such campaigns are the need of the hour.

Prof. Bukhari also discussed various initiatives with the students to make NIT Srinagar a green campus. He also urged students to protect and conserve the environment at the individualistic level.

EBSB Committee members Dr. Ranjeet Kumar Rout, Dr. Vijay Kumar, Dr. Manoj Kumar, Dr. Sha-

keel Wasim, Dr. Mukund Dutt Sharma, Dr. Mohsin Khan, Dr. Omkar Singh, and Dr. Jaya Srivastava are jointly organizing Swachhata Pakhwaada to motivate the students towards a clean and green initiative.

Prof. Sehgal, Prof. Bukhari, Prof. Liman, and EBSB Committee members along with all other faculty members and student volunteers took Swachhata Shapath (Oath) to make the country clean. They also initiated a "Cleaning March" around the campus.

The two week program mega awareness campaigns included, cleanliness of public places including canteens and health centre, collection of polythene bags from campus, hand wash and mask distribution campaigns, and Personal Hygiene Day.

"Green Institute Drive (Sapling Plantation and their survival), community outreach among the public in adjacent areas, Swachhata Action Day and prize distribution day in which students were encouraged to continue such initiatives.



Women carry food for relatives working in the rice field during the harvesting of paddy crop on the outskirts of Srinagar on Friday. UNI PHOTO-17U

DC Ganderbal chairs meeting of District Level Plastic Waste Management Cell

GANDERBAL, SEPTEMBER 16: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today chaired a meeting of District Level Plastic Waste Management Cell at VC Room of DC Office, here.

At the outset, threadbare discussions were held on the action plan of Plastic Waste Management and present status with regard to implementation of the Action Plan to eliminate the plastic waste in the district. After a threadbare discussion, the DC gave necessary instruction for elimination of single use plastic from all places including Govt. Offices, schools and colleges in the district.

To implement the Action Plan on ground, the DC directed the Municipal Council Ganderbal to prepare the list of shops who are selling plastic material for marriage purposes and guide them to use eco-friendly biodegradable substitutes for single use plastic and polythene.

Divisional Officer, Pollution Control Board was directed to keep vigil if any

supplier is involved in transporting single use plastic and polythene from outside districts and action as per law shall be initiated against such persons involved. On the occasion, the DC called for mass mobilization for elimination of single use plastic and stressed upon the concerned authorities for taking measures so that the plastic waste is properly and adequately collected, segregated and reprocessed. The authorities of all Colleges of the district were asked to start sanitation drives in nearest villages/ARs involving their own resources, PIRs and civil societies so that such villages are made garbage free to preserve the ecological balance. To ensure cleanliness of water bodies, the DC was directed to prepare a list of water bodies that are in vicinity of Colleges of district and share the same list to the college authorities who shall maintain the cleanliness of such water bodies. The GM, DIC was directed to ensure proper disposal of

industrial waste and was asked to identify eco-friendly biodegradable material suppliers and manufacturing units and share the list so that people are encouraged to use such materials as substitutes for single use plastic and polythene.

The enforcement wing was directed to launch a massive drive against the violators selling and purchasing items in polythene bags. The DC also stressed on better coordination among the line departments and other stake holders so that desired results are achieved regarding elimination of single use plastic in the district. The meeting was attended by ADC, Farooq Ahmad Baba, ACD, GM, DIC, Exen R&B, Divisional Officer, Pollution Control Board, AD, FC&CS, Dean Faculties of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry SKUAST-K Shuhama, Forestry SKUAST-K Benhama Lar and Fisheries SKUAST-K Rangil, officers from Degree College Kangan, Engineering College Saporora.

Atal Dulloo directs officers to ensure priority passage to fruit laden trucks

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 16: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department (APD), Atal Dulloo today chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to discuss the issues/difficulties pertaining to the movement of trucks carrying Fruits & Vegetables on National Highway from valley.

While chairing the meeting, Atal Dulloo directed the concerned

authorities to take immediate measures so that fruit laden trucks are provided a smooth passage.

ACS directed Police and Traffic authorities to provide round the clock and hassle-free safe passage to the fruit laden trucks on the interior roads and highway on priority basis and avoid unwarranted stoppages enroute.

He further directed them to monitor the fruit transportation on daily basis besides they will hold review meetings with fruit growers and other concerned officers and take further course of necessary action.

Atal Dulloo said that fruits and vegetables being perishable commodities, need hassle free passage of movement from Kashmir valley and all

measures shall be taken to ensure early, prompt and remunerative marketing.

The meeting was attended by Secretary Tribal Affairs, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Secretary in Agriculture Production Department Mohammad Akbar Wani, senior officers from Horticulture, Agriculture, Traffic, Police Departments and fruit growers.

Atal Dulloo chairs meeting to discuss implementation of A-Help in JK



SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 16: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department (APD), Atal Dulloo today chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to discuss the implementation of A-HELP Program (Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production) in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Secretary in Agriculture Production Department, Representative of Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries Animal Husbandry and Dairying, GoI, Representative of Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development, GoI, Director Sheep Husbandry Kashmir/Jammu, Special Secretary Agriculture Production Department, Managing Director JK Rural Livelihood Mission, Director Animal Husbandry Kashmir/Jammu, Director Finance Agriculture Production Department, Deputy Director Planning Agriculture Production Department, Technical Officer of Agriculture Production Department and other officers. Jammu based officers attended the meeting through Video Conferencing.

While chairing the meeting, Atal Dulloo highlighted that the dovetailing and synergizing efforts of the Department of Animal husbandry & Dairying (DAHD) & Department of Rural Development (DoRD) especially in the context of the common objective of helping the farmers will go a long way in helping the farmers double their income. He directed the concerned officers to work in a coordinated manner so that a well defined road map is prepared for successful implementation of A-HELP in J&K. Atal Dulloo said that the success of A-HELP scheme will depend on how well the scheme is implemented and monitored and said therefore, a well defined and yet flexible and participatory institutional structures will be put in place at all levels. A-HELP is being implemented across the country by using the existing cadre developed under DAY-NRLM for livestock (Pashusakhis) by providing further training and accreditation as A-HELP worker and will be inaugurated in J&K in the month of October. A-HELP worker will be the first port of call for any health-related demands of livestock population in a village, especially those who find it difficult to access the veterinary health services. A detailed presentation was also given out on the occasion and was given out that A-HELP will help the farmers for Ration Balancing programme and also support animal owners in conservation of feed, Vaccination, ear-tagging and Artificial Insemination for the animals after training and information on calf birth.

Police solves cattle theft case within 24 hours in Bandipora, accused arrested

September 16: Police in Bandipora have solved a cattle theft case by arresting an accused person involved in the commission of crime and recovered stolen cattle from his possession.

Police Station Bandipora received a complaint from a shepherd namely Abdul Khaliq son of Mohammad Abdullah resident of Rajouri Kalakote stating therein that during the intervening night of 14/15 September, some unknown thieves have stolen his 7 Sheeps near Ronger Khan (Ajar Chowk) Bandipora. Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 159/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered in PS Bandipora and investigation was taken up.

On receipt of this information, a police party headed by SHO PS Bandipora under the supervision of DySP Hqs Bandipora Shri Shafat Mohamad JKPS, after strenuous efforts and human/technical inputs arrested one person within 24 hours. He has been identified as Zubair Ahmad Ganie son of Gh Mohamad Ganie resident of Nowpora Bandipora. During questioning, he confessed his involvement in the commission of crime and on his disclosure 7 sheeps were also recovered from his possession.

During the further course of investigation, the arrested accused person also confessed the involvement of his father Gh Ahmad Ganie son of Ab Ahad Ganie resident of Nowpora and efforts are on to arrest him. Further investigation of the case is going on. Community members have applauded the efforts made by the Police in cracking/solving the burglary case. Our consistent actions shall assure community members that Police has resolved to act tough against individuals involved in any kind of criminal activities.

Public Notice

I Muhammad Rasheed Mir S/O Jumma Ali Mir Resident of Sultan Dikki Baramulla, want to make it public that I want to change the Power Supply connection from my name to the name of Nafeesa Bano.

The said connection bearing Registration number/ Consumer No-0206050013220 is installed at Umar Colony lane no-04 Gund Hassibhat Lawaipora Srinagar. The said property/house which was in the name of my daughter Razia Bano. Now as my daughter has sold the said house to Nafeesa Bano, It has become imperative to change the name of the consumer from To Anybody having any objection may contact the said office of PDD situated at Gund Hassibhat Lawaipora Srinagar within seven days of publication of this notice.

No objections shall be entertained after the said date.

Name: Muhammad Rasheed Mir
S/O Jumma Ali Mir
Resident of Sultan Dikki Baramulla

دارالعلوم رشیہ بانڈی پورہ کشمیر

صدقہ جاریہ میں حصہ لینے کا سہرا موقوفہ دوبارہ میسر

زین کی خریداری یا مدرسہ اہلبیت کی تعمیر میں حصہ لے سکتے ہیں

دارالعلوم رشیہ بانڈی پورہ نے کچھ دنوں کی ویدیو میں بتاتے ہیں کہ جسے جو مدرسہ شروع کیا ہے، اس میں کام جاری ہے۔ ایک کروڑ روپے کی ایک تقریباً ایک لاکھ روپے کی ایک ایسی جگہ کا منصوبہ کر رہے ہیں کہ وہ اپنے ادارہ میں۔

مبلغ چاہے بڑا ہو یا چھوٹا۔

جو حضرت اپنے لئے یا اپنے والدین یا دیگر عزیزوں کے لئے اس میں حصہ لیں اور اس میں حصہ لیں۔

حصہ لینا چاہیں، وہ اب مدرسہ اہلبیت کے لئے ایک مستقل شکل چھوڑ دیں گا اور اس میں اپنی رقم جمع کر سکتے ہیں۔

کرت کا وقت نہیں ہے۔

0727010100000200

اس طرح سے کہ ایک سرکاری ٹرسٹ تقریباً ایک لاکھ روپے کے ہزار روپے ہے۔ نصف ملز

میں ہزار روپے (55000) اور چھ ماہ کے لئے اس سے تین ہزار روپے (27500) میں ہر پندرہ

ماہ کو اپنے لئے یا اپنے والدین کے لئے صدقہ جاریہ کے نام سے نام سے دارالعلوم رشیہ کے

کرت کا وقت ہے۔

0061010100001532

کرت کا وقت ہے۔

نوٹ: خواہ مخواہ حضرات بصورت مشورہ، باہمی لیا جاتا ہے کہ اس سے بچ سکیں۔

کے لئے صدقہ جاریہ میں حصہ لینا چاہیں۔

مدرسہ اہلبیت میں حصہ لینا چاہیں۔

پہلے سے جاری کرت کا وقت نہیں ہے۔

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دارالعلوم رشیہ بانڈی پورہ کشمیر

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UNION TERRITORY JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI FEROZPORA BASIN IRRIGATION DIVISION TANGMARG.

Fresh E-TENDER NOTICE No.42 of 2022-23 OF(FBID Tangmarg) Office Phone No.01954-254611 Email Address: fbdivisiontangmarg@gmail.com

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of UT Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders on item rate basis are invited from approved registered eligible contractors with J&KUT.Govt. for following works:-

S. No	Name of work	Estt. Cost of Work (In Lacs)	Earnest Money (Amount in Rupees)	Time of completion	Class of Contract	Cost of Tender document (Amount in Rupee)	M.H. of Account	Ref.to AAA No	T.S	Position Of Funds
1	Construction of 0.50 lacs Gallon capacity sluice reservoir for Aug. of existing water supply Scheme at panchayat Chichloora.	18.30 lacs	36600/-	30 days	BEE /CEE	500/-	ADP Capex (PRI grants)	AAA No.125/DDC of 2022 Dated:- 01/08/2022	02-PHE Dated:-11-06-2022	Assured
2	Development of Gama Khul from house of Ab. Ahad Chowkdar on words at Muqdam Mohalla	4.25 lacs	8500/-	10 days	DEE	200/-	DDC grants	AAA No.126/DDC of 2022 Dated:- 01-08-2022	02-Irri Dated:-11-06-2022	Assured
3	Augmentation of Polarie water through development of Spring at Dadren under B2V3	2.90 Lacs	5800/-	7 days	DEE	200/-	B2V3	ACD/B2V3/Capex/2020-21/8986-90 Dated:- 25-07-2022	25-PHE Dated :- 31-08-2022	Assured

1	Publishing date:	15-09-2022	05:00 PM
2	Download date start:	15-09-2022	06:00 PM
3	Bid Submission date start:	16-09-2022	10:00 AM
4	Bid Submission date Ends:	22-09-2022	04:00PM
5	Date of Opening	23-09-2022	11:00 AM

Terms and Conditions:-

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of 2% CDR/FDR tender document non-refundable /non-transferable) to be deposited under M.H 0702 Rev Miscand S.No.3under M.H 0215 Rev.Miscin the shape of Treasury challan /e-challan (mentioning therein NIT No. S.No of work) to be pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti FBI Division Tangmarg and date on it must be prior to date of issuance of this tender notice, EMD).
- The work done Payments of these Adv. woks will be released through PFMS under area development plan CAPEX 2022-23 (PRI Grants/DDC Grants) PHE Sector /Irri. Sector.
- The work done Payments of Adv. Wok no.03will be released by the Rural development department (concerned BDO) through PFMS under 14th FC(B2V3) account of concerned Panchayat Halaqa with Panchayat secretary as first signatory and concerned Sarpanch 2nd signatory.
- The contractor has to arrange all key construction and any other material required for the execution and successfully completion of the works, as per orders of Engineer in charge, on his own. However, if any such material is available in the divisional stores, the same shall be supplied on stock issue rates prevailing at the time of the supply of such material including rapidite etc. if required onsite.
- No tender document will qualify if the tendered cost of the works, works out below 35% of advst. cost .The said tender will be rejected out rightly.
- The tenderer should in his own interest inspect and examine the site, its surroundings /topography, nature of ground, climatic conditions, accessibility or other relevant information at his own expenses and responsibility to satisfy himself before Tendering his rates for the different components of these advertised work.
- If LI fails to start the work within 15 days of the issuance of letter of intent or allotment, whichever is earlier, the department shall allot the work to the other willing Lowest bidder like L2, L3, L4 and EMD additional Security Performance of the lowest bidder shall be forfeited, besides debarring the Contractor for a period of two years for participating in the e-Nit's issued by the this division.
- Material component will be supplied by the department as per available stores and the cost will be recovered on Stock rates from the billed amount .
- The tender documents can be down loaded one-procurement Portal http://jktenders.gov.in The tender documents can be down loaded as per schedule shown in thee-nit. Three-tender so uploaded shall be accompanied withae-Challanor/TreasuryChallan/ Govt. Receipt/drawn in favour of Executive Engineer JSD FBI Division Tangmarg towards the cost of the tender documents (Non-transferable /Non-refundable) as shown against each work above in thee-NIT, which shall not be refunded and shall be submitted up to the date mentioned above. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per information Technology Act 2000. Bid escargot digital certificate for Approve vendor. The bidders have to submit their Bids online in electronic form along with digital signature No. financial bid will be accepted in physical form. Bidders are advised to down load bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on Website http://jktenders.gov.in
- Perform Guarantee
- Performance guarantee 3% of allotted cost in the form of CDR/FDR/DD/BG shall be submitted be for the allotment is issued which will be released after the maintenance period is over.

DIPK-10099/22 Dated:-15-09-2022

Technical Officer
FBI Division Tangmarg

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
(Jal Shakti)

Important Notice

It is for general information that I have lost my 10th Pass Marks Certificate and Qualification Certificate bearing Roll No: 723574 session BI-Annual 2004. Now I have apply for its duplicate copies. In this regard if anybody have any objection may contact the concern office of JKBOSE Bemina Srinagar within seven days. After completion of time no objection will be entertained.

Mukhtar Ahmad Mir
R/o: Drusso, Pulwama
M: 9622391922

Director I&C Kashmir visits Industrial Estates of Shopian

SHOPIAN, SEPTEMBER 16: The Director Industries and Commerce (I&C), Kashmir, Salooni Rai today visited Industrial Estate Aglar and Industrial Estate Gagren in Shopian and met Unit holders there to redress their issues.

General Manager DIC Shopian; General Manager SICOP Kashmir, Dy. General Manager SICOP and Industrial Association of Aglar Industrial Estate were present on the occasion.

The Industrial Association on the occasion apprised the Director of various development deficits in the Estate and sought their redressal.

The issues flagged-off by the Association include better road connectivity, widening of interior roads, better and regular supply of electricity, circular road towards Industrial Estate, boundary

walls, macadamization, construction of drainage system in and around the Industrial Estate, removal of encroachments of land and redressal of Toll issue.

Director I&C assured the association that she will take up the issue with the concerned authorities for redressal and timely action.

The Director passed on spot directions to the General Manager DIC regarding conduct of periodic inspection of units operating in Industrial Estates to ensure effective operation of the units.

Later, the Director accompanied by General Manager DIC and other officers inspected the newly established units of Industrial Estate Aglar and expressed satisfaction for well established units.

AS College holds programme on 'Public Service & Crisis Management'

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 16: The Department of Public Administration, Amar Singh College, Cluster University Srinagar today organized an extension lecture on the theme "Public Service and Crisis Management: The Role of the Office of the Divisional Commissioner during the Covid-19 Pandemic", by Tahir Ahmad Magray.

Tahir Ahmad Magray is a JKAS Officer who served as Incharge Divisional Covid Control Room Kashmir and Incharge Shri Amarnathji control room and works with Divisional Commissioner Kashmir.

The function was attended by Principal Amar Singh College, Professor Bashir Ahmad Rather, faculty members and students of various departments of the college.

In his inaugural speech, Prof. Bashir Ahmad Rather highlighted the role of administration and public servants during crisis management.

He also reflected on the role of faculty and students during Covid-19 and close coordination among various departments to deal with the pandemic. He elucidated how the higher education sector during the pandemic introduced various disruptive innovations with positive impact on academic culture.

With vast experience in crisis management, Tahir Ahmad Magray in his lecture presented a detailed account of the working of the office of Divisional Commissioner and reflected on the various innovations and reforms in this institution over the years.



He explained the various steps that were taken by the administration to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic from strategic planning to

coordination with various departments to augment human resources, medical infrastructure and technical expertise besides keep-

ing check on misinformation and disinformation.

He gave a sketch about citizen-administration partnership and community dimension that was at work during crisis management. He highlighted the role of social media during Covid-19 and also highlighted the efforts to tackle fake news. He added that crisis management utilizes all the principles of administration during policy implementation and monitoring.

Magray put effort into creating a Toll free mental health helpline for counseling drug victims to bring them into the mainstream.

Besides, he also presented his ideas for rationalization of the use of the interlinking to protect youth from wasting valuable time and

energy. Dr Zubair Nazeer, Head of the Department of Public Administration reflected upon various theoretical principles of crisis management. He emphasized upon the fact that there is a huge difference in theory and practice.

Public servants have to use their own initiative and steps to deal with crisis like Covid-19 with a fine balance between theory and practice, he said.

Prof. Tafazzul Hussain from the Department of Political Science in his concluding remarks stated that the crisis management tests the resilience of the administration. He stated that public servants use their experience and decision making in tackling crisis like Covid-19 pandemic.ct.

Awareness on Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan held across Shopian

SHOPIAN, SEPTEMBER 16: As part of the 'Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan' campaign of the government, a number of programmes against drug addiction were held across Shopian today to make participants aware about substance abuse and way to get rid of this menace and its total eradication from society.

Speakers deliberated on the drug abuse and highlighted the need of taking preventive measures to eradicate the menace of drug addiction and other social evils in the district. The participants were asked to play a pro-active role in eradicating drugs from society and not to indulge in drug abuse.

The participants pledged to make the Shopian district free from drugs with the active support of District Administration, Police and Civil society.

The programmes witnessed overwhelming participation of teachers, students, staff and senior citizens who took pledge to fight against drug menace to

eradicate it forever. The Pledge taking ceremonies

against drug abuse. The aim of the programme was



against drug menace were held in various educational zones of the district in which teachers, staff and students of various educational institutions took part. The participants also raised slogans against drug menace and conveyed upon the concerned to take concrete measures against the ever-increasing drug abuse and also to raise awareness

to spread awareness amongst the people in general and youth in particular to take necessary steps for curbing the drug abuse. As part of the 'Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan' campaign of the government, a number of programmes against drug addiction were held across Shopian today to make participants aware about substance abuse and way

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DDC Kulgam reviews implementation of Amnesty scheme of PDD for domestic consumers

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, SEPTEMBER 16: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting of Officers of PDD and reviewed implementation of Amnesty Scheme of PDD for domestic consumers having arrears of more than Rs.10k. It was informed that under this scheme consumers shall have to pay only the principal amount and all surcharges shall be waived off after successful payment of basic principal amount. Besides, the consumer can also pay his basic principal amount in installments up to a maximum of 12 installments. Dr Bilal impressed upon the concerned to make wide publicity of the scheme through various mediums so that all domestic consumers eligible for amnesty are able to take advantage of this scheme. The DDC direct-



ed the Officers of Revenue department and Block Officers to facilitate the smooth implementation of consumer friendly amnesty scheme across the district. Executive Engineer KPDC, Tehsildars, BDOs, AEEs and other officers also participated in the meeting. It was

informed that under this scheme consumers shall have to pay only the principal amount and all surcharges shall be waived off after successful payment of basic principal amount. Besides, the consumer can also pay his basic principal amount in

Forest Division Bandipora issues licenses under JK Single Window System

BANDIPORA, SEPTEMBER 16: Forest Division Bandipora today distributed licenses to private Depot owners and firewood among fire victims in a programme organised at Divisional Forest Office Chittermar, here.

The programme was presided over by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests J&K, Dr Mohit Gera. The PCCF distributed the licenses among the private Depot owners in order to promote ease of doing business under JK Single Window System.

He also distributed timber among fire victims and also distributed Solar lights through WUCMA to people living in adjoining villages of Wular Lake.

Later, Dr. Gera also reviewed the functioning of the department in Bandipora in a meeting held with all concerned officers. The PCCF was accompanied by APCCF Kashmir, Rabi Kumar. Conservator Srinagar Circle, Zubair Ahmad and Divisional Forest Officer Bandipora, Mudasir Mehmood among others were also present on the occasion.

Whip against illegal extraction continues in Kulgam

Kulgam, CNS, 16-Sept: In yet another operation one extracting machine (JCB) seized by Geology and Mining Department kulgam drifting 3rd in last 24hrs.

On being contacted DMO kulgam Dr Khurshid Ahmad said that on directions of Deputy commissioner kulgam Dr Bilal Mohidin, the team of Geology and Mining Department kulgam raided the area in complaint namely Chowgam wherein people had been requesting for action against offenders involved in illegal mining.

"The moment directions were received swift action was applied and the machine seized tactfully. The machine was latter on handed over to P/S Devsar", DMO said.

He further added that zero tolerance against illegal and unauthorized mining will continue until people in general and habitual offenders in particular will shun the illegal practice. He further added that zero tolerance against illegal and unauthorized mining will continue until people in general and habitual offenders in particular will shun the illegal practice.

People in the catchment hailed the Heroic action of DMO kulgam who has been continuously in news since he joined the District.

People in the catchment hailed the Heroic action of DMO kulgam who has been continuously in news since he joined the District. The officer praised the valuable support of District Administration kulgam especially DC kulgam, ADC kulgam and ACD kulgam for the role of essence in curbing the sinus illegal and unauthorized mining in the District. (CNS)

Dist Admin Ganderbal for organizing Bird Festival in Shallabugh wetlands

GANDERBAL, SEPTEMBER 16: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today chaired a meeting of concerned officers to discuss the restoration of Shallabugh wetlands and revival of other water bodies in the district.

During the meeting threadbare discussion was held regarding the restoration/ rejuvenation of Shallabugh wetlands and revival of other water bodies in the district.

The officials of J&K Wetland Authority briefed the DC about the Integrated Management Plan for scientific management of Shallabugh wetland and said that various works are identified for conservation and management of the wetland.

Brief discussion was held upon the works identified including

Water Ways for navigation, wa- proposing to organize a First-of-



ter regulatory gates, bio-diversity conservation, construction of ring bund for tapping of water, watch towers and other works for development of eco-tourism in the area.

While interacting with the officers the DC said that this year district administration is

its-kind Bird Festival in Shallabugh wetland which would be instrumental in development of eco-tourism in the area and provide opportunities of livelihood to the locals. He directed all the concerned departments to prepare action plan jointly on priority covering all aspects

required for the successful conduct of the festival.

He urged the J&K Wetland Authority to expedite the work progress on identified works to complete them on time besides work on ring bund shall be completed in stipulated time which will be instrumental in tapping water in wetland.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC stressed upon all the concerned to take innovative ideas in conservation and preservation of Shallabugh wetland which is a bird paradise so that its pristine glory is restored for maintaining ecological balance and overall development of the area.

Meanwhile the meeting also reviewed the rival of identified water bodies in the district and it was informed that 83 water

bodies are identified for conservation out of which 31 water bodies are already revived besides work on other water bodies is also going on in full swing.

The DC gave necessary instructions regarding the revival of water bodies in the district and urged the concerned departments to ensure conservation works on all identified water bodies are completed in stipulated time frame.

The meeting was attended by ADDC, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani, CEO Wullar Manasbal Development Authority, ACR, ACD, DFO Wetlands, Exen I&FC, District Officer, pollution Control Board, Range Officer, Shallabugh Wetlands and other concerned.

Surprise inspections of Deaddiction Centers, Pharma Dealers & Chemists Shops conducted at Anantnag

ANANTNAG, SEPTEMBER 16: In view of the complaints regarding unethical trade and misuse of allied pharmaceutical preparations by the anti social/ nefarious elements for the purpose of addiction and intoxication especially amongst the youth, a special drive has been initiated by the Drug Control Organisation Anantnag in its endeavor to curb the misuse of such narcotic and psychotropic substances.

During the first phase of the drive, surprise inspections of Deaddiction Centers, Pharma Dealers and Chemist Shops were conducted by Drugs Control Officers to ensure that such pharmaceutical preparations are being sold in consonance with the prescriptions being generated by Registered Medical Practitioners.

During the special drive, it was observed by the inspecting teams that some of the firms were found stocking Drug Formulations comprising of Tapentadol, tramadol and were being stocked/ sold in gross violation to the mandatory provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act.

During the said drive, operations of seven Medical Establishments in Dialgam, Ashajipora and adjoining areas were disallowed u/s 22 (d) of Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 on the spot for indulging in unethical trade practices particularly sale of habit forming formulations without maintaining records.

In light of the observations, the Department has directed all the Authorized Stockists dealing with such kind of formulations to strictly restrict sale and distribution of aforementioned restricted drugs for the legitimate requirements only.

They have been further directed to submit distribution details of formulations comprising of habit forming ingredients on monthly basis through designated mail, so that the Drugs Control Officers (Concerned) shall check the rationality and curb the unethical trade of such drugs, failing which severe action shall be taken against such erring firms.

Assistant Drugs Controller, Anantnag has emphasized that since both the formulations which are otherwise Drug of Choice for patients.

Director Agriculture Kashmir visits Khanda, B.K Pora zones of Sub-division Chadoora

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 16: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today visited various areas of sub-division Chadoora including Khanda, B.K Pora zones of district Budgam to inspect different vegetable growing areas of the sub-division. He also interacted with commercial farmers and agri-entrepreneur of the area.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director said that amid our unique agro-climatic conditions we are able to produce a wide range of agricultural crop including vegetables and this gives farmers an edge over the farmers of rest of the country.

He impressed upon the farmers to take full advantage of prevailing agro-climatic conditions and diversify their crop cultivation operations to get maximum out of it. He said our season for vegetable production is on when it is off-season for rest of the country and this gives us the opportunity, to export our fresh vegetable to other states of that country and earn more returns for our produce. Director Agriculture

instructed CAO Budgam and SDAO Chadoora to chalk out a modus operandi for operation of installed community based bore wells for irrigated farmer's fields in phased manner. He asked the concerned officers to work in close co-ordination with the farmers and agri-entrepreneur's of the concerned area and make sure that every latest intervention reaches the farmer, it is adopted and implemented by the farmers successfully. Later, the Director visited different villages including wathoora, Bugam, etc and interacted with the farming community of the area. He assured farmers of every possible technical support from the department for their successful agriculture operations.

Earlier Chief Agriculture Officer Budgam Syed Tafazzul Hussain Madani informed Director Agriculture of various interventions and initiatives introduced and implemented by the department in the district. He also gave the details of various trials of different agriculture crops laid in the district.

Comm Secy calls for effective management of forests with active participation of PRIs, people Attends Annual Passing out parade for 69th, 70th Batch of Forest guards Training Course at KFTS Bandipora

BANDIPORA, SEPTEMBER 16: The annual passing out parade for 69th and 70th batch of Forest Guards was held at Kashmir Forest Training School (KFTS), Chitternār Bandipora.

Commissioner Secretary Forests, Ecology and Environment, Sanjeev Verma was chief guest on the occasion.

The event was attended by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Dr. Mohit Gera, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, T Rabi Kumar, Deputy Commissioner, Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed, Conservator of Forests, Kashmir North Circle Sopore, Irfan Rasool Wani and senior officers from Department of Forests, civil administration and Police.

The programme started with presentation of guard of honour to the chief guest followed by passing out parade by the trainees of 69th and 70th Forest Guard Training Course, contingent of Forest Protection Force, Army GoodWill School Bandipora, NCC and the Police Band of J&K Police.

Tawheed Ahmad Deva, Conservator of Forests Working Plan Circle

delivered the welcome address while Riyaz Malik, Principal Kashmir Forest Training School, Chitternār Bandipora presented the course report.

Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner Secretary congratulated the trainees for completing six month's training successfully.

He praised the frontline staff of Forest Department for their presence in field which creates a deterrence among forest offenders. He applauded the role of Forest Guards in providing ecological security to the forest resources.

He called for effective management of forests with active participation of PRIs and people. He asked the passed out trainees to gear up for protection of forests against hazards like forest fires, encroachments so that the forest wealth is effectively protected.

He assured that all cadre related issues of Forest Department will be addressed in the coming months.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Mohit Gera applauded the Principal, faculty and supporting staff for successfully completing the training course. He said that the forest frontline staff plays an important role in meeting

the objectives of J&K Forest Department and expanding role of forest



ment in forest protection and their sustainable management. He dwelt in detail about the chang-

ing and expanding role of forest frontline staff and highlighted the importance of PRIs and other grass root level institutions with which the

FLS will be closely working. He also spoke on specific role of FLS in protection of forests and afforestation being undertaken by the department in various schemes. He highlighted the other initiatives of the department on creation of livelihood, ecotourism, soil and water conservation and exhorted the passed out officials to work with diligence and conviction in the field.

Dr. Mohit Gera talked about the proposals regarding upgradation of Kashmir Forest Training School into UT Level Forest Academy and fund allocations for the same under second phase of JICA.

The dignitaries also conferred awards to the best performing trainees of 69th and 70th Forest Guards Training Course. He called for effective management of forests with active participation of PRIs and people. He asked the passed out trainees to gear up for protection of forests against hazards like forest fires, encroachments so that the forest wealth is effectively protected.

He assured that all cadre related issues of Forest Department will be addressed in the coming months.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Mohit Gera applauded the Principal, faculty and supporting staff for successfully completing the training course. He said that the forest frontline staff plays an important role in meeting the objectives of J&K Forest Department in forest protection and their sustainable management.

He dwelt in detail about the changing and expanding role of forest frontline staff and highlighted the importance of PRIs and other grass root level institutions with which the FLS will be closely working. He also spoke on specific role of FLS in protection of forests and afforestation being undertaken by the department in various schemes. He highlighted the other initiatives of the department on creation of livelihood, ecotourism, soil and water conservation and exhorted the passed out officials to work with diligence and conviction in the field.

Dr. Mohit Gera talked about the proposals regarding upgradation of Kashmir Forest Training School into UT Level Forest Academy and fund allocations for the same under second phase of JICA.

DIC Shopian conducts Media tour to Zampathri, Keller

Bringing Zampathri on Tourism map by the Government appreciated by locals

SHOPIAN, SEPTEMBER 16: To highlight and promote the virgin tourist destinations being developed by District Administration Shopian under the aegis of J&K UT Government, the District Information Centre (DIC) Shopian today conducted a media tour to Zampathri, one of such picturesque destinations in the district.

As Nature has bestowed Kashmir with majestic mountains, beautiful valleys, lakes, rivers, picturesque places etc., the present dispensation has been working to develop and tap the potential of less known or unknown destinations in the district to give tourists the chance to enjoy colours of nature. Zampathri, 20 kms away from Shopian Town, in Keller Block has many breathtaking things on offer, ranging from mesmerizing beauty of lush green meadows and plains, views of gushing waters of Romshi River, other streams, and captivating rich tribal culture. The area is also suited for Paragliding, Trekking, Camping and other adventurous activities. Gaddar Meadow, once of the largest in Valley, Ringward, Chotimarg shall be a delight for tourists, who are

more interested in trekking and camping. The media tour to Zam-



pathri is District Administration's one of such exercises to promote newly developed/ notified tourist destinations in the district under Tourist Villages Network Programme (TVNP) besides other tourism activities so that tourists get to know about these serene places to enjoy the beauty of nature.

Media persons belonging to different national and local organisations took part in the exposure tour and highlighted the significance of the government's historic decision of notifying the area under TVNP of Mission Youth.

The locals while speaking to the media expressed happiness about the inclusion of the village under TVNP. They appreciated UT and the District Ad-

ministration for leaving no stone unturned to bring destinations with tourist

potential on tourism map besides creating opportunities for locals to earn for their living in the shape of home-stays, creating campsites, restaurants, handicraft kiosks/ shops, etc. Mir Hussain Kasana, a local while thanking the UT Government said that vast employment opportunities shall get created especially for the unemployed youth due to the inclusion of villages in TVNP. Similarly, Sajad Hussain Wani, a resident of Keller also thanked the government and said that long pending demand of the locals has been met by this decision of Mission Youth and that economic prosperity for the area is in offing once the village is developed in line with the ecological needs of the

area. He further added that it will ensure balanced and equitable development of tourism in the area. The UT administration has notified Zampathri along with five other places in the district as Tourist attractions under the network, including Dubjan, Hirpora along Mughal Road, Sedow near Aharbal Waterfalls, Devpora and Kapal Mochan. This move shall benefit the people of these notified villages in many ways once they come forward and take the benefits of financial assistance and subsidy under Mission Youth. Mission Youth shall provide financial assistance of Rs 10 lakh, of which Rs 1.5 lakh is given as special upfront incentive/ subsidy and Rs 3.5 lakh as special subsidy towards repayment of loan to banking partners under self employment activities in Tourism and Hospitality in these notified villages. Similarly, for development of home-stays, financial assistance up to Rs. 01 lakh shall be provided of which 0.15 lakh and 0.25 lakh shall be provided as special upfront incentive/ subsidy to male and women applicants respectively and Rs. 0.35.

DC Kupwara reviews progress of registration of clinical establishments

Directs for registration of all clinics within a week's time

Dr Abdul Qayoom

KUPWARA, SEPTEMBER 16: The District Registration Authority (DRA) for Registration of Clinical Establishments met here under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, Doifode Sagar Dattatray to review the progress of registration of clinical establishments in the district. SSP Kupwara, Yougal Manhas; ADC Kupwara, Ghulam Nabi Bhat; CMO Kupwara, Medical Superintendent of District Hospital/SDH Kupwara and other concerned attended the meeting. Addressing the meeting,



the Deputy Commissioner said that the health sector is a very sensitive sector which receives top priority of the Government adding that the registration and regulation of clinical

establishments will ensure better health services to the people.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers to ensure registration of all private clinics functioning in the district within a week's time and warned about imposition of hefty fine on the clinics found unregistered after a week.

Earlier, the Deputy Commissioner got a detailed feedback for procedure of the clinical registration in the district and was informed that 41 clinics have been registered by District Registering Authority under Clinical Establishment Act 2021 so far.

Authorities not implementing LG's statement on Mirwaiz's release: Anjuman

Srinagar, Sep 16: Anjuman Auqaf Jama Masjid Srinagar has expressed deep concern that its head and the top-most religious leader of Jammu and Kashmir Mirwaiz Dr Moulvi Muhammad Umar Farooq, has been under continuous arbitrary and illegal house arrest for the past 38 months - since 5 August 2019 - due to which he is unable to fulfil his responsibilities that the office of Mirwaiz enjoins upon him.

The Anjuman in a statement said that the con-

tinuous restrictions on Mirwaiz for the last more than three years have not only affected his centuries-old responsibilities but also the sentiments and emotions of a large number of people from nook and corner of the valley who come to the historic central Jama Masjid Srinagar - the largest place of worship in Kashmir - to listen to the sermons of Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir, are being severely hurt. Furthermore, the followers of Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir are deeply disappointed with

his continued house detention and demand his immediate release.

The Anjuman said that the statement of J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha regarding the release of Mirwaiz has not been acted upon by the authorities to date. Even all sections of society in Jammu and Kashmir have strongly reacted against the detention of Mirwaiz and termed it as a violation of human rights and interference in religious matters, it said. The Anjuman in a statement said that the

continuous restrictions on Mirwaiz for the last more than three years have not only affected his centuries-old responsibilities but also the sentiments and emotions of a large number of people from nook and corner of the valley who come to the historic central Jama Masjid Srinagar - the largest place of worship in Kashmir - to listen to the sermons of Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir, are being severely hurt. Furthermore, the followers of Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir are deeply disappointed.

DC Kupwara inspects Training Session under Zimadari Programme at BHSS Nagri



KUPWARA, SEPTEMBER 16: The Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, Doifode Sagar Dattatray today visited Boys Higher Secondary School Nagri and took stock of the ongoing Training Session under 'Zimadari' programme aimed for Qualitative Assessment of schools in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner interacted with the Trainees and Resource Persons and got feedback from them regarding implementation of the Zimadari programme in their respective schools. He directed the Resource Persons to use ICT and Multimedia resources to make the training more dynamic and vibrant. He asked them to show online videos to the trainees about best practices of enhancing teaching-learning outcomes so that they can get ideas from them and implement in their respective schools. Referring to the Building as Learning Aid (BaLA) plan, the DC stressed the need for implementing the plan which assumes that the architecture of school can be a resource for the teaching-learning

processes, thus motivate students to attend the school on regular basis. He also directed the training participants to impart learning of basic life skills to the children which will help them in personality development.

Referring to the need for development of kitchen garden in schools, the Deputy Commissioner said that these kitchen gardens will provide hands on learning exposure of environment science to the pupils, besides, they will get necessary nutrients from the vegetables.

Earlier, the Deputy Commissioner was informed that 34 Head of Institutions of Drugmulla zone are participating in the day long training session under 'Zimadari' Programme who will make grading of their schools on the basis of qualitative parameters. Meanwhile, on the directions of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, training sessions have been started in all 13 Zones of the district for qualitative assessment of the schools which is aimed at improving the quality education.

DC Bandipora reviews progress of CAPEX plan projects Take all possible measures for time bound completion of works: Dr. Owais

BANDIPORA, SEPTEMBER 16: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed today convened a meeting to review the progress achieved under different components of the District Capex Plan, UT Component, and other Centrally Sponsored Schemes. During the meeting, a threadbare discussion was held on progress under DDC, BDC, PRIs', Area Development Funds, Aspirational Block Development Plan 2022-23 and other developmental fronts.

The meeting was informed that the District has made expenditure of 1617.46 lakh under regular, ADF, NABARD and CSS components. It was given out that 377 works have been completed under regular, ADF, NABARD and CSS components till date.

The DC was apprised that under up the pace of work to achieve



Samridhi Seema Yojna, 7 works have been tendered out of 12 approved works.

The DC reviewed the project-wise progress and directed the executing agencies and concerned Departments to speed

the set physical and financial targets under the Area Development Fund and other schemes. He also directed to accelerate the pace of construction works keeping in view the approaching winter

season.

Dr Owais stressed upon officers to resolve all grievances with priority and complete all works within a set timeline besides maintaining transparency and accountability of officers and officials.

He also stressed on all concerned to take all possible measures for time bound completion of works.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Bandipora Afsar Ali Khan, DPO ICDS Mohd Ashraf Hakak, ADC Bandipora Waseem Raja, ACR Bandipora Parvaiz Rahim, ACP Bandipora Ab Rashid Das, ACP Bandipora Syed Altaf Hussain Mosavi, Joint Director Planning Imtiyaz Ahmad, Tehsildars, BDOs and District Officers of various departments.

Traffic plan for transportation of fruit crops reviewed at Kulgam

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, SEPTEMBER 16: The Additional Development Commissioner (ADC) Kulgam, Showkat Ahmad Rather today chaired a meeting at Mini-Secretariat here to review the arrangements for smooth transportation of fruit crops to outside Valley. During the meeting, the traffic plan was discussed threadbare to facilitate smooth transportation and to avoid traffic jams. The ADC stressed to enforce traffic diversion plans especially during the peak fruit season. He impressed upon the officers to sensitize officials at checking points for better



regulation and management of traffic to ensure smooth passage of fruit trucks. On the occasion, the representatives of fruit mandies/ Traders also put forth their suggestions for making the process of transportation of fruits smooth.

The meeting was attended by ARTO, Dy-SP HQ, Tehsildar Hq, Area Marketing Officer Kulgam and other officers besides, President Fruit Growers association, different Transport Union operators of the district. The meeting was attended by ARTO, Dy-SP HQ, Tehsildar Hq, Area Marketing Officer Kulgam and other officers besides, President Fruit Growers association, .

HEADLINES TODAY

EDITORIAL

Collective Efforts to Tackle Global Problems is need of the hour

With every passing day United Nations Organization is losing its importance because of the fact that it's role has attained zero level. The purpose for which UNO was established has gone astray as most of the Nation's have lost faith in this once prestigious Organization.

UNO has not succeeded in resolving the pressing socio-political issues or for that matter the humanitarian issues across the globe. It has been rendered as a rubber stamp of few powerful Countries which are using UNO for Political mileage in global arena.

The 77th UN General Assembly is underway as the world faces multifold crises on several fronts from food insecurity to climate concerns, to worsening human development index and an impending Ukraine war. There are several pressing concerns before world leaders to deliberate on in the UNGA 77 being held from September 13 to 27. The need for world cooperation was never as pronounced as it is now. If they can reach a consensus on some issues, it would be good news though the chances of that happening are bleak as the members have their interests and issues to handle. However, it is a big opportunity to talk and then walk the talk for the betterment of the world. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, who returned from Pakistan after first-hand witnessing floods, has asked the leaders to work towards lowering the temperature. Guterres said that in Pakistan, he looked through a window into the future: "A future of permanent and ubiquitous climate chaos." Guterres rightly said that G20 countries are responsible for 80% of emissions. They are also suffering the impact of record droughts, fires and floods — but climate action seems to be flailing.

This year, External Affairs Minister Jaishankar is likely to present India's point of view to the world. Last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed UN General Assembly. Prime Minister Modi had made all the right noises, terming 'India as the mother of all democracies.' The Prime Minister had also launched a veiled attack on Pakistan and China for being irresponsible. India's concern of military buildup in Afghanistan and terror activities of non-State actors in Pakistan remains its two primary concerns. However, the two biggest issues of the moment for the world remain the rising temperatures and the war in Ukraine, which are both sources of unimaginable misery to the people around the world. The Ukraine war has put the food security of the world haywire and drought and famine are looming large. It is unfortunate though that UNGA, being one of the biggest world bodies, doesn't have any real powers to implement its resolutions which are still controlled by the five countries with the veto power. India had rightly pointed that out last year. This year too, the efforts to reform the world body need to be taken up more seriously than ever before if we are to see some concrete action on the plethora of problems the world is facing today.

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CONGRESS GEARS UP TO PICK NEW CHIEF, LEADERS BAT FOR CONSENSUS

POLITICAL DELICACIES

BY RAHIL NORA CHOPRA

With the process for electing the new Congress president round the corner, senior party leaders have started battling for consensus in selecting the new AICC chief and seek to uphold the presence and prominence of the Gandhi family in the organisational matters in any sort of emerging situation. While Shashi Tharoor, Manish Tewari, Anand Sharma wish that a democratic contest for the Congress president's post will restore new life to the Congress, some Congress leaders expressed apprehension that some state units could pass resolutions expressing faith in leadership of the Gandhis, or even urging Sonia Gandhi to continue as party chief.

NCP STILL NOT SAYING WHO WILL STEER POST-PAWAR LEADERSHIP

The uncertainty looms large in NCP, whether Sharad Pawar would pass on his political legacy and supremacy to his nephew Ajit Pawar, or to his daughter Supriya Sule, an MP from Baramati. This important matter was still not clear or even talked about at the national convention, as Sharad Pawar, 81, was re-elected to the post of NCP president, which he has held since the party's formation in 1999, with

no discussions on the post-Pawar era for the party. The buzz is that Sharad Pawar is not keen on spelling out the future course of events.

AKHILESH YADAV EXTENDS OLIVE BRANCH TO UNCLE SHIVPAL

In what is being seen as a sign of harmonious relationship between the warring chacha and bhatija, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav has sought a front-row seat for estranged uncle Shivpal Yadav in the Vidhan Sabha. The monsoon session of the Assembly is expected to begin on September 19. The SP chief seeking a front-row seat for his uncle comes days after Shivpal launched the Yadukul Punarjagran Mission. The newly floated outfit will reach out to all disgruntled leaders in the Samajwadi Party, particularly those belonging to the Yadav community. Shivpal indicated his stance that he would contest the Mainpuri seat only if Mulayam Singh Yadav does not. This is the first time that the SP leadership seems to soften its stand towards Shivpal ever since the latter took exception to not being invited to the first key meeting of SP MLAs in March held after the 2022 polls.

CONGRESS LAUNCHES BIG CAMPAIGN AGAINST KARNATAKA BJP CORRUPTION

The Karnataka Congress launched the '40% Sarkara campaign to attack the Basavaraj Bommai-led government over

a series of corruption charges. Karnataka Congress chief DK Shivakumar and leader of opposition in Karnataka legislative assembly Siddaramaiah talked about purported rates detailing the commission sought by the BJP government for various works and grants. The Congress also launched a helpline number (8447704040) and a website (www.40percentssarkara.com) for people to register complaints of corruption with evidence. On the other hand the BJP is getting ready for a fierce battle in Karnataka early next year, the party wants to focus on the weakest links like the old Mysore area that sends 80 legislators to the assembly and where the party is comparatively not strong. CM Basavaraj Bommai will be holding rallies and his predecessor BS Yediyurappa will take rounds of the region motivating the electorate to vote for the BJP.

NOW KCR WANTS TO GO NATIONAL; MEETS SOREN, UDDHAV, NITISH, PAWAR

Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) president and Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao declared that he would soon launch a national party and the planning is in progress to formulate policies. Rao has met a number of opposition leaders, including Nitish Kumar, Sharad Pawar, Uddhav Thackeray and Hemant Soren to stitch a united front against the BJP. KCR discussed the BJP's alleged anti-people

policies with the fellow leaders and wants to form an umbrella front geared towards bringing about a qualitative change in the country. Moreover, former Karnataka Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy met Rao in Hyderabad where they discussed the development of Telangana and the role of regional parties in national politics.

NITISH TO MEET MAMATA, NAVEEN FOR BOLSTERING ANTI-BJP FRONT

Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar will be visiting Bengal and Odisha to meet his counterparts Mamata Banerjee and Naveen Patnaik to discuss opposition unity with a sole aim to make a main front. JDU secretary general K C Tyagi said that Nitish would be knocking all possibilities in his efforts for a broad-based opposition unity. But BJD insiders claiming the party is unlikely to be part of any national bloc in the run-up to the 2024 elections. The political observers says that Odisha CM is not in haste he will most probably wait and watch till the election is over and take a decision only after that. Meanwhile, Bihar deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav confirmed that the meeting of Bihar CM Nitish Kumar and RJD chief Lalu Prasad with Congress interim president Sonia Gandhi will happen in future. Nitish has been meeting opposition leaders and claiming that a united non-BJP formation can oust the ruling party from power in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. **IPA SERVICE**

PRIVATISING PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS BY MODI GOVERNMENT IS A DANGEROUS MOVE

PRABHAT PATNAIK

There are fundamental objections to the plan of the government to privatise at least some of the public sector banks. They centre around the fact that such a move will change the pattern of deployment of credit, away from productive activities towards speculation, away from peasant agriculture towards big business (with dangerous implications for peasant viability, food security and employment), and away from domestic to global destinations.

These objections are well-known and have been much discussed, and their pertinence has been underscored by the fact that Indian public sector banks were completely untouched during the "sub-prime-lending crisis" of 2008; but the government, concerned more with pleasing domestic and foreign big business than with the nation's well-being, predictably ignores them. My purpose here however is not to reiterate these objections; it is to point to another serious danger from privatisation which has been less discussed and which the country can ill-afford to ignore.

During the dirigiste period, bank loans were used primarily to fulfil short-term credit needs, such as to finance inventory-holding in trading and industrial establishments, while long-term financial needs, for fixed capital formation, were fulfilled through a set of specialised financial institutions that had been set up just for this purpose. These institutions

got their funds from government sources, such as the profits of the Reserve Bank of India, and gave loans at low interest rates, lower than the rates that the banks charged, and often even at negative real interest rates (i.e., the nominal rates they charged were lower than the rate of inflation) in order to encourage investment.

With "liberalisation" however this entire arrangement changed. The earlier specialised financial institutions disappeared in their old form, some like IDBI converting themselves to banks. Long-term financial needs of units were now supposed to be met through the capital market, from where also whatever financial institutions existed for giving long-term loans, were to raise their funds. But if an investment project was not profitable enough, or was too risky, then capitalists, instead of approaching the market, started approaching public sector banks even for long-term loans. And the banks have ended up giving large loans, especially for infrastructure projects, with the government pushing them to do so. As a result, the public sector banks, precisely because the government can arm-twist them into giving the loans it wants them to, have developed balance sheets that portend danger.

Banks obtain their resources from the deposits of the public which can be withdrawn by the public at a moment's notice. If a significant part of these resources is used for giving loans for long-term investment, then in effect the banks are "borrow-

ing short to lend long", which exposes them to a potential illiquidity crisis. If many depositors decide suddenly to withdraw their deposits, then the bank collapses; and even if only a few depositors wish to withdraw, and word gets around that the bank may face illiquidity, then there is a run on the bank making it collapse. To prevent such a possibility, banks whose liabilities are short-term, generally hold assets too that are short-term; since short-term assets, by definition, can be liquidated without involving much loss of value, the danger posed to a bank by a sudden withdrawal of deposits is thereby minimised. But if the assets are long-term, then their sudden sale involves a substantial loss, which therefore makes a sudden withdrawal of deposits from the bank much more difficult to negotiate.

The public sector banks have not just given loans for the acquisition oblong-term assets; much of the loans they have given are for infrastructure projects, which have a long gestation period, where time and cost-overruns are common, and where profits appear, if at all, only after a long period of time. The fact that a good part of such loans can be counted among the "on-performing assets" of the banks should come as no surprise. But even that part which is not officially counted as NPA, nonetheless falls under the category of "stressed assets". Thus the public sector banks have been pressurised by the government, not just into giving long-term loans but into

giving "stressed loans". They are in short sitting on top of a volcano that can erupt at any time.

The reason it has not yet erupted and continues to remain dormant is because these banks are government-owned; the public whose deposits have been used for such financing is not panicky; it has the confidence that if the banks face a crisis, the government that owns them will necessarily come to their rescue. And this confidence is precisely what prevents the banks from facing a crisis.

Everywhere in the world crises of the financial system have arisen when privately owned financial institutions have developed over time an asset liability mismatch. The East Asian financial crisis towards the end of the last century provides a classic example. Take the case of the South Korean banks. They had attracted foreign currency deposits, and used the proceeds to make loans domestically for long-term investment projects. This meant a double mismatch between their assets and liabilities: first, they were "borrowing short to lend long", i.e. using resources garnered through bank deposits to finance investment projects; and, second, they were borrowing in foreign currency to finance projects that were themselves not foreign exchange earning. Inevitably, the crisis came, and, when it did, it was particularly severe.

Even the financial crisis in the United States in 2008 was a reflection of such a

mismatch. During the Great Depression the Roosevelt administration had passed the Glass-Steagall Act in 1933 that had strictly separated commercial banking from investment banking. Commercial banks, being deposit-financed, were confined to giving short-term loans, while investment banks, not being deposit-financed could engage themselves in giving loans for stock-market activities. This Act was in response to the fact that the Depression had seen a run on banks as they accepted deposits but used their resources on the stock market, a run that had been stemmed only through considerable effort on the part of the US government, including Roosevelt's famous "fire-side chat" broadcasts.

Glass-Steagall however was repealed in 1999; and that created the conditions under which the financial system once more faced a severe crisis. To be sure, it was not the only factor behind the crisis; there was a serious underestimation of lending risks across the spectrum, which is why an investment bank like Lehmann Brothers went down. But given this underestimation of risks, the fact that commercial banks too were exposed to the financial crisis was because they had been giving loans against assets that had earlier, i.e., during the dirigiste period, not been part of their usual business.

In India public sector banks too have been exposed to unprecedented risks because of government arm-twisting; they have so far been spared because of the

depositors' faith in the public sector. If they are privatised then the volcano on which they are sitting will erupt and the depositors will be hugely and adversely affected. This will not just affect the depositors; it will have a serious and damaging impact on the Indian economy.

It may be thought that the depositors will entertain the belief, even in the event of privatisation, that the government will come to the rescue of the privatised bank just as it would have done if the bank had remained in the public sector; and that this belief itself will prevent any crisis affecting the banks. But this belief has very little justification: the kind of political pressure that can be mounted on the government if it is the direct owner of the bank, will be absent if the bank is privately-owned.

In short, given the asset-liability mismatch of the public sector banks that has been forced on them by the government, its washing its hands off them by privatising them will be an act of utter irresponsibility. It will not only expose the ordinary depositors of the country to the possibility of severe financial loss, but will also eliminate for a long time the public's faith in the banking system, causing a shift in its asset-preference towards currency hoards and away from bank-deposits. This would be a retrograde move that would damage for long the prospects of development.

IPA SERVICE
COURTESY: PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY

VEDANTA-FOXCONN IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE PARTISAN ATTITUDE OF MODI-SHAH

SUSHIL KUTTY

Some of the headlines make it sound like there was a fair bidding between Maharashtra and Gujarat for the Foxconn-Vedanta semiconductor project and Gujarat won the project, as well as the fair-play trophy, fair and square! Far from the truth! The fact is, Maharashtra never stood a chance, not when Gujarat is Prime Minister Narendra Modi's home-state with Home Minister Amit Shah an unmovable stumbling block by Modi's side.

Modi-Shah is the unbeatable combination in current-day India. The Vedanta-Foxconn project didn't move to Gujarat on its own volition. There was push, and there was subtle pressure. This, despite the far better offer from the previous Uddhav Thackeray Government. The reality is, Maharashtra's chances dimmed the minute Uddhav Thackeray left the official CM residence Varsha for homestead Matoshree.

Now, it emerges Uddhav's successor Eknath Shinde had held a meeting with Foxconn-Vedanta

officials and had urged that the JV be set up in Maharashtra. But Foxconn-Vedanta sought "central alignment", i.e., Shinde was advised to get the Modi government on his side; meaning the Centre was the hurdle, and the Centre was favouring Gujarat over Maharashtra, so correct it, please!

There could be only one reason why the Centre wanted the project to go to Gujarat as opposed to the better-placed Maharashtra, the unspoken "Gujarat is Modi's home-state" pressure that wouldn't go away unless Narendra Modi was suddenly to go, which wasn't going to happen! So, Dholera in Gujarat bagged the project, and Talegaon near Pune in Maharashtra lost despite its many advantages over the "inconvenient" Dholera.

Imagine what the Taiwanese must have thought of these shenanigans. Taiwan must by far have more commercial and industrial tie-ups with China compared to with India, but it is unlikely Chairman Xi Jinping's home province would have been a factor in deciding venues to

set up industrial projects.

Now, after the project has gone to Dholera, there is consternation in Maharashtra; and disappointment at the "missed opportunity".

Prime Minister Narendra Modi called it an "important step", but he rubbed Gujarat salt to Maharashtra injury when he spoke of the project's "impact" on boosting the economy, coolly ignoring the fact that but for him and his home state, the project would have gone to Maharashtra, boosted Maharashtra's economy, created jobs in Maharashtra along with, in Modi's own words, the "huge ecosystem for ancillary industries and MSMEs."

In Vedanta's words, "history has been made" but the fact remains that but for the "central alignment" in Gujarat's favour, Maharashtra would not have been on the wrong side of history. The alleged favouritism will remain a blot on Modi's record as prime minister, one more reason why history will not judge him favourably.

The fact that Foxconn-Vedanta mentioned the need for "central

alignment" was an indictment that there was central interference, and central pressure on the joint venture promoters. There is no other explanation for the demand to secure "central alignment". Why should the Prime Minister's "vision of creating a robust manufacturing base in India" favour Gujarat, and not Maharashtra?

Also, Modi thanking and expressing "deep gratitude" to the "Gujarat government and the Union IT Minister" for "helping tie things up so quickly" couldn't have been more paradoxical. It conveniently covered up the Centre's role in the switch. The blame-game that has now erupted between the states, and between the Maha Vikas Aghadi and the BJP, cannot have a salutary effect on the body politic, and the industrial climate in the country.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde will forever carry the "missed opportunity" tag. Talegaon is not far from his home-base Thane. The MVA government had offered "capital subsidy of up to 30 percent" but the project was decid-

ed in favour of Gujarat despite the meeting between Shinde-Fadnavis and Foxconn-Vedanta.

Current Maharashtra Industries Minister Uday Samant questioned the MVA government for the "missed opportunity", which is hogwash because the Shinde meeting with Foxconn-Vedanta took place two months before the deal was closed in favour of Gujarat; and Foxconn-Vedanta had already given CM Shinde and Deputy CM Fadnavis a last chance, asking for "central alignment" to set up the project in Maharashtra.

There is doubt if the Shinde-Fadnavis government even wrote to the Modi government seeking "central alignment"; such courage would be alien to Devendra Fadnavis, and Eknath Shinde wouldn't make a move without Fadnavis making the first move. The fact is, if Gujarat gave to India the 'Father of the Nation', Gujarat has also given to India, the 'Stepfather of the Nation'. And for obvious reasons, Gujarat is favourite child.

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ONLINE EDUCATION SYSTEM CANNOT BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR CLASSROOM EDUCATION



VIJAY GARG

The online education sector is emerging as a huge industry; Online education is being established as the dominant educational model. Important information has come out about the company named Baiju Edutech that this company has suffered a loss of more than 4500 crore rupees during the academic year of 2021 compared to 2020. The loss is being presented by the company's executives as a change in the rules on how revenue is generated.

In 2020, the education system during the covid-19 epidemic has grown Crises were faced and the online education system got a big boost. The main question is that online education can replace the studies conducted in schools, colleges and universities? The issue is not for a company to make a loss or profit but to become the leading educational model of online learning. In a country like India, this matter has been in discussion because for many reasons, a large majority of students do not succeed in adopting this system. They buy smart mobile phones and data online It does not have the capacity to pay the fees of such institutions. These studies have also come out that online educational system cannot be a substitute for classroom education.



Such a huge loss shows how commercialized education has become. It is natural to ask the question that if there is a loss of thousands of crores of rupees, how big will be the earnings from this sector. Education and health have been perceived

as social responsibility apart from commercial lines. It is the responsibility of governments to invest in these areas to strengthen and To create an educated society. Governments are shying away from investing in education and health sectors while the private sector is poised to profit from them. These fields are considered to be more profitable than other trades. The paradox is that the private sector is dominating the education sector while the government institutions are running out of money to pay teachers' salaries and provide basic facilities to students. Governments need to think about their policies for the future of society.

Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malot Punjab

IT IS AN 'INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY', THE FIRST IN ASIA

DEVASIS CHATTOPADHYAY

With only a fortnight to go, this edition of Durga Puja in Kolkata has a special significance. Hailed as a public art exhibition on par with Venice Biennale and Rio Carnival, Durga Puja, this year, begins on October 1 in Kolkata and all over India. During the event, class, religion, and ethnicity will unite as crowds of spectators walk around to admire the installations. Last year, UNESCO declared that Durga Puja is the best instance of the public performance of religion and art, a thriving ground for collaboration of artists and designers.

Venice or Rio never had the devotional aspect of Durga Puja, which celebrates the homecoming of the ten-armed warrior goddess and worships her. In Bengal, it is also known as the autumn festival or Sharod Utsav. It is the first Asian festival to receive prestigious recognition from UNESCO. The honour will show the spotlight internationally and bring international tourists who want to witness the grandeur of the Puja in Kolkata and possibly all of West Bengal.

Tapati Guha Thakurta, a renowned art historian, and her team helped prepare the dossier sent to UNESCO by the Union Cultural Ministry of the Government of India. Submitted to UNESCO in March 2019, Durga Puja has been declared an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by 2021.

While speaking to the media, Tapati Guha Thakurta recently said, "Durga Puja is a religious festival that has become a cultural and secular event. It has also become a space for social and artistic activities. This prestigious tag will open up this thriving festival to the world."

With the inclusion of Durga Puja in the international heritage list, the economy that flourishes around the festival will get a considerable boost. According to the report - Mapping the Creative Economy around Durga Puja 2019 - research commissioned by the British Council and supported by the Department of Tourism, Government of West Bengal, the total estimated economic worth of creative industries around Durga Puja is INR 32,377Cr (GBP 3.29 B) (excluding corporate sponsorships). The report also stated that the actual financial value of Durga Puja was 2.58% of the GDP of the state of West Bengal in fiscal 2019-2020, just before the onset of Covid19.

The centre of attraction of Durga Puja, like any other socio-religious festival of India, is the majestic and beautiful idols, Protima or Murti, with innovative and startling designs. The pandals or marquees those houses the idols and their lighting and decoration are also marvels to watch.

While traditionally, potters would start making the idols in June-July on the day of the RathYatra or the Chariot Festival, many began even earlier to cope with demand. The process of idol making starts with a customary obeisance paid to lord Ganesha, who is believed to ensure commercial success.

Idols are built with bamboo, straw, jute husk, wood, and alluvial soil. The attire are of cotton or silk, embroidered with zari and brocade, while the jewellery pieces are made of papier-mâché, thermocol, and foils. Colours are created by mixing Khori Mati, a special clay prepared from sea foam, with colouring chemicals and glue prepared from tamarind seeds, which help the paint to last.

Finally, an organic varnish known as Gham Tel-literally meaning sweat oil - is applied to create the glaze. Thin iron foils or aluminium are primarily used over weapons. All materials, including paint, are biodegradable and organic to avoid polluting the water after immersion.

This contrasts with the Ganapati idols worshipped in Mumbai, which are made mainly of Plaster of Paris. The armaments that adorn Durga idols are never immersed; hence, the metal foils do not pollute the water.

Individual bamboo frames are made first for all the seven figurines - Durga, her lion and Mahisasura, Saraswathi with her swan, Lakshmi, and her owl, Ganesha with his mouse, and Kartik with a peacock.

Potters then use straws and sticks to shape the limbs and the torso. The sticky, smooth, alluvial clay mixed with jute husk and fibre is then put on the skeletons. They are then left to dry in the sun, following which they are hand polished to give them the required anatomical shape and hand-painted.

Heads are then attached to the idols before the painting begins. The heads are sculpted separately because the head needs detailed measurements of the physiognomy to ensure the right proportion. They also require expert handling to create the correct expression.

The eyes are painted last, usually on the morning of Mahalaya, which marks the end of Pitri Paksha or Shradh, the 16-day mourning period for ancestors. Devotees believe that Ma Durga, with her children, starts her journey to her father's home on earth on this day from Mount Kailash. Only the senior-most potter is given the privilege of drawing the eyes of the Devi, which finally makes the idol come alive.

Four elements—deemed to be pure—are considered essential in the making of idols. They are the mud from the banks of the Hooghly River- a tributary of the Ganga - called Ganga Mati, urine of a cow - Gomutra, cow dung or Gobar and soil from a prostitute's doorstep referred to as the sacred earth.

Historically, Kumartuli potters have been fetching the sacred soil from adjacent Sonagachi, the largest red-light neighbourhood in Asia. Earlier, a senior potter or priest would formally beg a sex worker for her consent to carry the soil from her doorstep.

The tradition stems from the belief that when a man enters a brothel, he leaves all his virtues behind. Hence, the soil of a courtesan's doorstep is the purest as she absorbs all the evil of society to keep society pure and safe.

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LOVE AND HATE ARE TWO CONSTANTS THAT LIVE SIDE BY SIDE BUT WHICH IS MORE POWERFUL?



JASWINDER PAL SHARMA

Hate is the Almighty

Some may say that hate is far stronger than love. Love is usually confused with desire, but hate is a thing of its own. Hate consumes our natural reticence and opens us to previously unthinkable actions to "even the score". It is something that brews inside of us, getting stronger and stronger while we try to repress it and be content.

On the other hand, love can be ended by a thoughtless word or action, but hate is unswerving in its single-mindedness. Does that make it more precious then? Something we are more likely to envy, giving it power and sustenance?

I guess hate requires little complex thought or understanding, and it receives support from the selfish ego which is where most people choose to house their minds letting it sit and settle as it starts to manifest their minds with rage and turmoil.

It is a rash impetuous thing that



springs up to defend against the new and strange before the rational mind can determine whether the threat is real or not, and it blocks understanding once an initial threat is perceived, hazing the mind in this cloud of rampage.

Love is the True Victor

However, hate and love only have the amount of power the person expressing it gives it. Both love and hate, in my opinion, are intertwined and it is difficult to have one without experience the other. I've often heard the saying

that if you hate someone you will have to forgive that person because that hate will eat and sap your energy and destroy their life. However, from this animosity love and tenderness can be achieved overruling detestation.

Aversion is surely a powerful

feeling but love, in turn, is more familiar and desirable in human beings which we crave and yearn for.

It is something which is beneficial for everyday life, and unlike hate, it benefits our well-being. So in this sense, love is more powerful.

All in all judging both of these emotions by their 'strength' is a pretty complex and subjective variable. I don't think there can be one clear answer to this question.

There is one thing that does become clear in the end and from my own general experiences with love and hate, is that love tends to be a deliberate and voluntary response to life, while hatred seems to be more visceral and involuntary. Both as contagious as each other but both also having different stimulus and triggers to activate one or the other.

We have the choice to give our love to someone, while we are often impulsively bewitched by our own hatred. From this, I would say that love provides us with the greater power because it gives us more active options rather than being restrained by the ever rupturing hate.

Jaswinder Pal Sharma SS Master Gsss Hakuwala Sri Muktsar Sahib Punjab 98763-19104

NEW CENTRAL OBSERVERS ARE MAKING FRESH EFFORTS BEFORE PANCHAYAT POLLS

TIRTHANKAR MITRA

Given Bharatiya Janata Party's goal of becoming the ruling dispensation in West Bengal, the saffron camp has put its best foot forward in the state even when it is in a twilight zone. The areas of darkness are formed by successive electoral defeats and desertions while some passages in its path are lit up by some of the Trinamool Congress leaders being summoned by probe agencies on alleged corruption charges while a few find themselves behind the bars

A stumbling block in BJP's way to emerge from the Opposition benches and become the new ruling party is Trinamool Congress supremo and chief minister, Mamata Banerjee who happens to be the principal vote catcher and the most credible face of the ruling party. On the other hand, not only the state BJP lacks a single credible face which can be projected as a chief ministerial candidate, it remains till date a divided house.

Even as BJP is on the job, it has to accept that it is no cakewalk for the principal Opposition outfit in the backdrop of its smarting under a series of electoral reverses since 2021 state Assembly polls. The BJP leadership is telling its supporters that winning in West Bengal elections is very much on BJP's electoral radar with 20-odd seats in 2024 parliamentary polls and a much improved electoral performance in panchayat elections scheduled in early 2023.

Having captured 18 seats in 2019 parliamentary polls and giving the the Trinamool Congress a hot chase to the seat of power, the saffron camp was upbeat about its chances of pipping the ruling party to the post in 2021 polls. But the state assembly polls held two years later exposed the inadequacy



of the state BJP's poll machinery. Of the BJP's tally of 77 MLAs, seven walked over to the ruling party. Desertions of former Union minister, Babul Supriyo and Barrackpore MP Arjun Singh worsened matters.

Desertions apart, a humiliating defeat in Kolkata Municipal Corporation election followed by a string of electoral reverses especially in Asansol by-election in which Shatrughna Sinha, once in the saffron fold emerged as the victorious Trinamool candidate with a margin of . three lakh votes were clear pointers that the saffron camp organisation's inability to get its act together.

Aware of these shortcomings, the central BJP leadership has rolled out a grand game plan of revival to seize the reins of power from Trinamool. And it is not quite

at variance with the strategy of 2021 assembly polls following which a clutch of senior leaders flew to the state from the National Capital on an almost daily.

Only this time, it would not be Prime Minister, Narendra .Modi and Union home minister, Amit Shah crowd pullers in their own rights. It would be senior organisational leaders not short on charisma who are scheduled to criss cross West Bengal to shore up the morale of the party rank and file.

As part of the attempt to brush away the memories of the electoral reverses a new people's outreach programme is on the cards. To achieve this end, leaders like Jyotiradiya Scindia, Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Ajay Bhatt, Rameshwar Teli and Hardeep Singh Puri will tour West Bengal to find out the issues the people are aggrieved about.

The leaders will home in on 140-odd constituencies which by no stretch of imagination can be stated to be BJP strongholds. It would be on the BJP leaders priorities to assuage the feelings of local party supporters singed by post-poll violence and nursing a grouse against the leadership that it did not stand by them against Trinamool attacks on their hearth and home.

Consolidating Hindi-speaking voters is also on the agenda. This is part of a strategy of herding voters who some leaders of the saffron camp consider to be their core supporters.

Given the string of programmes of protest against Trinamool Congress government, it is clear that it is facing an anti-incumbency factor in its third term of office. But the fact remains that the feeling is not yet widespread among the people

that BJP is a credible alternative.

This is where the presence of touring BJP leaders is expected to make a difference between similar efforts of their predecessors. If they can make a strong pitch for their party and establish it as an alternative to Trinamool, some favourable results can be achieved.

But grandiose plans of the central BJP do not quite gel with the state of affairs of the party's West Bengal unit. Intra party strife is barely concealed.

Some of the leaders of the old guard are wary of newcomers. If former state party chief and Kharagpur MP, Dilip Ghosh who gracefully handed over his baton to his successor Sukanta Majumdar, the latter is yet to consolidate his position in the party.

Another BJP leader, Anupam Hazra got away after passing derogatory remarks about the state party chief. On the other hand, Jai Prakash Majumdar an old BJP hand found himself in the wilderness and then in the Trinamool camp after stepping out of line.

State BJP chief, Majumdar has recently given a call to all Opposition outfits including the Left and the Congress to close ranks with his party against ruling Trinamool. Majumdar's call does not display much confidence in his own party's ability to take on the state's ruling party. The call has sent a wrong message to the BJP cadres as if the party admits its inability to face the Trinamool on its own.

Unless a self correction course is soon charted and set upon, it will be a tall order for the state BJP to hope for a better political fortune. Otherwise, neither game plans nor tours by party heavy weights will pump adrenalin into the leaders and the activists during the campaign trail for the coming panchayat polls.

IPA SERVICE

BRIEFLY NEWS

DID Super Moms: Judges shake leg on 'Pinga'

Zee TV's 'DID Super Moms' is all set to announce the winner, and the upcoming 'Farewell Special' episode has lots of fun and exciting performances for its viewers.

While all the super moms were putting their best foot forward to entertain the audience as well as the judges, it was contestant Anila's performance that won everyone's hearts.

Anila's spectacular dance performance to Remo D'Souza's choreographed song 'Pinga' was so good that it made the judges get off their seats, go on stage and shake a leg to the hook step.

'DID' has an exciting panel of judges - Remo, Bhagyashree Dassani, and Urmila Matondkar.

It airs every Saturday and Sunday at 9 pm, on Zee TV.

'Vikram Vedha' makers reveal BTS videos of Hrithik-Saif

The makers of Saif Ali Khan and Hrithik Roshan starrer 'Vikram Vedha' on Friday unveiled the behind-the-scenes (BTS) action on the sets of the movie, with two new videos.

The first video gives a glimpse of all the action, team work and fun that went into bringing Saif as Vikram to life for the big screen.

Saif as Vikram is seen in action on the hunt for Vedha, as he struts holding a pistol under the direction of Pushkar & Gayatri.

The video also showcases Saif goofing around and immersed in discussions between takes, gearing up to deliver the best version of Vikram.

A separate video highlights the journey of Hrithik immersed into the process of becoming Vedha.

Beginning from BTS shots of working on his look, to showcasing the different shades and quirks of Vedha, Hrithik features in a never seen before avatar.

The newly released content piece from the sets of 'Vikram Vedha' delves deep into the action, drama and hard work that went into the making of Vedha.

'Vikram Vedha' is an action-thriller written and directed by Pushkar-Gayatri.

The story is full of twists and turns, as a tough cop Vikram (Saif) sets out to track and chase a dreaded gangster Vedha (Hrithik). What unfolds is a cat-and-mouse chase, where Vedha - a master storyteller helps Vikram peel back layers through a series of stories leading to thought-provoking moral ambiguities.

Presented by Gulshan Kumar, T-Series and Reliance Entertainment in association with Friday Filmworks & Jio Studios and a YNOT Studios Production. The film is produced by Bhushan Kumar & S. Sashikanth and Reliance Entertainment.

It will hit the big screens globally on September 30.

Exciting to collaborate with Juhi: Ayesha on 'Hush Hush'

Prime Video's highly-anticipated crime drama series, 'Hush Hush', will see the return of 90s superstars Juhi Chawla and Ayesha Jhulka.

Even though the duo has been working in the film industry for the past three decades, surprisingly, they have never worked together.

With 'Hush Hush', not only do they mark their digital debut but it also a project together.

Recently, Ayesha opened up about how the two actresses never got a chance to collaborate in their early days.

"Juhi and I go back a long way in the industry. However, 'Hush Hush' gave just the right scope for us to gel along like the good old days!

"Imagine romancing the same actors, but never sharing screen space before! On set, most of our conversations revolved around how exciting it is to finally collaborate on a project," shared Ayesha in a statement.

Talking about working with Juhi, Ayesha said: "We laughed and had lots of fun on sets. Ishi and Meera's relationship is based on bonding, and our off-screen camaraderie translated onscreen.

"We had some really powerful scenes together and it was a very nice give and take. For you to perform well, you need a mutual power exchange, and it was quite a help from Juhi's side. We should do more work together."

Directed and co-produced by Tanuja Chandra, 'Hush Hush' also stars Soha Ali Khan, Kritika Kamra, Shahna Goswami, and Karishma Tanna, and will release on Prime Video on September 22.

Teaser of 'Naane Varuven' will stir up your intrigue

Elli AvrRam has been making quite a splash with her back to back film announcements.

What has got all her fans on the edge of their seats is the newly released teaser of the film 'Naane Varuven', starring Dhanush and Elli.

The teaser packs quite a punch and movie lovers are in for quite a treat with Elli's performance in the same. The teaser doesn't reveal too much but is enough to urge you to want more details on what the versatile actress' role is all about.

Elli is said to essay the character of Dhanush's wife in this film and to star alongside the phenomenal actor Dhanush is surely the icing on the cake for all Elli AvrRam fans!

"It's a surreal feeling to be in a film that has already gained much popularity prior to its release. The teaser has got a great response and I would absolutely love to share more details on my role with my fans but only time will tell! I'm happy to also see how everyone are loving mine and Dhanush chemistry," said Elli on the release of the teaser.

With 'Naane Varuven', Elli will solidify her position as one who step out of her comfort zone and delves deep into each character she portrays.

Ayushmann-Ananya team up for 'Dream Girl 2'

Balaji Motion Pictures on Friday announced 'Dream Girl 2' starring Ayushmann Khurrana and Ananya Panday.

The makers have dropped a teaser giving a sneak-peak into the second part of the 'Dream Girl' franchise, which is all set for a worldwide release on June 29th, 2023.

Ayushmann will reprise as Pooja and the effervescent Ananya will play his lady love. Joining the leading pair will be a pool of talented actors known for their impeccable coming timing, being the likes of Annu Kapoor, Paresh Rawal, Vijay Raaz, Manoj Joshi, Rajpal Yadav, Seema Pahwa, Manjot Singh and Abhishek Banerjee.

'Dream Girl 2' traces the journey of a small-town boy Karam (Ayushmann) who is trying to live a serious life in Mathura and falls in love with Pari (Ananya) but life is hell bent on not taking him seriously. In a turn of events Karam becomes Pooja which creates further chaos in his already chaotic life. The film directed by Raaj Shaandilya and produced by Ektaa R Kapoor and Shobha Kapoor under the banner of Balaji Motion Pictures will be a whacky, comic caper that will definitely entertain the audiences, leaving them in splits.

Producer Ektaa R Kapoor on the announcement of 'Dream Girl 2' shared,



"Ayushmann has always been my 'Dream Girl', be it in the original or the upcoming sequel. The immense love that we got for Dream Girl got us to turn it into a franchise to bring more to the audiences. Audiences can expect double the fun, double the pun and a doubled dose of comedy in Dream Girl 2."

Ayushmann on being a part of 'Dream Girl 2' said, "I am super stoked about Dream Girl 2! This is my second outing with Balaji Motion Pictures and I am thankful to Ektaa that she has carried this franchise forward and made it bigger. I have found a friend in Raaj and it's exciting to team up with him again. Ananya Panday has been paired with me and I am looking forward to see the audience reaction to our chemistry. Along with a cracking ensemble cast of Annu Kapoor, Paresh Rawal, Vijay Raaz, Manoj Joshi, Rajpal Yadav, Seema Pahwa, Manjot Singh, Abhishek Banerjee, Asrani

Saab; Dream Girl 2 is sure to take the audiences on a hilarious roller-coaster ride."

On joining the second instalment of this super successful franchise Ananya added, "I am excited to be a part of Dream Girl 2 and working with the dream team of Ayushmann Khurrana, one of the finest actors of Bollywood and the true boss lady Ektaa Kapoor herself. I'm so grateful to be working with the most talented ensemble and ofcourse the captain of our ship, the super Raaj sir. This one is going to be a treat for all those who loved Dream Girl. Can't wait for the audiences to see it."

Bhavini Sheth, COO Balaji Motion Picture concluded, "Dream Girl 2 is sure to take the humour and entertainment quotient a notch higher with this stellar cast, and the audiences can only expect an absolute laugh-riot coming to cinemas near them in June 2023."

Viral pic of Sonakshi-Zaheer deleted leave fans wondering



A candid picture of Sonakshi Sinha and Zaheer Iqbal has been making the headlines after actor Varun Sharma posted it with the caption 'Blockbuster Jodi'.

Now, it has come to light that the picture posted last night on Instagram was deleted prompting netizens to wonder what could be the reason.

It was a candid click of both the stars in a posh restaurant that sparked rumours instantly. Now with the photo getting deleted interest has further piqued.

Sonakshi was seen in a white bodycon dress paired with a white blazer while Zaheer looked dapper in white and black print shirt paired with a black pant,

and the duo surely looked Uber stylish.

Did Varun accidentally confirm the relationship between Sonakshi and Zaheer!

He put up the story of the couple and then deleted it a couple of hours later.

Big blunder by Varun but great news for us, as we have a new celebrity couple in B town!

Sidharth, Nora's 'Manike' out

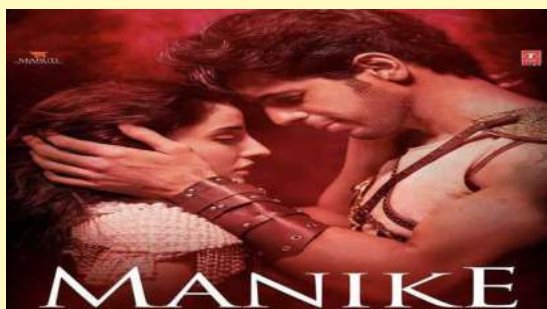
Sidharth Malhotra known for his iconic style "munda" style and Nora Fatehi who adds oomph to every song she features in has set the Internet on fire with their first song 'Manike', from film 'Thank God'.

Since the release of the trailer, audiences have been waiting to catch the chemistry between Sidharth and Nora.

The song has been sung by Sri Lankan singer Yohani, who first burst into stardom among the Indian audience and global ones with the same song amid the pandemic.

This time she sang it in the movie along with Jubin Nautiyal and Surya Ragunathan. The song has been recreated by Tanishk Bagchi, and further penned by Rashmi Virag with additional Rap lyrics by Mellow D.

Talking about the song Sidharth shared, "Manike is a perfect fit in the film where my character is stuck between lust and 'what is right'. I really hope audiences enjoy it as much as we did while shooting



it."

Nora said, "Manike is an exceptional song and I had a great time collaborating with the entire team. From the visuals to the tempo and the choreography, I am excited to see how the audiences react to this one!"

Jubin added, "Manike is one of my favourite songs. Yohani is incredibly talented and Tanishk has added his blockbuster touch to it. To add to it we will see two extremely hot actors Sidharth Malhotra and Nora Fatehi creating magic with their moves."

A T-Series Films & Maruti International production, 'Thank God', directed by Indra Kumar is produced by Bhushan Kumar, Krishan Kumar, Ashok Thakeria, Sunir Khetarpal, Deepak Mukut, Anand Pandit and Markand Adhikari and co-produced by Yash Shah.

The film is all set to release this Diwali on October 25.

Living my dream with 'Hush Hush': Soha Ali Khan

Prime Video on Friday unveiled a new character promo from upcoming crime drama 'Hush Hush', featuring Soha Ali Khan as Saiba Tyagi.

'Hush Hush' boasts a stellar female cast including Juhi Chawla, Soha Ali Khan, Kritika Kamra, Shahana Goswami, Karishma Tanna, and Ayesha Jhulka. The Amazon Original series promises a thrilling ride and viewers' are curious to unravel the mysteries.

Soha plays an ex-journalist, who is now wholly dedicated to her family and two children. But to protect her loved ones from some unforeseen situations, she dons her hung hat again to wade through lingering dangers and threats.

On one hand, inspector Geeta Tehlan (Karishma) is hunting for the culprit, on the other, ex-journalist Saiba is on a mission to root out dreadful facts. Who will ultimately find the truth?

Talking about playing an ex-journalist on screen, Soha said, "It is very exciting for me because I wanted to be a journalist in real life. One of my many dream careers was to be a lawyer or a journalist as I'm very fond of reading, writing, and investigating, until my father shut down my investigative business at home because I used to go into his office and make notes. So I get to live my dream onscreen with Hush Hush."

Directed and co-produced by Tanuja Chandra, 'Hush Hush' will release on Prime Video on September 22.



ZEE5 unveils trailer of 'Atithi Bhooto Bhava'

ZEE5 on Friday released the trailer of their direct to digital movie, 'Atithi Bhooto Bhava'.

Presented by Dr Jayantilal Gada (PEN Studios), 'Atithi Bhooto Bhava' is romantic comedy starring Jackie Shroff, Pratik Gandhi, Sharmin Segal in the lead roles and Divina Thakur, Simran Sharmaand, Prabhjot Singh in prominent roles as well.

A ZEE5 exclusive film, 'Atithi Bhooto Bhava' is a story of Srikant Shirodkar (Pratik), a witty stand-up comedian who takes his relationships for granted including with his beautiful live-in girlfriend Netra Bannerjee (Sharmin).

Things take a turn when a ghost named Makhana Singh (Jackie) enters their lives and asks Srikant to fulfil a promise made by him. Confused Srikant then realises that he has been reborn and that he was Makhana Singh's - Darji (Grandfather) in 1975. The movie explores the journey of two love stories in different time zones and how Makhana



Singh helps and guides Srikant in his relationship with Netra.

Jackie said, "I have portrayed enormous characters, but Makhana Singh in Atithi Bhooto Bhava was something different. Portraying a Ghost was very exciting and thought it would be captivat-

ing for the audience to see me in this role as well. There are many instances and scenes that the audience will connect with. It's a beautiful romantic movie! I am hoping that the audience enjoys it as much as we (Partik, Sharmin and I) enjoyed making it."

Pratik commented, "Atithi

Bhooto Bhava is an entertaining film and full of emotions. I was inclined towards the script because it had a different narrative. In times when there are thrillers and murder mysteries, Atithi Bhooto Bhava is a light-hearted romantic musical film which will connect with the audi-

ences and make them believe in love again."

Sharmin shared, "I strongly believe that love should be expressed when felt and that's one of the main messages of this film. My character Netra craves for attention, affection, from Srikant which he is unable to give her until he

realises the value of love. The movie showcases a beautiful journey of two love stories and Jackie sir's character helps our characters understand how rare it is to find love and how important it is to appreciate it. Love is a very complex emotion. There are multiple interpretations of love that exist. I wanted to understand whether, "True Love really exists" and that's why I couldn't refuse this script."

Director Hardik Gajjar, added, "Atithi Bhooto Bhava is really close to my heart, but at the same time it's also an important film. In the times when there are countless platforms to express your views, we are finding it difficult to express our feelings. That feeling of true love is so pure, but sometimes why do we undermine the importance of expressing it? This film focusses on the same thing and also highlights that the power of love can transcend beyond life and death."

Directed by Hardik Gajjar, the movie will stream on ZEE5 from September 23 in Hindi.

DDC Rajouri reviews achievements under RDD Sector schemes

RAJOURI, SEPTEMBER 16: To review the block-wise progress of the ongoing Rural Development sector works under the annual plan 2022-23, District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, on Friday, chaired a meeting of Officers of the Department and Engineers of Rural Engineering wing. At the outset, Assistant Commissioner of Development, Vijay Verma, gave a Power-Point presentation about the block-wise progress of ongoing developmental works and execution plan under different RDD Sector schemes. The chair was informed that against a target of 1.30 lakh soakage pits, work has been started on 8294 across different blocks.

The DDC directed the Block Development Officer to put in extra effort and complete the target within the set time frame. He also stressed on resolving interdepartmental Coordination issues, which hamper the achievements. A detailed discussion was held about the implementation of District Capex 2022-23, including Tender-

ing of works, allotment of works, submission of CDR by contractors, work started on the allotted works. Asking the Block Development Officers to adopt a proactive approach to start all projects under District Capex, he set a two week timeline for completion of 993 works.

“To ensure use of quality material in the construction of the projects, the BDO shall conduct regular field visits,” he added. The meeting was also apprised that the department has set a target of generating 549615 person days under MGNREGA. Reviewing the progress achieved

in the implementation of PMAY-G, the ACD informed that 17826 houses have been completed and 7000 more would be completed by next week. “Similarly, under revised target 10249 houses are being constructed under AWAS Plus and the work has been started on the majority of the houses” the ACD informed further. The DDC also held threadbare deliberation regarding the Swachata Hi Seva campaign, location plan under SMBM-G, 14th FC, establishment of segregation units and construction of a sanitary complexes.

DC Ramban reviews progress on formation, promotion of FPOs

RAMBAN, SEPTEMBER 16: Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Mussarat Islam reviewed progress on the formation and promotion of “Farmer Producer Organization (FPO)” at the 5th District Level Monitoring Committee meeting, here today. The meeting was attended by Chief Agriculture Officer, Ashwani Sharma; DSHO, Dr. Vikas Gupta; CAHO, Dr. Bharat Bushman; DSMS, Horticulture, Pradeep Gupta; DDM NABARD, Arushi Sharma; Area Marketing Officer, Sunil Bakshi; LDM, and members of FPOs, besides other officers of allied departments. Detailed discussion was held on the status of FPO functioning in Sangaldan and Batote with the objective to scale-up production, branding, and marketing of Anardana as a major commodity and vegetable and quince as a minor commodity under the centrally sponsored scheme of NABARD sector. The DC also reviewed progress on the formation of FPO by NABARD in Ramban to enhance the production, branding, and marketing of agricultural products. The Deputy Commissioner directed the Agriculture and Horticulture Department to sensitize farmers about the advantage of FPO for taking maximum benefits from their crops by selling their produce in an organized way. He directed



individual officer being reported upon. The concerned officer would fill self appraisal online for his submission to his/her Reporting Officer. The APR would move from Reporting Officer to Reviewing Officer and finally to the Accepting Authority in a time-bound and seamless manner. The Chief Secretary, while inaugurating the portal, directed that all APRs of gazetted officers pertaining to 2021-22 and earlier years will now be processed only in online mode on this portal and there be no more physical processing of APRs in respect of all gazetted officers. As such, even the officers who have already submitted physical APRs for the year 2021-22 will now have to compulsorily file their APRs electronically on the portal. The timelines, in respect of filing self-appraisal will be extended from 15th September earlier to 31st.

Director Ayush Visits Kishtwar, Doda Takes Stock Of the Functioning Of The Department

Amir Iqbal Khan
Bhadarwah, Sept 16:

district Kishtwar and district Doda, Dr. Mohan Singh stressed upon the



Director Ayush Jammu and Kashmir Dr. Mohan Singh visited Kishtwar and Doda districts of Chenab Valley on Friday. During his visit to these districts, he took stock of various activities undertaken by the department especially in respect of the extension of health care facilities to the public in the far off area of the union territory. In a meeting with the Medical officers of dis-

trict Kishtwar and district Doda, Dr. Mohan Singh stressed upon the improvement measures and presented the overall scenario of the department so as to provide basic AYUSH facilities to the masses. During his visit, Director AYUSH was informed about all the activities of the department and the positive response of the public to the way of treatment being given by the doctors and other paramedical staff. He was also briefed about execution of work on the

prestigious project of Institute of “High Altitude Medicinal plants” at Bhadarwah and the status of the construction work of various AYUSH institutes in district Doda. The Director AYUSH was also informed about the distribution of biometric attendance machines to all AYUSH institutes and the attendance accordingly thereof. The Director issued on the spot instructions to the district officers of both the districts regarding regular monitoring of AYUSH institutes and ensuring 100% biometric attendance. He further gave instructions about early completion of construction work of AYUSH dispensaries. Director AYUSH appreciated the efforts of the District officers and subordinate staff of district Doda and Kishtwar.

Accelerated Breed Improvement Program initiated in Jammu Province

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 16: A day long orientation cum Training programme was today organized by the Livestock Development Board Jammu under the Accelerated Breed Improvement Programme-SS component of Rashtriya Gokul Mission, here at the Directorate of Animal Husbandry TalabTillo. Organised on the instructions of Director Animal Husbandry Jammu, Krishan Lal, the Training was attended by the Nodal officers from across the districts of Jammu province who shall act as Master Trainers in their respective districts in this regard. Speaking on the occasion, the experts from Genus ABS Pvt. Ltd Pune-Maharashtra informed the participants that the main aim of using Sexed semen for breeding in bovines is to obtain superior quality female calves only, which shall act as a game changer not only by enhancing milk pro-

duction but also limiting stray cattle population. The CEO Livestock Development Board Jammu, Dr. Tariq Parvez, while addressing the gathering, said that with the introduction of sexed semen in bovine-breeding, the profitability of dairy business is bound to increase further. The training programme, among others, was attended by Joint Directors, Deputy Directors besides officers and staff of the Animal Husbandry Department Jammu. Organised on the instructions of Director Animal Husbandry Jammu, Krishan Lal, the Training was attended by the Nodal officers from across the districts of Jammu province who shall act as Master Trainers in their respective districts in this regard. Speaking on the occasion, the experts from Genus ABS Pvt. Ltd Pune-Maharashtra informed the participants that the main aim of using Sexed semen for breeding.

Chief Secretary launches SPARROW portal for Gazetted Officers

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 16: Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta launched the Smart Performance Appraisal Report Recording Online Window (SPARROW) system for all gazetted officers of the Union territory Government today at Civil Secretariat, Jammu. On the analogy of Performance Appraisal Reports of AIS and JKAS officers, the Government of J&K has now decided to switch over Annual Performance Reports from manual to online generation and recording in respect of all gazetted officers on this system. The URL for the new SPARROW instance would be <https://jaksparrow.jk.gov.in>. The technological intervention is going to benefit all gazetted officers in the UT Government and is aimed at bringing more transparency, avoiding loss of appraisal reports during transition, ensur-

ing better monitoring and timely completion of performance appraisals. The Project is being implemented by the General Administration Department in collaboration with the Information Technology Department and the National Informatics Centre. The Sparrow System will not only overcome the delay in the processing of the manual recording of APRs but will also facilitate the electronic filing through a user-friendly interface – anywhere, anytime. Recording and movement of e-APR forms will be seamless, quick, and convenient due to in-built alert mechanisms and online status checks through different modes during the workflow. The system would streamline the APR life-cycle and would be a major administrative reform. In the new system, the departments as Custodian would send online blank APR forms to the

individual officer being reported upon. The concerned officer would fill self appraisal online for his submission to his/her Reporting Officer. The APR would move from Reporting Officer to Reviewing Officer and finally to the Accepting Authority in a time-bound and seamless manner. The Chief Secretary, while inaugurating the portal, directed that all APRs of gazetted officers pertaining to 2021-22 and earlier years will now be processed only in online mode on this portal and there be no more physical processing of APRs in respect of all gazetted officers. As such, even the officers who have already submitted physical APRs for the year 2021-22 will now have to compulsorily file their APRs electronically on the portal. The timelines, in respect of filing self-appraisal will be extended from 15th September earlier to 31st.

Padma Shri Padma Sachdev PG Women College hosts extension lecture on Polycystic Ovary Syndrome

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 16: Department of Home Science, Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Government PG College for women, Gandhi Nagar, in collaboration with MEYER Vitabiotics organized an extension lecture on “Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS)” under the guidance of the principal of the college Prof. Minu Mahajan. The lecture was organized to create awareness about PCOS among the students of the college as September is considered as PCOS awareness month. The resource person on the occasion was Dr. Nirmala Pandita, Gynaecologist from LifeScan hospital, Jammu. The programme started with a formal welcome address by Dr. Irvinder Kour, Head of the department of Home Science. She welcomed the Principal, Resource Person, faculty members and students. She maintained that a lecture on PCOS was the need of the hour because the hormonal imbalance in women causes irregular periods, weight gain, infertility, acne and excessive hair growth which is a serious medical condition and requires immediate attention. More than 150 students of Arts, Science and Commerce stream attended the lecture and benefitted from it.

JD(U) holds Executive Body meet in Jammu and started the membership drive

JAMMU, J&K JD(U) held its working committee meeting at Jammu. The working committee meeting was addressed by J&K JDU State General Secretary Vivek Bali, R s pura President Prem Paul, R s pura vice President Raj Kumar, R s pura youth President Rahul Mandi, Mahila Wing President Sudesh Kumari and other senior leaders of party. Vivek Bali appreciated the strong working by the activists. He asked them to organize mass awareness programme in the rural areas in order to ensure that the schemes of Centre and state government like Kisaan Sammaan Nidhi KCC card veterinary schemes fishers and agriculture schemes reach to the intended farmer population. And the any rumours created by the unscrupulous elements will be cleared in no time, he further said. Vivek Bali also said that Executive Team will organize awareness camp at various levels and assured the senior party leadership that the team will not leave any stone returned to reach the intended

population. The primary agenda leaders to increase their working



of the meeting is to discuss and strengthen the organisational set up of JD(U) in all districts of Jammu region and in order to carry forward this basic agenda the District body of District Jammu got reconstituted. Vivek Bali prompted the team

and be ready for the forthcoming elections. The state executive welcomed the new faces in the organisation and urged them to work with the utmost dedication for the welfare of school going Kids in particular and society and nation in general. Moreover, detailed discus-

sion took place regarding the future course of action. Beside this, the district units were directed to organise “Youth Samelans” and “Mahila Samelans” as well. JDU is always available for the well being of public and anyone who is facing problems can contact JDU District Presidents of respective area. The membership drive started in Jammu region and overwhelming support for the JDU was visible during its membership drive. The interest from all the segments of the society joined the party in large numbers. Micky, Balvinder were among the other prominent Team leaders present in the meeting, committee meeting at Jammu. The working committee meeting was addressed by J&K JDU State General Secretary Vivek Bali, R s pura President Prem Paul, R s pura vice President Raj Kumar, R s pura youth President Rahul Mandi, Mahila Wing President Sudesh Kumari and other senior leaders of party. Vivek Bali appreciated the strong working by the activists. He asked them to organize mass awareness

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ICSI Jammu holds teachers conference

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 16: Celebrating contribution of teachers and educators in shaping society and in appreciation of their significant role in building the future of the Nation, the Jammu Chapter of Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) under the Chairmanship of Company Secretary, Sonia Chib, organised teachers conference cum faculty development program for giving impetus to Company Secretary Course in Jammu and Kashmir. Company Secretary, Vikram K Gupta, who is MD JK Minerals Limited, was the chief guest on the occasion. He lauded the contribution of teachers in the society. He apprised the gathering about the scope and domain of Company Secretaries while describing

how it's an exciting and promising career option. The Guest of honor,



Professor Pramod K Srivastav, Principal Model Academy School talked about the integrity and high ethical standards of teaching. He emphasized that a teacher should be a role model for the students. On this occasion, Chairperson CS Sonia Chib and CS Nitin Gupta enlightened the gathering about CS profession.

The event was also attended by Dr Atul Hans who is an author, Resource person of CBSE, Director Principal of International Daily Rising School Jammu. He emphasised that in today's world if someone has to opt for his career one should prefer a skill based or vocational course or training as it allows students to gain practical experience in their chosen careers before they even

graduate. He also threw light on implementation of NEP 2020 and the role of teachers. Guest of honor, Professor Pramod K Srivastav, Principal Model Academy School talked about the integrity and high ethical standards of teaching. He emphasized that a teacher should be a role model for the students. On this occasion, Chairperson CS Sonia Chib and CS Nitin Gupta enlightened the gathering about CS profession. The event was also attended by Dr Atul Hans who is an author, Resource person of CBSE, Director Principal of International Daily Rising School Jammu. He emphasised that in today's world if someone has to opt for his career one should prefer a skill based or vocational course.

JKPCC hosts symposium for students to observe “World Ozone Day”

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 16: To mark the observance of “World Ozone Day”, Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee on Friday hosted a Symposium on the theme “Montreal Protocol @ 35: Global Cooperation protecting life on earth” for school students of Jammu with the objective to understand the need for collaborative accountability and preventive actions to ensure prevention of any further damage to ozone layer. Dr. Yash Paul Scientist, Head labs JKPCC, Jammu welcomed the participating schools and students along with Eco-clubs Nodal Officer, Jammu Division Dr. Shashikant Lakhnampal here at the Conference Hall, JKPCC, Jammu. He gave a detailed overview regarding Montreal protocol and Kigali Amendment 2016 to focus on phasing out use of industrial chemicals leading to climate change. K. Ramesh Kumar, Member Secretary, JKPCC pointed out that there was a need to make students aware about the International Commitments to understand the status of the Environment which

our country has inherited and maintained throughout ages and initiatives taken in our country to address various climate challenges to improve quality of life for future generations. Students from different Government Schools, viz., Govt Girls HSS Rehari, Govt. Boys HSS Sarwal, Govt. Girls HSS, Mubarak Mandi, Govt. HSS Channi Himmat, Govt. Girls HSS Shastri Nagar, SRML HSS Parade Jammu, Govt. HSS Jhulaka Mohalla, Govt. HSS Satwari and Govt. HSS Hari Singh participated in the Symposium. They were very enthusiastic and energetic and communicated well in the symposium touching all important aspects related to depletion of Ozone layer and remedial measures that can be helpful in further deterioration of this fragile layer. Dr. Neelu Gera, Chairperson J&K Pollution Control Committee, appreciated and lauded the communication skills of students and encouraged them to practice an environment friendly way of living for their better future and also sensitize their family and friends.

Cooperative Department hosts drawing contest at Sainik School Tikri

UDHAMPUR, SEPTEMBER 16: National Cooperative Union of India, in collaboration with Cooperative Department Udhampur organised a drawing competition here at Sainik Cooperative Public High School Tikri, on the other Day. Secretary Ex-Servicemen Cooperative Consumer Store, Durga Singh was the Chief Guest on the occasion. As many as 30 students of the institution participated in the contest. In the competition, Ritiki Manhas bagged first position, while Sneha Jamwal and Kasak clinched second and third positions, respectively. While speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest said that the objective of organizing this competition was to provide an opportunity to the students to showcase their hidden talent. Among others, Principal Sainik Cooperative School, Vandhana Gupta, Inspector, Yash Pal, Treasurer, Baldev Anthal, Supervisor, Sarvagya were present.

Zelensky says Ukraine wants to join EU single market

KYIV: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said on Thursday his war-scarred country wanted to join the European single market ahead of a decision on whether to grant Kyiv full EU membership.

Zelensky was speaking at a press conference with EU president Ursula von der Leyen who came to Kyiv to work out a roadmap for Ukraine's long-standing aspiration to join the union.

"For us, a pressing issue is the question of Ukraine joining the EU single market while we're on the way to EU membership status. I'm sure it will happen and it will be one of our country's most important victories," Zelensky said. Ukraine applied for EU membership just five days after Russia's February 24 invasion.

The EU formally accepted Ukraine's candidacy to join the 27-nation bloc on June 23, in a strong signal of support.

Zelensky thanked von der Leyen, who was visiting Kyiv for the third time since the beginning of the invasion, for her "personal presence in the life of our country and your personal support of Ukraine." The two spoke about Ukrainian energy facilities repeatedly hit by Russian forces and a European energy crisis as Moscow halts of disrupts vital supplies. "We should help each other" on energy, the Ukrainian president said. "We're thankful for having joined European power grids," Zelensky said.

"It's in everyone's interest: European countries can get cheap electricity from Ukraine" and "we'll be able to get money for salaries and



social payments in such difficult times". U chief Ursula von der Leyen's trip coincided with a meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and his increasingly close ally Chinese leader Xi Jinping in ex-Soviet Uzbekistan, where the men hailed their strategic ties in defiance of the West.

It also comes as Ukrainian forces consolidate gains against Russian forces in the east of the country in a dramatic offensive aided by Western weapons. Von der Leyen said Thursday's visit was her third to Ukraine since Russia invaded in

February, but this one was different. "We will never be able to match the sacrifice that the Ukrainians are

making," she told reporters during a joint press conference with Ukraine leader Volodymyr Zelensky. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said on Thursday his war-scarred country wanted to join the European single market ahead of a decision on whether to grant Kyiv full EU membership.

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PM Modi Meets Turkish President On Sidelines Of Regional SCO Summit

Samarkand: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday met Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit in Samarkand during which they reviewed bilateral relations and discussed ways to deepen cooperation in diverse sectors.

The two leaders are in the historic Uzbek city of Samarkand to attend the SCO summit.

"PM @narendramodi held talks with President @RTERdogan on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Samarkand. The two leaders discussed ways to deepen bilateral cooperation in diverse sectors," the Prime Minister's Office tweeted.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said the two leaders had "useful discussions" during the meeting.

"Leaders reviewed bilateral relations and appreciated recent gains in bilateral trade. Also exchanged views on regional & global developments," he tweeted.

The Turkish President, a close ally of Pakistan, had repeatedly referred to the Kashmir issue in his address at the UN General Assembly sessions.

India in the past termed his remarks as "completely unacceptable", saying Turkiye should learn to respect the sovereignty of other nations and reflect on its own policies more deeply.

The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Over the years, it has emerged as one of the largest trans-regional international organi-



sations. India and Pakistan became its permanent members in 2017. Turkiye is a dialogue partner.

Iran is likely to be given the status of a permanent member of the SCO at the Samarkand summit. The two leaders are in the historic Uzbek city of Samarkand to attend the SCO summit.

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"Unpalatable Food": P Chidambaram Slams Minister Over 1991 Reforms Remark



New Delhi: Former finance minister and senior Congress member P. Chidambaram on Friday reacted to Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman's remarks on India's 1991 economic reforms.

The finance minister during a BJP party function in Mumbai on Thursday reportedly said that the 1991 reforms, taken up by Manmohan Singh when he was the finance minister during the Narsimaha Rao-led government at the Centre, were "half-baked".

On Friday morning, taking to Twitter, Mr Chidambaram while backing Manmohan Singh for his reforms said at least he did not serve "overcooked and unpalatable food." "The FM is reported to have said that the 1991 reforms were "half-baked" Thank God, Dr Manmohan Singh did not serve over-cooked and unpalatable food like Demonetisation, multiple-rates GST and savage taxes on petrol and diesel," the former finance minister tweeted. In another post attached to the initial tweet, he wrote: "We thank the FM for revealing that she took bakery and cooking courses in University."

Marital Rape: Supreme Court Notice To Centre On Plea Over High Court Order

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday issued notice to the Centre and others on a plea against the Delhi High Court's split verdict on an issue related to criminalising marital rape.

A bench of justices Ajay Rastogi and Justice BV Nagarathna agreed to examine the issue and listed the matter for further hearing in February 2023.

All India Democratic Women's Association (AIDWA) among others has moved the Supreme Court against Delhi High Court's split verdict on issues relating to criminalising marital rape matters. Two-judges Bench of Delhi High Court on May 12 pronounced a split verdict on an issue. Delhi High Court's Judge Justice Rajiv Shakdher ruled in favour of criminalising while Justice Hari Shankar disagreed with the opinion and held that Exception 2 to Section 375 does not violate the Constitution as it is based on intelligible differences. According to the order passed by Justice Rajiv Shakdher, husbands can be held criminally liable for sexu-



al relations without the consent of the wife. Justice Hari Shankar expressed disagreement with this view. AIDWA was represented by advocate Karuna Nundy and the plea was filed through advocate Rahul Narayan. AIDWA, in its plea, said that the exception allowed to marital rape is destructive and in opposition to the object of rape laws, which clearly ban sexual activity sans consent. It places the privacy of a marriage on a pedestal above the rights of the woman in the marriage, the plea said.

"Can't Doubt All Madrasas," Says BJP Leader MA Naqvi, But Questions Row Over UP Survey

Lucknow: As the Uttar Pradesh government began a survey of private madrasas, senior BJP leader Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi on Friday said all such institutions should not be treated with suspicion but also asked why a fuss was being raised over the exercise.

The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to conduct a survey of all private madrasas in the state. This survey work will be completed by October 15 and the report will be submitted to the government by October 25. The former Union minister said communal politics was being done on the survey. "We should not raise doubts on all madrasas, but the row over



the survey itself raises the question — why create a hubbub when there is nothing to hide," he asked.

Addressing party workers on the final day of a three-day training programme of the Uttar Pradesh BJP Minority Morcha at the Visvesvaraya Hall here, Mr Naqvi said the heinous history of brutality against humanity can

never be a part of the DNA of any Indian community. But when people try to identify with the cruelty of foreign invaders, they actually help "nefarious elements" in their design to harm communal harmony in the country, he said.

Mr Naqvi said some people were trying to defame India through a fake and prejudiced propaganda of "Islamophobia". "We have to remain cautious of the caucus of conspiracies which wants to malign India's inclusivity and glorious cultural heritage," he said.

The BJP has demolished the "deceit of appeasement politics" with the "determination to development with dignity",

Book 'Modi@20' Can Be Used As Management Textbook, Says Finance Minister

Mumbai: The book on Prime Minister Narendra Modi titled 'Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery' can be used as a management textbook, said Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman while speaking at a BJP party event on Thursday in Mumbai.

She made the remarks while addressing an event on the book 'Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery' organised by the party's Mumbai unit. "It's a book which tells how modern-day governance in a complex economy like India can happen, and also how self-made leaders can make a difference because they're committed to the country," minister Sitharaman said.

Speaking about PM Modi's leadership, she said all the schemes for the poor were made available with transparency to the last mile beneficiaries. "Under the dynamic leadership of PM Modi

it is ensured that schemes reach the last



mile," Ms Sitharaman added. "PM Narendra Modi understands technology well and puts it into the system which is why direct benefit system was made avail-

able," she added. The book about prime minister Modi was launched in early May by former Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu.

It may be noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi completed 20 years in 2021 as the head of government from becoming Chief Minister to Prime Minister of India. First, he became Chief Minister of Gujarat in 2001 and remained in that post till he became the Prime Minister of India in 2014 and was re-elected in 2019.

Published by Rupa Publications India, the book is written by eminent intellectuals and writers like Nandan Nilekani, Sudha Murty, Sadguru, P.V. Sindhu, and Amish Tripathi, among others. The book also elaborates on Modi's model of governance which has touched the lives of a cross-section of the people of the society.

Taiwan warns Russia, China ties 'harm' international peace

Taiwan said on Friday ties between Russia and China were a threat to global peace and that the international community must resist the "expansion of authoritarianism".

Russia's Vladimir Putin met Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping for their first face-to-face talks since the start of the conflict in Ukraine on Thursday, hailing their strategic ties in defiance of the West.

In the Uzbek city of Samarkand, Xi told Putin he was "willing to make efforts with Russia to assume the role of great powers".

Putin reiterated Russia's support for China's claim over self-ruled Taiwan which Beijing regards as its own territory and has vowed to one day seize.

The relationship between the two authoritarian leaders has rattled Taipei which fears Xi might one day follow Russia's lead and invade a neighbour it has long threatened to subdue.

In a statement, Taiwan's foreign ministry said it "severely condemns Russia for following the Chinese Communist Party's authoritarian expansionist government to continue to make false statements at international venues that demean our country's sovereignty".

"(Russia) calls those who maintain peace and the status quo provocative, which highly demonstrates the harm caused by the

alliance of Chinese and Russian authoritarian regimes on international peace, stability, democracy and freedom," the statement added. "No limits"



Formerly Cold War allies with a tempestuous relationship, China and Russia have drawn closer in recent years as part of what they call a "no-limits" relationship acting as a counterweight to the global dominance of the United States. For Putin, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Samarkand comes at an important time, as his forces face major battlefield setbacks in Ukraine and a continued Western push to make Russia an international pariah.

For Xi, it is an opportunity to shore up his credentials as a global statesman ahead of a pivotal congress of the ruling Communist Party in October where he is expected to secure a precedent bust-



ing third term. Beijing's sabre-rattling towards Taiwan has intensified under Xi, China's most assertive leader in a generation. Tensions in the Taiwan Strait soared to their highest level in decades when China staged an unprecedented show of force in a furious response to US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taipei last month. For a week after her visit, China sent warships, missiles and

fighter jets into the waters and skies around Taiwan, which condemned the drills and missile tests as preparation for an invasion.

Xi has tied the "unification" of Taiwan to his signature "great rejuvenation" of China policy. "No limits"

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Putin, Xi hail 'great power' ties at talks defying the West

MARKAND (Uzbekistan): Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese leader Xi Jinping met for their first face-to-face talks since the start of the conflict in Ukraine on Thursday, hailing their strategic ties in defiance of the West.

Sitting across from each other at two long rounded tables and flanked by aides, the two leaders met on the sidelines of a summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in ex-Soviet Uzbekistan.

The meeting was part of Xi's first trip abroad since the early days of the pandemic and for Putin a chance to show Russia has not been fully isolated despite Western efforts.

"China is willing to make efforts with Russia to assume the role of great powers, and play a guiding role to inject stability and positive energy into a world rocked by social turmoil," Xi told Putin at the talks. Russian, Chinese leaders

hold first face-to-face meeting since start of Ukraine conflict. Chinese state broadcaster CCTV also quoted Xi as saying China was willing to work with Russia to support "each other's core interests". Putin took a clear broadside at the United States, which has been leading efforts to support Ukraine and impose sanctions on Russia. "Attempts to create a unipolar world have recently acquired an absolutely ugly form and are completely unacceptable," Putin said. "We highly appreciate the balanced position of our Chinese friends in connection with the Ukrainian crisis," Putin told Xi, while reiterating Moscow's backing for China on Taiwan. "We adhere to the principle of one China. We condemn the provocation of the US and their satellites in the Taiwan Strait," Putin said, after a US Senate committee on Wednesday took the first step towards Washington directly.

03 Days Orientation/ Refresher course for field staff of YS&S Dept concludes at Bandipora

BANDIPORA, SEPTEMBER 16: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Bandipora organised a three days orientation cum refresher course for more than 60 Field staff officials of District Youth Services and Sports (DYS&S) office Bandipora at S.K Stadium, here. Senior PEM Nasir Hussain Khan informed that the orientation cum refresher course was organised in the disciplines of Rugby, Athletic and Hand Ball. The concluding ceremony was attended by Joint Director Planning Bandipora, Imtiaz Ahmad who was chief guest on the occasion and Faisal Ali Dar (Padmashree Awardee) who was the guest of honour. Speaking on the occasion, Jt. Director Planning appreciated the Youth Service and Sports Department for organising various sports activities and providing a platform for youth to showcase their talent. He said refresher courses for the field staff will help them to increase their efficiency and enable them to learn new games and promote excellence. The trainees were felicitated with sports Track suits on the final day.

YSS Organises Annual Athletic Meet at Kangan.



Gandebal Sep 16: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) organised an Inter Zonal District Level Annual Athletic Meet for Girls of All Age Groups (AAG) on Friday at Shiekh-ul-Alam Public School Ground Kangan here. A total of 236 Girls from across the District participated in the mega sporting event. District Youth Services and Sports Officer (DYSSO) Gandebal Sheikh Shafiqat Iqbal was the organising Secretary of the meet. He inaugurated & welcomed the guests and participants. While speaking about the importance of such activities for students in particular he stated that when students are participating in any sports matches or competitions, then they need good teamwork, cooperation, and coordination. Learning these skills during sports activities also helps them in various phases of their life, like in academics or future careers. Scores of Departmental officials were deputed for the successful conduct of the field and track events.

J&K Tennis Ball Cricket Team Boys/Girls Selected



Srinagar, 16th Sep.: The J&K U/19 Tennis Ball Cricket Boys/Girls team was selected during two days held at Gindun Sports Ground Rajbagh Srinagar in which almost 200 boys from both boys and girls participated on 15-16 September 2022 under the banner of J&K Tennis Cricket Association. 14 players from both boys and girls selected for 30th Junior U/19 National Tennis Ball Championship which is scheduled to be played at Haridwar (U.P) from 21st September to 24th September 2022. Mr. Nazir Ahmad Lone District Secretary Tennis Ball Cricket Association Baramulla, Vice District President J&K Tennis Ball Cricket Association was the Chief Selector for the selection of both boys/girls teams. The Screening of both the selected teams is scheduled to be on 17th September 2022 at Polo ground Srinagar and the teams will leave on 18th September 2022 for the 30th Junior National Tennis Ball Championship.

My Youth My Pride: Thang-Ta championship concludes at Srinagar

Mr. India bodybuilding competition to be held in J&K

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 16: The District Srinagar Thang-Ta championship concluded today at Thang-Ta Hall, Bakshi Stadium, here. The championship sponsored by J&K Sports Council was organized by District Srinagar Thang-Ta Association in collaboration with J&K Thang-Ta Association. More than 300 players participated in the championship.

Dr. Zaffar Iqbal, Chief Accounts Officer, Sports Council presided over the closing ceremony as the chief guest and Jahangir Ahmad Mir, Public Relation Officer Sports Council was the guest of honour on the occasion.

While addressing the gathering, Dr. Zaffar Iqbal said that Sports Council's special initiative of 'My Youth My Pride' is aimed at inclusive growth of all the athletes and Council has embarked on the mission to reach out to every nook and corner of the union territory to tap the talent and groom them under the tutelage of specialists in the field.

Meanwhile, J&K Sports Council in association with J&K Body Building Association is organizing the first of its kind "Chinab Valley BodyBuilding Competition" on 24th and 25th September 2022 in district Kishtwar followed by "Mr. Kashmir" next month.

Moreover, a bodybuilding competition is slated to be held in the last week of October making way for winners to participate in Mr. India 2021-22 competition later this year in Ludhiana, Punjab.

Secretary Sports Council Nuzhat Gull has directed the concerned association



to activate the district units across the union territory immediately. She said that under the "Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan" concerned association will run a campaign across the J&K and aware youth about the positive impact of the healthy lifestyle on the routine.

Nuzhat Gull said that sports policy rolled out last year has made sports a good career option and bodybuilding as a sport offers twin benefits, one that it helps in maintaining good health, and two that athletes who excel in the field may earn a government job too.

Meanwhile office bearers of the concerned association said that so far competitions for Mr. Jammu, and Mr. North India were organized earlier this year and Mr. India 2022-23 shall be held in March next year. The championship sponsored by J&K Sports Council was organized by

District Srinagar Thang-Ta Association in collaboration with J&K Thang-Ta Association. More than 300 players participated in the championship. Dr. Zaffar Iqbal, Chief Accounts Officer, Sports Council presided over the closing ceremony as the chief guest and Jahangir Ahmad Mir, Public Relation Officer Sports Council was the guest of honour on the occasion.

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"Be Very Careful Against Him": Muttiah Muralitharan Warns Batters At T20 World Cup Facing This Bowler

Sri Lankan great Muttiah Muralitharan on Thursday sounded a warning to the teams ahead of next month's T20 World Cup, saying they will have to be careful against Wanindu Hasaranga as the mystery spinner would be a threat on Australian pitches. Hasaranga took nine wickets to power his team to the Asia Cup title win and Muralitharan said he would be one to watch out for during the T20 World Cup. "He's a great T20 bowler. Last 2-3 years, he's done really well. He's a young guy," Muralitharan told reporters in an interaction on the eve of the second edition of the Legends League Cricket. "In Australia, definitely the leg spinner will have more chances than finger spinners. He will be a difficult opponent to bat against. You have to be very careful against him."

Talking about Sri Lanka's Asia Cup campaign, Muralitharan said: "We had a very young team in the past few years, we played best cricket in the Asia Cup. They looked like the best team and deserved to win the Asia Cup." Sri Lanka will have to take the qualifier route in the T20 World Cup where they are clubbed with Namibia, UAE and the Netherlands. Top two teams will make the main round - Super 12.

"We are looking forward to the World Cup as well. They are formidable but unfortunately we have to play the qualifiers to get into the main round," he said. "The past few years we didn't play well to get a straight entry. But at the moment I'm very, very confident of doing well in the World Cup as well."

Pakistan Pacer's "Cheap Selection" Tweet Over World Cup Team Slammed On Twitter

Pakistan announced its 15-member squad for the upcoming T20 World Cup on Thursday and, contrary to what was expected, decided to stick to most of the players who were part of the squad that recently lost to Sri Lanka in the Asia Cup final. The announcement was followed by scrutiny from fans and former cricketers alike. Mohammad Amir, the former Pakistan fast bowler, also tweeted after the squad was announced but he has since been slammed by fans of Twitter for his choice of words.

"chief selector ki cheap selection," is what Amir tweeted. This has not gone down well with the fans who criticised him for his comments. Amir had in the past retired from international cricket accusing the team management of being unfair towards him. While he has received sympathy from fans in the past, this tweet of his has not gone down well with the Pakistan cricket faithfuls. India's squad composition for the T20 World Cup seems a "bit risky" as they are probably

'Always responsible for arranging medical care for players': PCB responds to allegations on Shaheen Afridi's treatment

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), in response to allegations by former cricket skipper Shahid Afridi regarding pace bowler Shaheen Shah Afridi's medical treatment in London, has said that the board was committed and "responsible for arranging medical care for all its players". In an interview on SAMAA TV programme Game Set Match on Thursday, Shahid claimed that Shaheen was bearing all the expenses for his rehabilitation abroad.

"Shaheen Afridi has gone on his own to England. He has even paid for his own ticket," the

42-year-old all-rounder said. "Shaheen is staying in England with his own money. I arranged a doctor for him there and he contacted him. PCB is providing nothing to Shaheen," Afridi alleged.

However, in a late-night press release the same day, the PCB said that Shaheen was making "excellent progress in his rehabilitation in London" and was on track to make a full recovery in time for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup Australia 2022.

"It goes without saying that the PCB has always been and will continue to be responsible for



arranging medical care and rehabilitation of all its players requiring any treatment," it pointed out. Shaheen is yet to comment

on the matter. It is pertinent to mention here that the star bowler injured his right knee during the first Test against Sri Lanka in Galle in July and missed the second Test of the series as well as Pakistan's tour of the Netherlands and the recently-concluded Asia Cup. His rehabilitation period was initially slated to end on Aug 28 but he was then also ruled out of this month's seven-match T20 series against England at home after Pakistan Cricket Board's medical panel decided to send him to England as he wasn't able to recover from the injury. Dawn learnt on Wednesday

that the authorities at the rehabilitation centre in England will allow Shaheen to start bowling at the start of next month and he will join the squad without having played a match in almost three months as he will also not be part of the Pakistan squad for their tri-series in New Zealand, which also features Bangladesh, ahead of the World Cup. Fakhar Zaman to depart for London today. Meanwhile, the cricket governing body added that batter Fakhar Zaman will depart for London on Friday to undergo rehabilitation. "Fakhar had landed awkwardly on his right knee,

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