**BEACH GAMES 2024, DIU** MP emerges Champion of Maiden Beach Games at Diu P|12 DC Kupwara Chairs EROs, AEROs, PEBOs meeting-cumtraining Session

# **Warmest January Day in 14 Years:**

Pages: 12

# 15.0°C Recorded in Srinagar Today, **Night Temperature rises too**



SRINAGAR, JAN 13: Due to the prolonged dry spell, the maximum temperature shot up to 15 degrees

Celsius in Srinagar on Saturday, mak-

ing it the warmest January day in 14

years.

The meteorological centre in Srinagar said on Saturday that Jammu and Kashmir were witnessing contrasting temperatures due to the prolonged dry spells.

MeT director Mukhat Ahmad said the maximum temperature at TURN ON.....PAGE 02 Light snowfall in Gurez, minimum temp rises across Kashmir

**■** HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JAN 13: North Kashmir's Gurez received light snow even as the minimum temperature rose above the freezing point in Srinagar, the meteorological Centre said on Saturday. MeT director Mukhat Ahmad said the Gurez in Bandipora district, received few inches of snow due to the feeble western disturbances on Friday night.

The night temperature also rose in Kashmir due to these feeble western disturbance," he said. Srinagar city recorded a minimum temperature of +0.2 degrees Celsius on Friday
TURN ON.....PAGE 02

# **J&K Generates Only 600 MWs Hydroelectricity Against Generation Capacity Of 3500 MWs During Winters**

Also peak demand reaches up to 3200 MWs in winters

■ HT News Network

**Voice To The Voiceless** 

JAMMU, JAN 13: In reference to the misinformation related to Ratle Power Projects in various newspapers and other media platforms, the absolute fact is that in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Hydro Power projects are developed in both State and Central sectors.

Out of the existing installed generation capacity of 3500 MW, 1140 MW is contributed by UT-owned plants, including projects like 900 MW Baglihar, 110 MW Lower Jehlum, and 110 MW Upper Sindh. The remaining 2300 MW comes from central sector plants, with prominent ones being Salal, Dul-Hasti, Uri, and Kishanganga.

During winters, power houses in J&K, under both central and state sectors, generate a maximum of 600 MW against their rated capacity of 3500 MW due to a fall in water levels in the



rivers. However, with the peak demand reaching up to 3200 MW in winters, it becomes evident that J&K's power demand cannot be solely met by hydroelectric power plants.

Out of J&K's own power houses, a major
TURN ON.....PAGE 02

# **NEWS BRIEF**

### Magisterial probe ordered into Baramulla gunfight in J&K

SRINAGAR, JAN 13: Jammu and Kashmir government on Saturday ordered a magisterial probe into the 2023 gunfight in Baramulla district in which one militant of Lashkar-e-Taiba was killed.

A local militant Abid Wani of Yarhol Babapora Kulgam in south Kashmir was killed in a gun battle on May 6, 2023 at Dar Mohalla Karhama Kunzer in Baramulla district of Jammu and

District Magistrate Baramulla on Saturday appointed Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Gulmarg, as inquiry officer to conduct magisterial

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

### Police arrests 04 drug peddlers in Baramulla

BARAMULLA, JAN 13: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police have arrested 04 drug peddlers in Baramulla and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

A police party of Police Station Chandoosa headed by SHO PS Chandoosa at a checkpoint established at Walraman Chandoosa, intercepted two persons identified as Farooq Ahmad Dar son of Gh Nabi resident of Chakloo A/P Najibhat Kreeri & Mohd Altaf Sofi son of Abdul Aziz resident of Chakloo Baramulla. During search, 40 grams of Heroin was recovered from their possession. They have been

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

### **UAPA**, Property **Attachment Acted As Deterrents To Terror Support In J&K: Police**

SRINAGAR, JAN 13: Strict implementation of the stringent UAPA and attachment of properties of terror sympathisers have acted as a deterrent and helped bring down violence in Jammu and Kashmir, a senior police officer said here Saturday.

The officer, who did not wish to be named, also said that a change of heart among the people has brought about a huge improvement in the situation.

"We have launched a multi-pronged crackdown on terror and terror networks. Apart from neutralising terrorists, hundreds of their sympathisers, OGWs, have been arrested. We

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

# **Chilly Reception To Winter Shoes**

Prolonged dry spell impacts sales of foam, fur and waterproof shoes, say dealers

**HT News Network** 

SRINAGAR, JAN 13: The extended dry spell that has gripped the Valley is having a profound impact on local businesses, with footwear shops experiencing a notable dip in sales.

Many footwear wholesalers and retailers told news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that 90 percent winter footwear stock is still on shelves and that they don't expect any positive turn around now.

"Half of the Chilaie-Kalan is over now, more than 90% of the winter stock we had purchased remains unsold. We are hardly witnessing any sales," said a footwear wholesaler in Lal Chowk in Srinagar.

Another footwear wholesaler in Batamaloo area said majority of their water proof, foam and fur shoes were still packed in boxes as they are witnessing no demand due to ongoing dry spell.

"This dry spell has incurred a huge financial TURN ON.....PAGE 02

# Security Beefed Up, Vehicle Checking Intensified In Jammu After Fresh Terror Incident In Poonch

GoC Sachdewa Briefs LG Sinha On Prevailing Situation

**HT News Network** 

**JAMMU, JAN 13:** Ahead of the Republic Day, security has been beefed-up and checking of vehicles intensified in entire Jammu division after suspected terrorists attacked a convoy of vehicles last Friday in Poonch district while as the General



officer Commanding (GoC) White Knight Corps Navin Sachdewa briefed the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on the prevalent situation.

Official sources told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), massive search operations are underway in TURN ON.....PAGE 02

**Indian Army Launching** 'Operation Sarvashakti' To Counter Pakistan's **Attempts To Revive Terrorism In J&K**  HT News Network

**NEW DELHI, JAN 13:** In a major step towards thwarting Pakistan's attempts to increase terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir, the Indian Army is launching Operation Sarvashakti, where the security forces will be targeting the terrorists operating on both sides of the TURN ON.....PAGE 02



### **Northern Army Commander Visits Forward Battalions In Kupwara**

**■ HT News Network** 

SRINAGAR, JAN 13: The Northern Army Commander, Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi on Saturday visited forward battalions in Machil sector in North Kashmir Kupwara district and reviewed the counter infiltration grid.

The Northern Army Commander was accompanied by General Officer Commanding(GOC) of Srinagar based 15 Corps, Lieutenant General Rajiv TURN ON.....PAGE 02

# **Lohri Celebrated With Traditional Enthusiasm And Joy Throughout Jammu Region**

**■** HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JAN 13: Jammu region embraced the age-old tradition of celebrating Lohri with unparalleled zeal, marking the transition from winter to spring.

The festival, symbolizing the goodbye to winter chill and the onset of warmer days, unfolded with religious fervor and joy across various locations.

News agency KNS reported that at different venues, locals engaged in traditional Dogri dances, accompanied by the illuminating glow of bonfires, symbolizing the bid adieu to winter. The vibrant celebrations included women and children donned in diverse costumes, actively participating in TURN ON.....PAGE 02

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# Dr Jitendra Addresses Mumbai 'CSR Dialogue', Calls It Duty Not Charity

■ HT News Network

MUMBAI, JAN 13: "Corporate Social Responsibility" (CSR) is not a charity, but a duty and a responsibility towards society inspired by the highest values of seeking to return to society a part of what we have received in whatever capacity and to whatever extent we can, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & TURN ON.....PAGE 02

रामभाऊ म्हाळगी प्रवोधिनी Dialogue de of CSR : Retros Saturday, 13th Jan

# CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

#### At 15.0°C.....

many stations was recorded at 6–8 °C above

13TH HEADLINES

The highest maximum temperature of 20.8°C was recorded over Banihal station in Jammu, and Srinagar recorded 15°C, while Jammu recorded 8.9°C on Saturday, he said.

The MeT director said the all-time highest maximum temperature during January for Srinagar was recorded at 17.2 °C on January 23, 1902.

The temperature in Kashmir shot up on a day when north Kashmir's Gurez received light snow during the night, and the minimum temperature rose above the freezing point across the valley.

The MeT Director said the Gurez in Bandipora district received a few inches of snow due to the feeble western disturbances on Friday

Srinagar city recorded a minimum temperature of +0.2 degrees Celsius on Friday night—four notches up from the previous night.

The night temperature at the tourist resort of Pahalgam in south Kashmir was -0.6° Cagainst -5.3°C on the previous night. The ski resort of Gulmarg in the north recorded a temperature of -1.2°C against minus 3.02°C on the previous night.

Kashmir has been in the grip of severe cold due to the harshest 40-day winter period, "Chilla-i-Kalan," that began on December 21. J&K has so far recorded deficit precipitation in December and January, with most of the plains without any major snowfall. This is after almost seven years that Kashmir is witnessing a snowless winter.

MeT has predicted that dry weather will continue until January 23, with feeble western disturbances approaching on the 16th and 20th

"Under the influence of these WDs, generally cloudy weather with light snow over isolated higher reaches is expected," the MeT Director said. (UNI)

#### Light snowfall.....

night –four notches up from the previous night.

The night temperature at the tourist resort of Pahalgam in south Kashmir was -0.6° Cagainst -5.3°C on the previous night. The ski resort of Gulmarg in the north recorded a temperature of -1.2°C against minus 3.02°C on the previous

The MeT said Qazigund town-the gateway to Kashmir in South Kashmir-recorded a minimum of -2.0°C while Kokernag observed a minimum of -1.2°C. In North Kashmir, Kupwara recorded a low of -0.3°C.

Kashmir has been in the grip of severe cold due to the the harshest 40 days winter period, "Chilla-i-Kalan" that began on December 21. I&K has so far recorded deficit precipitation in December and January with most of the plains without any major snowfall. This is after almost seven years that Kashmir is witnessing a snow-

MeT has predicted that dry weather will continue till January 23 with feeble western disturbances approaching on 16th and 20th

"Under the influence of these WDs, generally cloudy weather with light snow over isolated higher reaches is expected," the MeT Director said. (UNI)

### J&K Generates.....

portion of electricity generation is from the Baghliar Hydro Electric Project (BHEP), producing approximately 900 MW. Other locally owned power generation plants, including Upper Sindh, Lower Jehlum, Chennani, others, collectively generate around 200-250 MW. This totals approximately 1100-1140 MW through UT's own generating stations, which drops to around 200 MW in winters. The remaining power requirement during winters is met through Central Generating Stations (CGS) both within and outside J&K.

Of the total installed capacity of 1140 MW in the UT sector, a major share of around 1030 MW (88% of total capacity) is utilized in J&K, while the remaining 150 MW is sold outside J&K, honouring agreements executed in 2009.

In the existing situation, J&K requires more power from thermal generators to meet its base load requirement. Solar generation could provide balancing support to hydro plants to some

The Government of India has set Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) targets, making it mandatory for every State/UT to procure some quantum of hydro and solar power to meet a proportion of power demand. J&K, being a hydro-rich state, has to rely on thermal power, particularly during winters, to meet the base load demand. As such arrangements are being made to bank hydro with other states in exchange of thermal power whenever there is

surplus situation. Over the last four years, J&K has not signed any Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for selling power outside J&K from its power houses; the same quantum has been maintained as per previous PPAs. In contrast, new PPAs have been signed to procure power to the tune of 3000 MW for J&K, including 900 MW of hydro from under construction Joint Venture (JV) projects namely Pakal Dul, Rattle, Kiru and Kwar of Chenab Valley Power Projects(CVPP) and 1600 MW of solar power from different CPSUs at a nominal price in 2023.

Recently, UT Administrative Council has

accorded procurement of 500 MW of firm power from thermal generators for which the PPA signing is in process. This doubles the capacity/availability of power to J&K in the coming years.

With regard to under construction JV projects of CVPP (with 51% stakes held by NHPC and 49% by I&K Government), the projects are being developed through Debt-Equity model in the ratio of 70:30 at total cost of 22200 Cr. I&K's equity contribution comes as grants from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), while the debt portion is secured through loans from

For raising the necessary loans its essential for the CVPP to execute advance PPAs for selling power post-commissioning of the projects. The tariff for the sale of power is assessed through established procedures and determined by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).

The tariff of the said CVPP projects ranges between Rs. 3.92 to 4.64 per unit. J&K's has signed PPAs for 900 MWs of power from the said projects, considering the additional requirement of Hydro-based power in the existing power portfolio and the pricing, while for the remaining quantum, the CVPP has signed PPAs with other States.

In terms of tariff charges, Jammu and Kashmir offers one of the lowest tariff rates to its consumers in various categories, underscoring its commitment to providing affordable electricity to its residents. During the current financial year, the electricity duty on the power has also been withdrawn.

One significant challenge is that only 55% of consumers have electricity meters installed at their houses, while power consumption often exceeds the agreed loads by the consumers. It is pertinent to mention here that the Indian Electricity Act mandates the supply of power through meters only. Therefore, the department encourages consumers to install meters at their residences, pay based on consumption, and avoid flat-rate billing.

#### Chilly Reception.....

losses to us and these loses will affect our upcoming sales. Over 85% of our footwear stock has remained unsold," said Sajad Ahmad.

Another retail shopkeeper said that ideally in this season one should be wearing warm shoes, but people are using either canvas or sports shoes, attributing this change to prevailing dry weather conditions.

Notably, footwear retailers specializing in foam, fur and waterproof shoes are facing a significant challenge, as consumers are opting for lighter and more breathable options during this prolonged dry period.

Meanwhile, the weather department on Saturday predicted dry spell may persist till 23 January, posing an ongoing challenge for footwear retailers and wholesalers.

### Security Beefed.....

Poonch sector after the terrorists opened fire on a convoy of Commanding Officer of a local army unit in Krishna Ghati area of Poonch on Friday evening.

The sources informed that the Commanding Officer of local army unit came under attack in Khwaria area of Dharati Village in Krishna Ghati Sector of Poonch district Taking to its official handle on X, the Indian Army's White Knight Corps wrote that there were no casualties in the incident and a search operation by the troops and Jammu and Kashmir Police was underway.

Security forces have launched a massive operation to apprehend the perpetrators which continues on the second consecutive day and intelligence agencies are working to ascertain the identity and motives behind the attack. The incident has raised concerns about the security situation in the region, and authorities are on high alert to prevent any further untoward incidents. Security forces have also intensified the frisking of vehicles at all vulnerable and important points across Jammu division.

Friday's incident comes at a time when tensions in the region have been simmering and security forces have been on a high alert.

The local community has been urged to remain vigilant and cooperate with the authorities in providing any information that

may aid in the investigation. Meanwhile, Lieutenant General Navin Sachdeva, General Officer Corps (GOC) White Knight Corps called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Rajbhavan.

As per defence spokesperson, the general officer briefed him on the present security situation, Indian Army outreach to the Awam and synergy with other security forces.

Earlier on Friday, Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi, accompanied by GOC White Knight Corps reviewed the operational preparedness of the formations in Rajouri and Poonch sector along with senior officers of JKP, CRPF and intelligence agencies.

The Army Commander also appreciated the outreach of White Knight Corps to the Awam commending them for the noble initiative of adopting 'Pir Topa as a Model Village' under Sadbhavana.

The Army commander also visited forward posts in Rajouri Sector. He interacted with troops and lauded them for high morale and round-the-clock vigil. He urged them to continue working with zeal and dedication to provide a stable security environment.

Army commander chaired a Manthan with the officers of ROMEO Force, DELTA Force & Ace of Spades Division on the dynamics of Counter Terrorism Operations in 2023. Reviewing the complete pattern of terrorist activities, the Army Commander underscored the need for a deep understanding of the evolving landscape. He also outlined the 'Strat 24' for operational focus in 2024 to defeat the inimical designs of our adversary and sponsored terrorists.

On Thursday, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a meeting with the senior officers, deputy commissioners and senior superintendents of police (SSP) of Jammu division and discussed issues concerning the development and security in the Jammu division. The meeting emphasised the need for a comprehensive strategy for crackdowns against drug smugglers, drug hot-spots and cross-border smuggling.

#### Indian Army.....

Pir Panjal mountain ranges in the Union

In recent times, Pakistani proxy terrorist groups have tried to revive terrorism in the South of Pir Panjal ranges especially in the Rajouri Poonch sector, where around 20 troops have been killed in attacks by terrorists, with the latest being on December 21, when four soldiers were killed in the Dera ki Gali area

"Operation Sarvashakti would be to carry out combined counter-terrorist operations from both sides of the Pir Panjal ranges where the formations of the Srinagar-based Chinar Corps along with the Nagrota-headquartered White Knight Corps would be carrying out simultaneous operations," sources in the security forces said.

"The Jammu and Kashmir Police, CRPF, Special Operations Group, and the intelligence agencies would be working in close coordination to thwart Pakistani designs to revive terrorist activities in the UT, especially in the Rajouri Poonch sector," they added.

The operations are expected to be on the lines of Operation Sarpvinash, which was launched in 2003 to eliminate terrorists from the same areas in the South of Pir Panjal range.

Army Chief General Manoj Pande recently stated that terrorist activities had almost vanished in the area since 2003, but the western adversary is now trying to revive it

He along with the Northern Command had also held detailed discussions with the Corps Commanders on ways to tackle the threat from these terrorists.

The operations are being launched in close monitoring by the Army Headquarters and the Northern Army Command in Udhampur and were planned soon after Home Minister Amit Shah held a security meeting with all stakeholders including the National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Army, intelligence agencies including both internal and external ones, police officials from both state and central agencies.

Northern Army Commander Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi has held coordination meetings with the top security forces brass in both the Jammu and the Kashmir regions for coordinated action against terrorists.

The Indian Army has also started the process of inducting more troops in the Rajouri-Poonch sector

The troops' induction process has also started, along with the strengthening of the intelligence setup in the region.

The security forces are also confident about the local support to thwart terrorism in the

Sources said that despite provocation by terrorists to attack an Army vehicle in the Krisna Ghati area, the troops did not fire back as a lot of civilians were present there. The swift action initiated by the Indian Army against own officers and men in the death of civilians post December 21 encounter has also helped. (Agencies)

### Northern Army.....

Ghai and GOC of Kupwara based Vajar Divi-

Army said the Northern Army Commander visited forward battalions in Machil sector along Line of Control (LoC) where he interacted with the troops and personnel of Rashtriya Rifles, Police, , BSF & BRO and commended them for their persistent vigilance and compelling contribution to maintaining lasting peace in the region.

"In the relentless pursuit of operational excellence and to review the Counter Infiltration Grid, #LtGenUpendraDwivedi, #ArmyCdrNC accompanied by #ChinarCorps Cdr and GOC #VajrDivision visited forward Battalions in #Machhal Sector," Army's Udhampur based Northern Command said in a post on X.

"The Army Commander interacted with the troops and personnel of Rashtriya Rifles, @ JmuKmrPolice, BSF & BRO and commended them for their persistent vigilance & compelling contribution to maintaining lasting peace in the region," another post on X said.

This year there has been little or no snowfall on the LoC and less snow on the border increases the chances of infiltration. (UNI)

# Lohri Celebrated.....

the festivities and exchanging heartfelt Lohri

Notably, members of the Muslim community were observed extending warm Lohri wishes to their Hindu counterparts, underscoring the communal harmony on this joyous occasion.

Lohri, particularly cherished by children, saw groups of youngsters joyfully hopping from one house to another, singing folk Dogri songs and collecting gifts.

Although this age-old practice faces challenges in urban areas due to modernization, it continues to thrive in rural regions, adding a nostalgic charm to the

Jammu's markets buzzed with activity as residents prepared for the evening pooja, stocking up on groundnuts, Rewidis, and essential pooja items. Street vendors set up stalls, drawing in a large crowd eager to partake in the festive spirit.

In Bhaderwah, situated in the Winter Zone of Doda district, Lohri was celebrated in its distinctive style. Children enthusiastically visited homes, receiving gifts and money, contributing to the lively atmosphere in both town and village areas. Marketplaces were abuzz with activity as locals purchased pooja items and indulged in traditional Lohri munchies.

This year, marked by a harsh winter, residents across Jammu lit bonfires in the evening, symbolizing the spark of life and  $offering\, special\, prayers\, for\, prosperity. The$ bonfires were adorned with offerings of puffed rice, popcorns, and other treats, symbolizing the collective desire to bid farewell to the cold weather.

KNS further reported that as per the Hindu calendar, Lohri falls in mid-January, signifying the Earth's journey toward the Sun and the end of the coldest month, Paush. Hindus celebrate this auspicious period, known as Uttarayan, marking the transition from winter to spring.

#### Dr Jitendra.....

Technology, MoS PMO, Personnel. Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh said

Dr Jitendra Singh was addressing the gathering as Chief Guest at the Inaugural session of CSR Dialogue organized by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP), at Thane, Maharashtra, to mark a decade of the implementation of CSR Act.

Dr Jitendra Singh said social responsibility has been part of our sanskaar and ancient Indian tradition. The spirit of contributing towards the welfare of society is inherent to every Indian individual, but sometimes it needs inspiration, provided an outlet and lead to direc-

Dr Jitendra Singh said the best example of Social Responsibility is the appeal given by PM Modi to the well off citizens who could afford gas connection, to voluntarily surrender their subsidy to the benefit of the deserving & poor. PM Modi's call had an inspiring effect & in a short time span 20 crore people gave up subsidies which were used for supporting the beneficiaries of Ujjwala

Yojana, he said. Similarly, Swami Vivekananda had inspired Jamshedji Tata to spend on healthcare when he established pioneering institutions like the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), the National Center for Performing Art (NCPA) and the Tata Memorial Hospital, said Dr Jitendra Singh. Considering that contribution to society is not limited to the rich and the affluent, Dr Jitendra Singh said it is the duty of every citizen to work for uplift of society through whatever means he can.

Referring to Science Social Responsibility, Dr Jitendra Singh said teachers and experts of science can utilize their experience to become researchers and set up Startups. Pointing out that India has a budget outlay of Rs. 25,000 crore under CSR Act, Dr Jitendra Singh said India has jumped from being the Tenth largest economy to being the fifth and today we are the fourth largest economy and by 2030 we will be the third largest economy in the world. In such a situation it is expected that CSR contribution will also increase manifold.

"Let each one of us make every effort, not only should we contribute to CSR activity, but also inspire others. We should seek ways to contribute to society in different areas and create infrastructure and institutions for the Viksit Bharat @2047, " he said.

On April 1, 2014, India became the first country in the world to legally mandate corporate social responsibility. The rules in Section 135 of the Companies Act 2013 make it mandatory for companies of a certain turnover and profitability to spend 2% of their average net profit for the past three years on corporate social responsibility activities.

India, having the most elaborated CSR mechanism, has set a benchmark in attaining sustainability goals and stakeholder activism in nation building.

Magisterial probe.....

inquiry into the incident in which Abid Wani got killed.

Accordingly, as part of the enquiry, the family members, next of kin of the deceased and general public have been informed that if they have anything to say regarding the incident and desire to depose and record their statement, they shall attend the office of the SDM Gulmarg headquartered at Tangmarg within a period of ten days from the issuance of this notice. (UNI)

#### Police arrests....

arrested and shifted to PS Chandoosa where they remain in custody.

Similarly, a Police party of Police Station Kunzer headed by SHO PS Kunzer at a checkpoint established at Dhobiwan Barzulla, intercepted a vehicle (Sumo) bearing registration number JK05B-0134 with two persons on board. They have been identified as Hilal Ahmad Wani & Bilal Ahmad Wani sons of Gh Nabi, both residents of Barzulla Kunzer. During search, 510 grams of Charas & 11 Syrups of Codeine Phosphate were recovered from their possession. They have been arrested and shifted to PS Kunzer where they remain in custody.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations and investigations have been initiated.

We urge the common masses that if you witness drug peddling or any other crime anywhere near you, feel free to contact nearest police establishment or dial 112. People are requested to cooperate with police in curbing the menace of drugs from the society. We reassure the community members that police will act tough against the criminals as per

### UAPA, Property.....

have started attaching properties of those who support terror voluntarily. This has acted as a deterrent," he said during an interaction.

He said the strict implementation of the rule of law has dealt a big blow to the terror ecosystem. "Violence has drastically come down after police started to strictly implement the rule of law," the officer added.

Over the last couple of years, police have cracked down on overground workers or terror associates in Jammu and Kashmir, booking them under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. Hundreds of properties, including those of militants and terror associates, worth crores of rupees have also been attached as part of the crackdown.

The officer added that the people have understood the futility of violence.

"They want to go on with their normal, routine lives and want to reap dividends of peace. We have seen the impact of the maintenance of peace. Life is going on normally, businesses are flourishing, educational institutions are running normally, and tourism has achieved new

heights," he said. The senior officer said upgrading police stations and deploying specially trained police personnel have lent a huge help to area domination exercises and

keeping a watch on inimical elements. "This has helped in maintaining peace," he added.

Crediting low recruitment of local youngsters into terror ranks as another main reason for the decline in violence, the officer said the youths of Kashmir have understood that nothing can be achieved by picking up arms.

Recently, at the annual year-end press conference of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, Director General of Police R R Swain had said while 130 youngsters had joined the militant ranks in 2022, the number dropped to 20 in 2023.

On the issue of targeted killings, the senior police officer cited above said terrorists adopt this strategy to create disturbances and hamper peace.

"We have devised a counter-strategy and taken several steps, including issuing strict SOPs within the department," he The officer further said while 'hybrid

militants' were active in the Valley, their numbers were on the decline. On reports of militants in Jammu and Kashmir using new technologies, he said

there are countermeasures for all new technologies. We are capable enough to counter any such measure. If there is some new tech-

nology, security agencies also work on that and find ways to counter it," he said. The officer also said that security forces have succeeded to a large extent in stopping the infiltration of terrorists and arms and ammunition along the Line of

Control (LoC) in the Kashmir valley. There has been less or no snowfall this time due to which there could be attempts to send more infiltrators. But we are on alert. We have maintained a strong and strict (counter-infiltration) grid, "the officer said. (Agencies)





# DC Kupwara Chairs EROs, AEROs, PEBOs meeting-cum-training Session

#### **HT News Network**

Kupwara, Jan 13: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ms. Ayushi Sudan who is also District Panchayat Election Officer, on Saturday, chaired a Meeting-Cum-Training Session at Town Hall Kupwara to review the Revision of Panchayat Electoral Roll with reference to 01-01-24 as the qualifying date.

Meeting was attended by EROs, AEROs and PEBOs of the district to discuss various modalities for revision of Panchayt Electoral rolls.

The Deputy Commissioner on the occasion instructed PEBOs to work dedicatedly and give full attention to revision of Panchayat electoral roll so that the gap between assembly electoral roll and Panchayat electoral roll is done away.

DC directed the participants to expedite the process of SSR of Panchayat Electoral Rolls with full efficiency and 100% accuracy. She said that laxity of any kind will not be tolerated in this regard.

DC emphasized upon PEBOs to update the Panchayat voter lists as per the assembly voter lists and conduct door to door surveys and focus on the addition of more voters.

DC reiterated that it is a most important exercise to update the Panchayat voter lists and make them healthy and error

DC stressed upon the PEBOs to ensure EP(Electorate Population) ratio and gender ratio is improved and taken at par with



national ratio.

DC further said that it should be ensured during the exercise

that Youth, women, senior citizens especially with the age of 80 plus, PwDs (Persons with disabilities), transgenders and other vulnerable sections of the society are not left out.

DC asked the participants to share the list of old age voters (who are the age of 100 plus) with the Election Office so that they are honored. DC directed AEROs and Dis-

trict Election Office to monitor the progress of PBLOs closely, on a daily basis and create a whatsapp group exclusively to monitor SSR of panchayat Electoral

On the occasion, ACR Kupwara, Irfan Bahadur urged the PEBO's to take all the stakeholders on board by ensuring that no voter is left behind and bring Electorate Population Ratio at par with National ratio.

Dy. Election Officer, Kupwara, Mir Hamidullah, instructed the concerned to conduct revision strictly in accordance with the guidelines and complete the process within the given timelines. He also advised the PEBO's to take help from assembly BLO's in identifying voters who are enrolled in assembly roll but are not included in Panchayat roll.

ADC Handwara, Nazir Ahmad Mir, SDM Lolab, Ijaz Ahmad Bhat, District Panchayat Officer Kupwara, Abdul Rashid Ahangar, BDOs, Panchayt Secretaries and other concerned attended the meeting.

Later a training/orientation session on revision of Panchayat electoral rolls was conducted which was attended by all the

# **DDC Chairperson, Shopian holds council meeting**

Reviews developmental issues, implementation status of works

#### ■ HT News Network

SHOPIAN, JANUARY, 13: In a significant stride towards comprehensive development, the District Development Council (DDC) Shopian convened a pivotal meeting today here at Conference Hall of Mini-Secretariat Shopian under the chairmanship of DDC chairperson, Shopian, Bilgees Jan.

The meeting was attended by DDC members of the Council along with ADDC, ADC and other district and sectoral officers.

Treadbare discussion was held on various development demands and other issues. The primary agenda centered around a comprehensive review of DDC and PRI plans.



to scrutinizing the progress of ongoing projects, addressing challenges encountered, and emphasizing the crucial importance of their timely com-

DDC Chairperson underscored the significance of this collaborative effort, bringing together all stakeholders for the singular

A meticulous review of the works and progress took place, involving detailed discussions with all relevant executing agencies.

Deliberations on the ongoing projects within the District involved in-depth conversations among concerned departments, particularly focusing on the DDC and PRI grants.

The Council members collectively pressed upon the concerned departments to expedite project implementation. They emphasized the paramount need for a coordinated approach among all stakeholders to ensure the timely and successful execution of projects, reflecting the council's commitment to delivering tangible results for the com-

# Public Outreach: DC Kulgam Visits far-off D. K. Marg areas

#### **■** Faroog Rather

KULGAM, JANUARY 13: With an endeavour to reach out to people of far-off areas and to provide governance at their doorsteps, the Deputy Commissioner Kulgam Athar Aamir Khan on Saturday visited far-off D.K Marg areaand convened public grievances redressal camp here in the premises of Block Office.The programme witnessed overwhelming response of people from Nagnaad, Chimmer, Nagam, D.K. Marg, Khull and other villages.The articipants apprised the DC about their issues and grievances



besides putting forth various developmental and welfare demands.People from Khull demanded the establishment of a wildlife control room in the area and to make the filtration plant functional. People of all these areas unanimously demanded augmentation of staff at PHC DK.Marg.

street lights at important public places and construction of left out portion of Gujjarbasti- Sarbadri road.

People from D. K. Marg demanded construction of flood protection bund at River Boshi and establishment of Timber sale Depot

in the village. Delegations from other villages also demanded repair of the D. H. Pora- Chimmer road besides flagged-off other developmental requirements of their areas. The DC listened to all the issues of people and some of the issues of immediate nature were also redressed on the spot. Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner said that the objective of these grievance redressal Camps is to take appraisal of issues from the general public at their doorsteps for timely redressal. He said that all the demands were noted and will be redressed in a time-bound manner.

# DC Ganderbal reviews preparedness for conduct of Panchayat Electoral Roll in district

### **HT News Network**

GANDERBAL, JANUARY 13: Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyambir today chaired a meeting of EROs, AEROs and PEBOs here at Mini Secretariat Ganderbal.

During the meeting the DC took a detailed review about preparedness for smooth and successful conduct of Panchayat Electoral Roll in the district.

The DC issued instructions in light of the State Election Commission guidelines for carry out revision of Panchayat Electoral Roll with qualifying date 01.01.2024.

The field staff viz PEBOs who are VLWs/MPWs were advised by the DC

S.NO Description of post



to visit house to house for receiving of forms from the eligible inhabitants who have achieved the age of 18+ and are not enrolled in the electoral roll yet.The DC directed EROs/AEROs and BDOs to remain in close coordination with the PEBOs during the revision period.During the meeting it was revealed that the special camps will

**Government of Jammu and Kashmir** 

Office of the Superintendent

Industrial Training Institute, Bandipora.

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE UNDER PPP MODE SCHEME.

for engagement of One Accounts Assistant Cum Computer Operator on Temporary basis through PPP mode

Scheme, for calander Year: 2024 on the terms and conditions as laid down hereunder. The application along

with the Photostat copies of qualification certificates, Marks cards, D.O.B and PRC should reach to the

Office of Undersigned within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

Note: Desirable Certificate course in accounting using tally from NEILET or equivalent

Arrangement is purely on temporary basis and will seize automatically on 31st of December 2024.

Selected candidate will have to submit an affidavit duly signed by first class magistrate that he will not

Higher qualification (10-5 for higher & 5 for next higher)

Relevant experience: 10 (2 points for each year)

claim for continuation or permanent job beyond 31st of December 2024.

Selected candidate will be paid a monthly remuneration of Rs. 13500/= per month.

Accounts Assistant Cum Computer Operator

(One Post)

Selection will be made on the basis of following criteria: Basid qualification: 40 Points

Written examination: 40 points.

Examination/written test date will be communicated separately

Applications on plain paper are invited from the permanent residents of Jammu and Kashmir

Eligibility Criteria

using Tally from recognized

organization/Institution.

be organized on Saturday and Sundays at Polling Stations for the convenience of general public. The awareness programmes will be conducted in all blocks under SVEEP programme.

The revision will start from 15th January and shall complete on 26th of February, 2024.

Meanwhile, the drafts Electoral Roll with sufficient forms were issued to the field staff for use during revision

period. The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Ganderbal, Mushtag Ahmad Simnani, Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Gulzar Ahmad, ACR, SDM Kangan, VLW and other con-

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I inform to general public that my electric bill is on the name of ABDUL AHAD NAJAR S/O.. GH QADIR NAJAR R/O BANDIPAYEEN bearing Consumer ID No ..0212040004942...Now I want to change my electric bill name from ABDUL AHAD NAJAR S/O GH QADIR NAJAR R/O BANDIPAYEEN to MOHAMMAD LATEEF S/O LATE ABDUL AHAD NAJAR R/O BANDIPAYEEN ...If anybody have any objection he/ she may file his/her objection in the concerned PDD office within seven days from the date of publication f this notice after that no objection will be entertaine.

> Name ... MOHAMMAD LATEEF NAJAR S/O ...LATE ABDUL AHAD NAJAR **R/o BANDIPAYEEN BLock..WAGOORA Distt...BARAMULLAH**

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I informed to general public that my daughter Nargis Nisar D/o Nisar Ahmad Najar R/o Kachwa Muqam her mother's name is wrongly registered as GULSHAN Begum instead of Gulshana Ara in DOB certificate . Now I am applying for its correction if anybody having any objection in this regard He/She may file his /her objection in office of the Registrar Deaths and Births BDO wagoora within the period of seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

> Name. Nisar Ahmad Najar F/o Nargis Nisar R/o kachwa Muqaam Block. Wagoora

I informed to general public that my son's Date of birth (DOB) is 10/06/2012...Now I am applying for his date of birth certificate (DOB)if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file His /her objection in the (BDO ) office WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this

> Name...HABIBULLAH KHAN F/O.... ZAHID HABIB R/O.... TANGWARI BALa Block....WAGOORA

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Distt....BARAMULLA

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I informed to general public that my daughter's Date of birth (DOB) is 25/07/2019..Now I am applying for her date of birth certificate (DOB)if anybody have any any objection in this regard He/She may file His /her objection in the (BDO) office WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

> Name....IMRAN AHMAD KHAN F/O.... AYESHA IMRAN **R/O.... TANGWARI BALA** Distt....BARAMULLA

I informed to general public that my son's Date of birth

(DOB) is 18/03/2021....Now I am applying for his date of birth

certificate (DOB)if anybody have any objection in this regard

WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this

Name....MUSHTAQ AHMAD MONAN

F/O.... MOHSIN MUSHTAQ

R/O.... BULBUL ABAD KAWHAR

Block....WAGOORA Distt....BARAMULLA

He/She may file His /her objection in the (BDO ) office

notice after that no objection will be entertained

It is with grief and sorrow that i announce the sad demise Rafiga mother of riyaz ah malla and zahoor ah malla) resident of #Qamarwari, srinagar who passed away yesterday at her residence on 08-jan-2024



The congregational Fatiha Khawani will be held at their ancestral graveyard situated at Chattabal, srinagar on 12-jan-2024 (Friday)2:30 pm

# SAD DEMISE

With Profound grief and sorrow we inform That sad demise of Miss Sofi Khateeja

W/o Late Ghulam Nabi Sofi R/o Vicharnag 90feet Road Nowshara Srinagar Who left for Heavenly abode on Saturday 13 Jan 2024 and Rasmi Chaharum Will be Observed On Tuesday 16 Jan



11Am at Ancestral Graveyard Near Beigh Sarie Soura Srinagar. Allah Give Her Highest Place In Jannatul Ferdous.

Note. Ladies are Requested not to bring any thing on Chaharum day.

> From Sofi family 9906824174 8899944417

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I have applied for the issuance of Date of Birth (DOB) certificate for my son namely Wahid Ahmad Lone S/o Ghulam Rasool Lone ... if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of TEHSILDAR KREERI within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

> **GHULAM RASOOL LONE** F/O WAHID AHMAD LONE R/O....BURZAWACHAN DOB...26/02/2017

Date: 13-01-2024 DIPK-15204/23

2.

3.

Superintendent (Member Secretary) **Institute Management Committee** ITI Bandipora.

Bachelors Degree in acountancy/Commerce/MBA

Finance/MFC from UGC recognized University

with good knowledge of Tally, ERP accounting





**EDITORIAL** 

TYPER OF LINES PUBLICATION

# **CHELAI-E-KALAAN** WITHOUT SNOW: Kashmir's **Unyielding Drought**

Just Yesterday, People in Muslim majority region of Kashmir gathered for Namaz-e-Istisqa. Praying for rain to break the dry spell that has badly affected the climate in the region.

The community came together, seeking divine intervention for relief from the prolonged drought conditions. The absence of the customary winter snow has transcended mere weather anomalies, emerging as a multifaceted crisis impacting the region's core sectors. As the arid spell persists, its repercussions are felt acutely in tourism, agriculture, and the lives of the local populace.

The tourism industry, which thrives on the ethereal beauty of snow-laden landscapes, now faces a daunting challenge. The vibrant wintersports season, a key attraction for both domestic and international tourists, has been stifled. Hotels, resorts, and local businesses that depend on the influx of winter enthusiasts find themselves grappling with unprecedented setbacks. The once bustling tourist spots wear a desolate look, mirroring the stark reality of an economy hit hard by the absence of snow.

Simultaneously, agriculture, the backbone of Kashmir's economy, bears the brunt of this unusual dry spell. The winter chill and snow traditionally contribute to soil moisture, ensuring a bountiful harvest in the ensuing months. However, the lack of precipitation jeopardizes this delicate balance. Farmers face water scarcity and reduced crop yields, imperiling their livelihoods and exacerbating food security concerns in the region.

Beyond economic repercussions, the absence of snow has profound cultural and psychological impacts on the people of Kashmir. The snow-covered landscape is not just a scenic backdrop but an integral part of the cultural fabric. The iconic snowfall is intertwined with traditions, festivals, and the collective identity of the community. Its scarcity disrupts the cherished rhythm of life, leaving residents grappling with an emotional void.

In navigating the complexities of this unprecedented dry spell, the people of Kashmir showcase resilience and resourcefulness. Yet, as the challenges persist, there is an urgent need for holistic strategies, collaborative efforts, and adaptive measures to mitigate the adverse effects on tourism, agriculture, and the well-being of the Kashmiri people.

# **Tobacco Control Initiatives in Kashmir:** Dr Mir Mushtaq Unveils the Vision of NTCP



In an Exclusive Interview, Dr Mir Mushtaq Nodal Officer steering the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in Kashmir division shares exclusive insights into the transformative journey toward a tobacco-free future in

Can you provide insights into the organizational structure of NTCP in Jammu and Kashmir?

Dr. Mushtaq: The National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) was launched in December 2016 in all districts with dedicated staff allocated to Jammu and Budgam. Since then, it has expanded to cover all districts, with a particular focus on Jammu and Budgam. The program receives support from the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, contributing technical and financial support.

Would you elaborate on the significance of the tobacco control program in the context of the high burden of tobacco in the Kashmir division?

Dr. Mushtaq: The tobacco control program is of paramount importance due to the substantial burden of tobacco, particularly in the Kashmir division of Jammu and Kashmir as it rank sixth nationally in tobacco consumption, with a notably high percentage. The challenges are substantial, and our aim is to bring about a tangible change at the grassroots level.

What efforts are being made to reduce tobacco consumption here?

Dr. Mushtaq: We have been working diligently under the dynamic leadership of the Director Health Services Kashmir and higher administrative authorities. The tobacco control cell of the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir has been actively involved, following their guidance, to implement strategies and initiatives aimed at reducing tobacco con-

What are the visible changes on the ground, especially regarding the decrease in tobacco consumption?

Dr. Mushtaq: There have been positive changes on the ground. The percentage of tobacco consumption has decreased from GATS one to GATS 2, which is quite heartening. This indicates that our efforts and initiatives are making a tangible impact on reducing tobacco use in the region. Counseling sessions for tobacco cessation have seen a remarkable increase under our initiatives. In the year 2023-24 alone, 17,457 individuals sought guidance, reflecting a growing commitment to a tobacco-free lifestyle. Our emphasis on cessation, coupled with extensive awareness campaigns, inspires individuals to take proactive steps towards healthier lives

You mentioned a shift in public per $ception\,about\,smoking.\,Can\,you\,elaborate$ on how awareness campaigns have con-

tributed to this change? Dr. Mushtaq: Over the years, we have



observed a significant change in public perception about smoking. Awareness campaigns have played a crucial role in this transformation. Previously, people smoked in public transport, homes, and various public spaces without hesitation. Now, due to increased awareness, people are consciously avoiding smoking in public places. Public transport has become almost smoke-free, indicating a positive shift in societal norms. Initiatives like the Tobacco Free Youth Campaign, aligned with World No Tobacco Day 2023, and the success in conducting maximum "No Tobacco Pledges" in schools (5,92,315 pledges) underscore our commitment to nurturing a tobaccofree generation. These initiatives lay the foundation for a future where the youth actively reject tobacco use, contributing to a healthier community

Despite the progress, what challenges you are facing on ground?

Dr. Mushtaq: Social acceptance remains a challenge. Some still do not perceive tobacco as equally harmful as alcohol, despite its association with various diseases, including cancers and cardiovascular issues. Trends like shisha bars, Hookah bars and electronic cigarettes add complexity to the situation. Addressing these challenges requires collective efforts from parents, teachers, religious leaders, and society as a whole.

Q: What initiatives have been taken to sensitize stakeholders?

Dr. Mushtaq: Sensitization has been a key focus, reaching nearly 9000 stakeholders through workshops and coordination committee meetings at different levels. We've conducted state-level, divisional-level, and district-level workshops, engaging with departments such as Agriculture, RNTCP, Transport, Police, PRIs, and Imaams. These efforts aim to foster a united front against tobacco by involving various stakeholders.

Can you shed light on the enforcement part of the program?

Dr. Mushtaq: Enforcement has seen significant progress since the initiation of the program in 2016. While there were challenges in the past, particularly in the enforcement drives, the years 2020 to 2023 have shown remarkable improvement. Data from the collection of punishment fee challans in Jammu division and Pulwama district in Kashmir division reflects the positive impact of our enforcement initiatives.

Proactive regulation is crucial in curbing tobacco use, and various orders have



In 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, fine collections amounted to around 18290, 20250, 25260 rupees. However, from that period until this year, we have collected fines totaling 4.3 lakh rupees, demonstrating effective enforcement. Districts like Kullgam stand out for their excellence in challans and COTPA implementation. Our gratitude goes to the former DC of Kullgam, Dr. Hilal Mohiuddin, for his proactive approach. As he assumes charge of the Srinagar district, we are hopeful that his proactive measures will have a positive impact there as well.

We actively participate in programs spanning schools, colleges, communities, villages, and panchayats, receiving support from various departments, including education, police, and Panchayati Raj. This collaborative effort has successfully raised awareness from grassroots levels to homes, resulting in a positive impact.

Addressing advertisements for tobacco products, we promptly informed Srinagar Municipal Corporation, leading to the removal of hoardings from the city-an accomplishment. We remain vigilant against the illegal advertising of tobacco products.

Moreover we have launched tobacco cessation services in the district, offering facilities to support individuals in quitting tobacco. Besides providing counseling services, we have entered into an MOU with JK Bank, who are assisting us in the implementation of COTPA. Initially, their support covers two districts--Jammu in Jammu division and Pulwama in Kashmir division. The program is showing promising results.

Looking at the prevalence data from GATS 2, what steps are being taken to combat the challenge of social accep-

Dr. Mushtaq: Social acceptance is a complex issue that requires a multifaceted approach. We are actively working to change the perception that tobacco is less harmful than alcohol. Parents, teachers, and religious leaders play a pivotal role in this endeavor. It's not a one-person effort; we need a collective, united front to succeed in reducing social acceptance of tobacco.

What steps you are taking to amplify the Anti tobacco messages in Kashmir?

Dr. Mushtaq: The State Tobacco Control Cell has been proactive in utilizing digital platforms, including a dedicated website (www.jktcp.com) and social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Regular updates are shared through these channels, and anti-tobacco signages distributed across districts serve as constant reminders of our collective commitme

What are the proposed strategies and initiatives to address ongoing challeng-

Dr. Mushtaq: Our proposed strategies encompass a comprehensive roadmap for a robust and sustainable tobacco-free future. Initiatives include establishing tobacco cessation centers, strict compliance with TOFEI guidelines in educational institutions, introducing tobacco vendor licensing, conducting regular enforcement drives, and addressing the emerging challenges like electronic cigarettes. Coordination committees involving various departments will be crucial in implementing these strategies effectively.

There is a need for discouragement, and laws must be enacted to address the challenge of electronic cigarettes. This situation is particularly challenging as these products are readily available online, allowing anyone to easily order them. Another obstacle is the need for improved coordination and enforcement of the COTPA act. While positive changes are observed, consistent enforcement is crucial throughout the UT of Jammu and Kashmir to effectively control the tobacco menace.

The introduction of a Vendor Licens $ing \, Act \, in \, JK \, is \, imperative. This \, act \, would \,$ bring about a significant shift in tobacco consumption, as there is currently no law prohibiting the sale of cigarettes. With a Vendor Licensing Act, only shops possessing a license will be permitted to sell tobacco products, a crucial step in tobacco control. Enforcing this law will enable penalties for those selling cigarettes illegally, especially near educational institutions. Our ongoing efforts to enact this law in JK aim to substantially reduce tobacco con-

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# Navigating Exam Stress:

# Practical Tips for Peak Performance

### **Jaswinder Pal Sharma**

Navigating the challenges of exam stress is crucial for achieving peak performance. This article explores practical strategies to manage stress, ensuring you can approach exams with confidence and focus.

Develop a Structured Study Plan: Creating a well-organized study schedule helps break down overwhelming tasks into manageable chunks. Set realistic goals, prioritize subjects, and allocate specific time slots for focused study sessions.

Practice Regular Breaks: Breaks are not just downtime; they are essential for maintaining concentration. Short breaks during study sessions can refresh your mind and prevent

burnout. Incorporate activities like stretching or a quick walk to recharge.

Mindfulness and Relaxation Techniques: Incorporating mindfulness and relaxation techniques, such as deep breathing exercises or meditation, can significantly reduce anxiety levels. These practices help create a calm mental state, enhancing your ability to retain information.

Adequate Sleep: Ensure you get sufficient sleep leading up to exams. Ouality rest is vital for memory consolidation and cognitive function. Establish a consistent sleep routine to promote a well-rested mind and

Healthy Lifestyle Choices: Maintain a balanced diet and stay hydrated. Nutrient-rich foods contribute to sustained energy levels, while proper hydration supports cognitive function. Avoid excessive caffeine intake, as it can contribute to increased stress

Set Realistic Expectations: Acknowledge that perfection is unattainable. Set realistic expectations for yourself, focusing on progress rather than perfection. Understanding that mistakes are part of the learning process can alleviate unnecessary

Utilize Active Learning Techniques: Engage in active learning methods, such as summarizing information in your own words, teaching concepts to others, or creating flashcards. These approaches enhance comprehension and make studying



more dynamic and effective.

Seek Support: Don't hesitate to seek support from friends, family, or classmates. Sharing your concerns can provide emotional relief, and discussing topics with others can deepen your understanding of the

Simulate Exam Conditions: Familiarize yourself with exam conditions by practicing with past papers or setting up mock exams. This not only improves your time management skills but also reduces anxiety by making the exam environment more

Celebrate Achievements: Recognize and celebrate your accomplishments, no matter how small. Positive reinforcement enhances motivation and confidence, contributing to an overall positive mindset during exam

Conclusion: Managing exam stress involves a combination of practical strategies that cater to both your mental and physical well-being. By adopting these tips, you can navigate the challenges of exam preparation with resilience, setting the stage for peak performance when it matters

> The author is a SS Master, Gsss Hakuwala, Sri Muktsar Sahib, 79860-27454

# Secretary RDD emphasises ACDs, ACPs, REW for convergence and innovation in rural development

#### HT News Network

JAMMU, JANUARY 13: Secretary, Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary held a detailed interaction with the Assistant Commissioners Development (ACD), Assistant Commissioners Panchayat (ACP) and Engineering head of Rural Engineering Wing (REW) for a comprehensive citizen centric development planning and outreach. A review of flagship schemes and programs was also conducted during the meeting.

Dr Shahid asked the ACDs and ACPs to spearhead convergence and innovation in rural infrastructure development with great public participation. He discussed about futuristic plan-

ning through creation of outcome oriented rural landscape development. The officers was asked for an immediate focus on completion of DDC and BDC office building, panchayat ghars and other community assets for establishment of institutions of Local Self Government. The shortage of technical and engineering staff highlighted by the officers was also discussed for early resolution.

He held detailed deliberations with the Heads of Departments, ACDs and ACPs for transitioning the platform of "Block Diwas" towards a measurable servicedelivery event for all the departments, making it more vibrant, inclusive and change oriented. Officers were also asked for seeking stakeholder suggestions for making Block Diwas more



effective, upscaling the outcomes and performance evaluation of all the departments viz a viz service delivery leading to a greater public confidence in

the governance system. ACDs and ACPs were asked for onboarding other depart-

ing and climate for convergent planning to maximise outcomes. They were also asked for ments particularly those relatinitiating the process for formulation of Development Plan for ed to rural infrastructure, farmevery Halqa Panchayat in line with the laid down guidelines. Social audit of the works executed and under execution was also emphasised. Rationalisation of wards in Halqa panchayats was also discussed during the meeting, seeking early proposals from the districts. Expeditious completion of PMAY housing units was also highlighted in the meeting.

The Secretary also asked the officers for early rent assessment of all the office buildings hired for Panchayat Ghars, BDC and DDCs offices, and initiating steps for vacation of Panchayat Ghars which are yet to be operationalised. The need for strengthening the planning capabilities of **District Development Councils** and inter-sectoral coordination was discussed in details and officers asked for measures in this regard. Directors, Directorate of Rural Development Jammu/Kashmir and Director Panchayati Raj shared detailed presentation with ACDs and ACPs for progress under various schemes and steps required for targeted achievements under various schemes.

Secretary in RDD, Tariq Ahmed Zargar, Director, Panchayati Raj Sham Lal, Director Rural Development Jammu, Mumtaz Ahmed, Director Rural Development Kashmir, Shabir Ahmed Bhat, Addl Secretary, Sanjay Kumar Bhat, Jt Director Planning, Kamal Kumar Sharma and other senior officers were also present in the meeting and shared insights about various schemes including MGNREGS, SBM, PMAY and SBM.

### **FFMA reorganizes office** bearers

#### **HT News Network**



JAMMU, Jan 13: A significant development, Freedom Fighter Memorial Association (FFMA) today reorganized office bearers to make important decisions about the association's leadership.

The new team include Ved Gandotra (Patron), Rajiv Mahajan (Chairman), R.C Puri (Vice Chairman), Prof. S.S. Balwal (President), Th. Karnail Chand (Working President), Pritam Sharma (Senior Vice President), J.J Singh (General Secretary), Kamal Sharma (Vice President), Garu Ram (Vice President), Rajinder Mittal (Advisor), Nirmal Kishore (Organising Secretary), Parbhat Kapahi (Secretary), Prof. R.P Sharma, Sewa Ram Rathore, Adarsh Sharma (Executive Members). Th. Karnail Chand shall also hold the post of Financial Secretary.

## **SACPPE Holds Event in** Parraypora on 35th Road **Safety Month**

### **HT News Network**

SRINAGAR: In a commendable initiative, the South Asia Centre for Peace Peoples Empowerment (SACPPE) organized an on-road awareness event at Parraypora Baghat to mark the 35th Road Safety Month. The event aimed to bolster road safety and heighten awareness within the community, aligning with their commitment to cultivating a safer and more informed society.

Assistant Transport Commissioner J&K, Arif Parvez Shah, graced the occasion and honored obedient drivers.

Emphasizing the paramount importance of road safety, Shah underscored that it should be a top priority for all. Syed Igbal Rasheed SHO Sadder, addressing the gathering, urged parents to instill in children the awareness that their lives are precious and must be handled with care. This initiative reflects a collective effort to create a culture of safety and responsibility on the roads. Emphasizing the paramount importance of road safety, Shah underscored that it should be a top priority for all. Syed Iqbal Rasheed SHO Sadder, addressing the gathering, urged parents to instill in children the awareness that their lives are precious and must be handled with

# **SP College commemorates** National Youth Day, organizes virtual symposium

#### **HT News Network**

SRINAGAR, JANUARY 13: Under the aegis of Viksit Bharat @2047, the Red Ribbon Club of Sri Pratap College organized a week-long activities to commemorate National Youth Day.

In this connection, a virtual symposium on the theme, "It's all in the mind" was coordinated by the Convenor and members of Red Ribbon Club.

The proceedings of the online symposium was moderated by Dr. Mehraj Bashir, Assistant Professor from Department of Zoology.After welcoming the participants, he introduced the theme of the event and talked about the importance of youth who are the harbinger of revolution and mental journey.

change.The Principal of the college, Prof (Dr.) Ghulam Qureshi Jeelani presided over the whole event and talked at length about the role of youth in taking India to new heights.

He also spoke about the importance of this day wherein the day is celebrated to honour the birth anniversary of one of the greatest philosopher and spiritual

He also stated that this day is celebrated to educate youth about their rights and role in shaping the Indian society so that the nation achieves the ideals to become the best economic and social power by 2047.

leader of the nation.

He also acknowledged that the youth are an important asset of our nation and reflected on the develop-

# Public Darbar vital in bridging gap between various stakeholders for better policy formulation: Mandeep Kaur

#### **HT News Network**

SAMBA, JANUARY 13: Commissioner Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, today presided over a grand Public Darbar at Bari Brahmana, here.

Addressing the gathering, Mandeep Kaur emphasized the significance of Public Darbar in bridging gaps between various stakeholders for better policy formulation. Acknowledgingtheimpact of the public darbar, she stated that the recorded issues would play an instrumental role in the planning process, assuring the locals that their concerns will be addressed through coordination with relevant

departments. **Commissioner Secretary** 



said, "The Public Darbar is a vital platform for engaging with the citizens and understanding their needs and aspirations. We are committed to delivering on our promises and ensuring the welfare of the people of district."

She also emphasized the pivotal role of public support, particularly from women, in achieving the vision of a Swacch Bharat. She called for active enforcement and supervision of public to realize this vision.During the interaction, various concerns and demands were voiced by the public. Some prominent demands included black-

listing of contractors with incomplete works, repairs of government school, improvement of drainage systems in Bassi Kalan and proper sanitation and water drainage in Ward 2 industrial area.

Other issues raised encompassed the congestion of roads, increasing strength of Safai Karamchari, efficient pension disbursement, and the demand for on-the-spot camps to address pension

During the darbar, Mandeep Kaur flagged off road sweeping vehicles provided by Power Grid Corporation to ULBs in the District Samba, showcasing a commitment to sanitation and cleanliness in urban

She also paid a visit to Material Recovery Facility, Bari Brahmana and inspected door to door collection system and site of J&K Housing Board in Birpur alongwith the Revenue officials

# Sarmad Hafeez presides over mega Public Outreach programme at Sumbal Bandipora

### **HT News Network**

BANDIPORA, JANUARY 13: Secretary Youth Services and Sports, Sarmad Hafeez who is also Mentor Secretary of District Bandipora, today presided over a mega Public Outreach programme at Dak Bungalow Sumbal to take first hand appraisal of public issues and grievances.

**Deputy Commissioner** Bandipora, Shakeel Ur Rehman Rather; Public Representatives including DDC members, various citizen forums, traders federations and large gathering of general public besides senior officers from district and sub divisional administration were also present dur-



ing the camp. During the program, the DDC members, representatives of citizen forums, traders and general public put forward various issues and demands pertaining to their areas. The demands included play grounds in various areas, completion of Jal Jeevan Mission works, railway connectivity, repairing of electricity polls, availability of

RTC buses on various routes, J&K Bank Unit, ATM for Nowgam, Grid Station at Sumbal, beautification of Administrative Complex at Sumbal, Women's Degree College, separate medical block for Sumbal, filling up of various vacancies and other issues. Speaking on the occasion, Sarmad Hafeez assured redressal of genuine grievances.

# **Principal Secretary PDD holds Public** Grievance Redressal camp at Akura Anantnag

### **HT News Network**

ANANTNAG, JANUARY

13: Principal Secretary, Power Development Department (PDD), H. Rajesh Prasad, today preside over mega Public Outreach Programme cum Grievance Redressal Camp at Akura here.The camp was organised with an aim to facilitate direct interaction between the public and government officials, with special focus on addressing grievances and concerns related to power services.The Public Grievance Redressal Camp was among others attended by Chairman DDCM.Y.Gorsi and PRI's representatives and a large gathering of people from the area. Heads of various government departments, including Revenue, Police, Power, Health, Education, Public Works, Agriculture, and allied departments, were present to address sectorspecific concerns.The People and public representatives apprised the Principal



Secretary about the issues confronting them besides their developmental demands including development of playfield, restoration of road stretch at Sarab Bagh, establishment of Girls Higher Secondary School, Skill Development Centre and Fruit Mandi in the area, ATM facility and Transport services for locals, completion of Chandpora-Darbagh road, saturation of beneficiaries under PMAY scheme and other issues.Predominantly, the issues raised uring the camp pertained to power supply and infrastructure, promotion of Tourism, Jal Jeevan

Mission, and other related matters. The Principal Secretary, after giving patient hearing to the grievances and demands of the public, sought on the spot response from concerned District officers present in the Grievance Redressal camp. He assured the public that all genuine demands and issues projected by them will be looked into on priority.Principal Secretary during his address, reiterated the UT government's commitment to improving the quality of power services and infrastructure in the region. He assured the public that their concerns.

# Lohri celebrated at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhavan; NC prays for peace, tranquility

### HT News Network

JAMMU JANUARY 13- Lighting of sacred fire and offering of holy Prasad, comprising five main ingredients like Til, Gajak, Gur, Mongfuli, Phuliya besides Popcorn marked celebration of Lohri at Shere-Kashmir Bhavan here this evening.Various prominent workers joined the festival and greeting each other by wishing Happy Lohri and spreading the feeling of love and happiness all around. The entire atmosphere created a perfect ambiance of Lohri with participants praying for peace and tranquility in Jammu and Kashmir.



Greeting the people, Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Secretary Jammu hoped the festival be a harbinger of peace and prosperity in the state. He said such festivals highlight the crucial need of fostering and further strengthening the bonds of brotherhood, which is essence of all religions.Mr Sheikh

Bashir Ahmed described the festivals as repository of rich and glorious ethos of the state, which are being celebrated from times immemorial in a spirit of amity and brotherhood."Let us resolve to eschew the tendencies of hate and strive for harmony in the society", the speakers added.Prominent among those present on the occasion included: Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Secretary Jammu, Bushan Lal Bhat Ex-MLC, Ankush Abrol Joint Secretary Jammu Province, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, Abdul Gani Teli Chairman OBC Cell, Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone, Dr. Vikas Sharma, Rita Gupta, Pinky Khalsa District President Jammu Urban Women Wing, Sandesh Shan, Mohd Aslam, S. Gurnam Singh, Som Raj Taroch,S. Tejinder Singh District President Jammu Urban YNC, Nitish Gowsami, Ajay Kumar, Sanjeev Kumar, Prabhat Kaphi, Veer Ji Bhat, Hanief Malik, Mohd Hashim and others.

# **DM Baramulla appoints SDM Gulmarg as Enquiry** Officer for May 2023 Kunzer Incident

### **HT News Network**

BARAMULLA, JANUARY 13: The District Magistrate Baramulla has appointed The Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Gulmarg vide order no: DCB/ARA/180-III/Misc/2178-81, as enquiry officer to conduct magisterial enquiry into the incident that took place in Village Dar Mohalla Karhama Kunzer on 6th May, 2023 in which one accused terrorist Abid Ahmad Wani S/O Mohammad Rafiq Wani R/O Yarhol

Babapora Qazigund District Kulgam

Accordingly, as part of the enquiry, the family members/NOKs of the deceased and general public are hereby informed that if they have anything to say regarding the incident and desire to depose and record their statement, they shall attend the Office of the SDM Gulmarg HQ at Tangmarg during Office Hours from 11:00 AM to 03:00 PM within a period of ten days from the issuance of this notice.



# Bhupinder Kumar conducts tour of Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway, Semi Ring road projects

#### ■ HT News Network

**PUBLICATION**HEADLINES

JAMMU, JANUARY 13: Secretary, PWD(R&B), Bhupinder Kumartoday conducted detailed tour of Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway and Semi Ring road Jammu projects to assess the progress of ongoing works on these prestigious projects.

Project Director, NHAI; Director, Finance PWD; Director Planning PWD and other officers of PWD and NHAI also accompanied the Secretary during his maiden field visit after assuming the charge of PWD.

During the visit, the Secretary directed NHAI authorities to improve the riding surface of road from Satwari to Bari Brahmna so that inconvenience faced by public and commuters due to execution work on the expressway project is reduced. He travelled the entire length of the expressway project falling in J&K, which is taken up by NHAI in three packages between Kathua and Jammu city at a cost of Rs 5781 Cr. He impressed upon NHAI to complete the expressway works within the stipulated time frame of September 2024.

Bhupinder Kumar also visited damaged Tarnah bridge site and took detailed briefing from NHAI authorities

The NHAI officers assured that restoration work of the bridge will be completed by March 2024 so



that the difficulties faced by the

HMVs and commuters are resolved.

The Secretary also inspected bottlenecks at Road under Bridge at Nanak Chak, flyover at Ghagwal and other locations and advised NHAI to coordinate with the Northern Railway so that the works could be completed without any delay. He also inspected casting yard of NHAI at Jakh and was briefed by NHAI authorities about the quality control mechanism in place for ensuring speedy and quality casting works for the expressway project.

Bhupinder Kumar also visited Semi Ring road Jammu to assess

immediately take up strengthening of the existing PWD roads in Bhalwal-Kheri-Jagti stretch of the Ring road, in consultation with Chief Engineers R&B and PMGSY, so the ring road is connected with NH-44 for LMVs till the completion of tunnel. The Secretary also inspected bottlenecks at Road under Bridge at Nanak Chak, flyover at Ghagwal and other locations and advised NHAI to coordinate with the Northern Railway so that the works could be completed without any delay. He also inspected casting yard of NHAI at Jakh and was briefed by NHAI authorities about the quality control mechanism in place for ensuring speedy and quality casting works for the expressway project. the readiness of the road for open-Bhupinder Kumar also visited ing of traffic. He was informed that

NHAI authorities were directed to

Semi Ring road Jammu to assess the readiness of the road for opening of traffic. He was informed that 48 Km length of the road has been completed.NHAI was directed to complete the pending bridges on the road so that Akhnoor, Rajouri and Poonch bound traffic is diverted through it and Jammu city is decongested. NHAI authorities were also advised for conducting safety audit of the road before opening it for traffic.Bhupinder Kumar also visited and inspected under-construction tunnels at Balwal and Kheri, which will connect the ring road with NH-44 at Jagti.

# DC Srinagar attends Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra at Sakidafar Safakadal

#### ■ HT News Network

**HT - NEWS** 

SRINAGAR JANUARY 13:-With an aim to achieve saturation under all beneficiary oriented schemes in the District, the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today attended the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) programme for SMC Ward No.18 held at Government **Boys Higher Secondary** School Sakidafar Safakadal. At the outset, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Van was accorded a warm welcome by the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar in presence of members of the Swagat Committee along with prominent citizens and large gathering of people of the area.

On the occasion, the VBSY Van displayed the message of the Prime Minister and also spread the awareness among people aimed to ensure seamless reach of Government welfare programmes/centrally sponsored flagship schemes to every part of the District

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner elaborated on the transformative impact of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp



Yatra on the citizens as the main goal is to reach uncovered beneficiaries to make them entitled to the benefit of the Government schemes they deserve.

The DC underscored the importance of the Yatra in fostering development, enhancing awareness and establishing direct interaction with beneficiaries to achieve saturation of all schemes.

While advocating for ushering pro-people Administration in District, the DC stressed the officers of the line Departments to ensure that all genuine beneficiaries under Centrally Sponsored schemes are timely enrolled and provided the benefit of the schemes in a hassle free

and time bound manner. The DC said the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra focuses on both urban and rural areas, highlighting key schemes such as PM Ujjwala Yojana, PMJAY Ayushman Bharat, PM Awas Yojana, PM Svanidhi, PM Vishwakarma Yojana, PM Mudra Yojana, Digital Payment infrastructure, PMGKAY, DAY-NRLM, PM Poshan Abhiyan, JJM and SVAMITVA.

The DC urged the people present on the occasion to take maximum benefits from these schemes by registering themselves with the concerned Departments particularly during Viksit Bharat Sanaklp Yatra.

The DC highlighted the benefits of the Health/ Golden Card which entitles beneficiaries to get the benefit in the need of hour that provides free of cost Uni-

# Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra: IEC Van Traverses through panchayats of block Nowshera, Lamberi & Siot in Rajouri District

### ■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, JANUARY 13: The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) is strategically transforming Rajouri district by extending its reach to underserved areas and ensuring the effective execution of government programs and enhancing the quality of life the residents.

Central to this endeavor is an Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) van, a dynamic mobile platform designed to effectively communicate and create awareness about the diverse initiatives undertaken as part of the Yatra. The van plays a pivotal role in engaging with local communities, imparting crucial knowledge, and empowering residents to avail themselves of the benefits offered by government schemes.

The VBSY has recorded notable success in the implementation of various government schemes in Rajouri District. These schemes, crafted to elevate living standards and provide essential services, have been executed with exceptional efficiency on the ground. Consequently, the community has experienced tangible improvements and witnessed positive changes in their

Today, the VBSY IEC vans traversed through the panchayats of Khamba, Bhawani-B, Garan, Rajal-B, Siot Lower, Siot Upper, Bakhar and Thandapani of block Nowshera, Seri as well as Lamberi. This strategic journey highlights the Yatra's commitment to reaching every corner of the district and ensuring that the benefits of government initiatives are felt at the grassroots level

The impact of the Yatra is evident in enhanced access to healthcare, education, and basic amenities, contributing to the overall progress of Rajouri District. Meticulously planned and executed, this initiative aligns with the core objective of holistic development, leaving a lasting and positive impact on the companion.

lasting and positive impact on the community.

The VBSY symbolizes progress and collaboration, embodying the spirit of Viksit Bharat Sankalp. By bringing government schemes to the grassroots level and ensuring comprehensive coverage, it has created a platform for empowerment and upliftment. This transformative journey in Rajouri District stands as an exemplary model of effective governance, community engagement, and collective determination to build a better and prosperous India.

# Residents concerned over 'illegal sand extraction' in Batwara

Srinagar, Jan 13: The residents of Batwara locality here have expressed their concern over the alleged illegal sand extraction activities in their area.

The residents claim that this unauthorized extraction is causing environmental degradation and posing a threat to their surroundings, as the sand extraction is making the land loose.Local residents told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), that they are observing heavy machinery and trucks operating in the area, extracting sand without proper authorization or adherence to environmental regulations. "These activities are not only jeopardizing the ecological balance but also impacting the quality of life for those living in Batwara," said Zahoor, a local resident.

# Deputy Commissioner Rajouri reviews functioning of Parisha, interacts with inmates

48 Km length of the road has been

completed.NHAI was directed to

complete the pending bridges on

the road so that Akhnoor, Rajouri

and Poonch bound traffic is divert-

ed through it and Jammu city is

decongested. NHAI authorities

were also advised for conducting

safety audit of the road before open-

ing it for traffic.Bhupinder Kumar

also visited and inspected under-

construction tunnels at Balwal and

Kheri, which will connect the ring

road with NH-44 at Jagti. He was

informed that the tunnels are on

track for completion in June 2025.

#### ■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, JANUARY 13: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat conducted a comprehensive visit to Nari Niketan (Parisha ) today, meticulously assessing the facilities extended to the inmates. Notably, he celebrated Lohri with the inmates and distributed sports kits among them. Engaging directly with the inmates, he sought firsthand insights into the quality of services provided by the authorities. Tehsil Social Welfare Officer Koteranka and staff of the Nari Nikatan also accompanied the Deputy Commissioner during his visit. Emphasizing the commitment of the District Administration to the welfare of the inmates, Deputy Commissioner Om Prakash Bhagat underscored a multifaceted approach aimed at ensuring their well-being and educational enrichment. Expressing a dedication to safeguarding their rights and promoting their welfare in the society, he articulated the ongoing efforts of the administrationDuring his interaction with the inmates, Deputy Commissioner Om Prakash Bhagat conveyed a message of assurance, assuring them that the District administration is unwavering in its commitment to providing the best



possible care and educational opportunities. He stressed the significance of creating an environment conducive to the overall development of the inmatesThe Deputy Commissioner Rajouri heard the grievances of children and directed concerned officer for early redressal. This directive was underscored with a clear objective: to eliminate any inconvenience faced by the inmates, thereby fostering an environment that aligns with their needs and rights. This visit, marked by meticulous inspection and thoughtful interaction, stands as a testament to the dedication of the District Administration Rajouri towards upholding the well-being and rights of the inmates at Nari Niketan. It also served as a poignant reminder of the importance of connecting with and supporting.

# Chairman DDC inspects NABARD funded Road Project in Thuba Village

#### ■ HT News Network

DODA, JANUARY 13: Dhananter Singh Kotwal, Chairman District Development Council (DDC) Doda paid a crucial visit to Thuba village.

The primary focus of the visit was to assess the progress of the ongoing Thuba Dhamunda road project, sanctioned under NABARD.

During the inspection, Chairman Kot-

wal diligently examined the construction

work on the road and expressed his satisfaction over the advancements made so far.

Emphasizing the DDC's unwavering commitment to timely project completion.

commitment to timely project completion, he reiterated the importance of accelerating development initiatives in the Doda district.

The visit served a dual purpose of evaluations of the project completion, and the purpose of evaluations of the p

The visit served a dual purpose of evaluating the infrastructure progress in the region and fostering direct interaction with the local community.

The Chairman Kotwal engaged with the people of Thuba village, gaining valuable insights into their needs and concerns. This community-oriented approach ensures that development projects align closely



with the requirements and aspirations of the residents.

As the Doda district continues its pursuit towards comprehensive development, Chairman Kotwal's visit stands as a testament to the DDC's dedication to enhance the region's infrastructure and fostering a meaningful connection with the community

# Pr Secy APD, MD & CEO JK Bank participate in mega 'Ghar Ghar KCC Abhiyaan' at RS Pura

### ■ HT News Network

JAMMU, JANUARY 13: Continuing the mission to achieve 100% Kisan Credit Card (KCC) saturation in Jammu and Kashmir under the 'Ghar Ghar KCC Abhiyaan', J&K Bank conducted various camps across the

As part of the saturation drive, the Bank's MD & CEO Baldev Prakash today visited a mega Camp held at Kullian in R S Pura, here along with the Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department (APD), Shailendra Kumar.

Comprised of a large gathering of farmers, the camp was also attended by CGM NABARD Bhallamudi Sridhar; Bank's Executive Director Sudhir Gupta; General Managers Ashutosh Sareen and Sunit Kumar; Director Agriculture (Jammu) Ram Sevak; DGMs Rajesh Dubey and Vinod Sharma besides officials from the line departments and the Bank.

Speaking on the occa-



sion, Shailendra Kumar stressed upon the need to encourage agricultural entrepreneurship among the farmers while ensuring the proper end-use of the funds under different schemes. Hesaid, "Growers need to take a step ahead of agricultural farming towards entrepreneurship and participate in the ongoing agricultural transformation across the country".

"Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) of the UT Government is also the part of revolutionising the agricultural landscape here and to double the farmers' incomes in the next five years", he added.

Addressing the participants, Baldev Prakash highlighted the importance of financial support in the transformation of agrieconomy and expressed the need for unwavering support to fameres.

He said, "J&K Bank is at the forefront of economic transformation of J&K of which agriculture is a vital component. We are implementing the 'Ghar Ghar KCC Abhiyaan' in mission mode to ensure that our farmers have unhindered access to easily affordable financial facilities. And we will not stop till 100% saturation of KCC is achieved."

"We will extend every possible support to realise the Government's vision of enhancing agricultural productivity and doubling farmers' incomes thereby contributing to the national prosperity", he added.

The Principal Secretary along with with the MD & CEO distributed over 100 KCC sanction letters among the PM Kisan beneficiaries.

The officers, who spoke on the occasion, urged the eligible farmers across the UT to come forward and extend their support to the ongoing campaign carried forward by the Bank in collaboration with the line departments of the Government. He said, "J&K Bank is at the forefront of economic transformation of J&K of which agriculture is a vital component. We are implementing the 'Ghar Ghar KCC Abhiyaan'in mission mode to ensure that our farmers have unhindered access to easily affordable financial facilities. And we will not stop till 100 % saturation.

## PHD Chamber, KTMF call on Commissioner SMC, Dr Owais Ahmad

### HT News Network



SRINAGAR, JANUARY 13: The PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry Kashmir and Kashmir Traders and Manufacturers Federation today called on Dr. Owais Ahmed, Commissioner SMC, CEO, SSCL & VC, SDA.

These Trade Bodies welcomed Dr Owais Ahmad and apprised him with several issues including change in land use, NOC for building permissions, Solid Waste Management, Sanitation of Srinagar City, and the implementation of Smart City Projects. The Commissioner warmly welcomed the representatives of PHD Chamber and KTMF and attentively listened to all the concerns raised during the meeting. Both the bodies assured the Commissioner their unwavering support, cooperation, and also put forward their valuable inputs in addressing the issues.

They expressed their commitment to working closely with the Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Srinagar Development Authority and Srinagar Smart City Ltd to contribute to the development and progress of the region.

As a token of appreciation and gratitude, the PHD Chamber presented Commissioner Dr. Owais Ahmad with a momento, acknowledging his dedication and efforts in serving the community.



# DC Ganderbal calls for enhancing civic amenities in town **Reviews functioning of Municipal Council**

#### **HT News Network**

GANDERBAL, JANUARY 13: Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyambir, who is also Administrator of Municipal Council Ganderbal, convened a meeting to review the functioning of the Municipal council Ganderbal here today in the V.C Room of DC Office.

At the outset, the DC enquired about the action taken report on the directions issued in previous meeting of the Council. A meeting meticulously evaluates the operational efficiency and performance of the Munic-

ipal Council. The meeting discussed the status of trade licenses and building permissions, collection of taxes, shifting of hoarding locations, identification of parking spots, PMAY(G) and status of developments works.

Executive Officer, Municipal Council encompassed a detailed analysis of ongoing projects, administrative processes, town profile, and other key initiatives undertaken by the Municipal

While reviewing the shifting of hoarding, the DC directed the concerned to ensure hoardings are shifted on prominent



places besides hoardings erect- ed on footpaths shall be removed immediately. He also

gave necessary instructions for developing identified parking slots at Gangerhama and near Qadri Complex.

The DC gave necessary instructions on enhancing civic amenities, optimizing resource allocation, and ensuring streamlined governance for the benefit of

The DC also took detailed review of ongoing projects in town including development of Children Park, Open Air Gym Saloora, community marriage hall at Duderhama and beautification of town. The DC fixed the timelines for completion of vital projects. He also directed for identification of works that need to be taken in next financial year.

During the meeting, various section heads presented progress reports, highlighting achievements, challenges, and future plans within their respective domains.

The DC emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts and transparent communication to further enhance the impact of municipal services. The meeting was attended by EO Municipal Council Ganderbal along with staff of various sections of the council and AEE

# Dir Sericulture chairs preparatory meeting for "Resham Krishi Mela"

#### Farooq Rather

SRINAGAR, JANUARY 13: A preparatory meeting was held in the Directorate of Sericulture Development Department, Tulsi Bagh, Srinagar under the chairmanship of the Director Sericulture J&K, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat for the upcoming Resham Krishi Mela at P4 Basic Seed Farm, Manas-

During the meeting, the Director emphasized the significance of the Resham Krishi Mela and said that departmental stalls would be installed during the event scheduled for 17th January in which about 500 farmers shall participate.

The Resham Krishi Mela aims to guide farmers and youth on establishing units for self-employment, fostering economic growth and sustainability in the region. Dir highlighted the department's commitment to supporting unemployed youth

**GDC Kulgam organizes** 

tion of colleges

Webinar on NAAC accredita-

**■** HT News Network

KULGAM, JANUARY 13: An online webinar based on the theme "Understanding the Importance of NAAC

accreditation for colleges with special focus on colleges of UT of J&K" was conducted by the Internal Quality

Assurance Cell (IQAC), Government Degree College

Kulgam. The webinar was attended by more than 100

participants including principals of various colleges,

faculty members, research scholars and students of dif-

ferent colleges of UT of Jammu and Kashmir and other

institutes.Principal of the college Prof. Syed Eazaz Hussain

Rizvi, highlighted the importance of NAAC accreditation

for colleges and its impact on the academic and admin-

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Govt. Sri Pratap

College, Srinagar gave detailed presentation on the theme

and enlightened the participants with his knowledge on

His criterion wise presentation on different aspects

highlighted the requirements to be fulfilled for a suc-

cessful NAAC accreditation.Coordinator, IQAC Govern-

ment Degree College Kulgam, Dr. Gowhar Hamid Dar in

his address highlighted the progress made by the insti-

tution since its inception in the year 2004. He also sum-

marized the achievements made by the college and IQAC

cell of the college post accreditation on 14th June 2019.

all the aspects related to the theme were deliberated in

detail. The vote of thanks on the occasion was presented

by Prof. Master Showkat Ali, Member IQAC, Government

The participants engaged in a healthy discussion and

the importance of NAAC accreditation for colleges.

The invited speaker, Dr. Sadiq Majeed, Coordinator,

istrative structure of higher education institutions.



**HT News Network** 

PULWAMA, JANUARY 13: An

Spanning Panchayats, Munic-

Dedicated to leaving no one

epoch-making initiative, the Viksit

Bharat Sankalp Yatra, which com-

menced on November 25th, has etched

an indelible mark on Pulwama Dis-

ipal wards, and now villages, this

visionary expedition breaks geo-

graphical confines, ushering in a new

behind, the Yatra has triumphantly

saturated various Government

schemes throughout the District.

Beyond the limitations of District

headquarters, it embodies a commit-

ment to universal inclusivity, creating

a transformative narrative in every

lessly blends cultural richness with

technological advancement, preserv-

ing Pulwama's heritage while propel-

ling it into the future. The commu-

nity's enthusiastic participation

underscores its success, with benefi-

ciaries sharing compelling stories of

transformation under the banner of

"Meri Kahani Meri Zubani."

This extraordinary Yatra seam-

era of holistic development.

and farmers. He urged them to actively engage with the department to avail benefits of the various schemes introduced by the Government for their welfare.

He exhorted upon the officers present in the meeting that the Farmers and Silkworm rearers should be made aware about the department's efforts for making Mulberry leaf reserves readily available, implementation of Technological Intervention, Development of Rearing Infrastructure at farmers level, Supply of Chawki Reared Worms to the farmers for ease in Rearing, Up-gradation of Seed related departmental infrastructure for production of quality Silkworm Seed and skill development of famers.

Bhat further emphasized upon the Officers that to adopt proactive approach to implement all the schemes of the department

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra: Pioneering

Inclusive Development in Pulwama District

A standout feature is the

deployment of Information, Educa-

tion, and Communication (IEC) vans,

acting as mobile catalysts for change.

These vans played a pivotal role in

disseminating the message of Viksit

Bharat Sankalp Yatra far and wide,

ensuring no corner of the District was

agriculture, drone demonstrations

enlightened the populace on techno-

logical interventions shaping the

agricultural landscape. Cultural pro-

grams celebrated the unity of Pul-

wama District's diverse heritage,

Demonstrating the future of

untouched.

in order to achieve all the objectives envisioned in HADP.

The Director Central Sericulture Research & Training Institute, CSB, Pampore, Dr. N.K. Bhatia, and the officers from the department participated in the meeting. During the meeting, the Director emphasized the significance of the Resham Krishi Mela and said that departmental stalls would be installed during the event scheduled for 17th January in which about 500 farmers shall participate.

The Resham Krishi Mela aims to guide farmers and youth on establishing units for self-employment, fostering economic growth and sustainability in the region. Dir highlighted the department's commitment to supporting unemployed youth and farmers. He urged them to actively engage with the department to avail benefits of the various schemes introduced by the Government for their welfare.

# **Srinagar Municipal Corpo**ration expands Viksit **Bharat Sankalp Yatra to Rathpora Eidgah**

#### HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JANUARY 13: In a significant move, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) expanded Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) to include Rathpora Eidgah in the programme to actively engage with the general public with the special Yatra.

The IEC Van, a key component of the VBSY initiative, was warmly welcomed by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Dr Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat and Chief Transport Officer SMC. This expansion demonstrates the Corporation's commitment to reaching out to communities and ensuring that citizens are well-informed about the various benefits and assistance programs offered by the Government of India. Throughout the VBSY events, representativesfrom designated departments have been actively participating, utilizing the platform to provide in-depth information about the core objectives and procedural intricacies of their respective schemes.

The primary goal of this concerted effort is to bridge information gaps and ensure that citizens are well-informed about the multitude of benefits and assistance programs are made available to them by the Government of India.

# Anantnag's Vessu lights up with VBSY IEC Van's Trail of **Progress**

### ■ HT News Network

ANANTNAG JANUARY 13: Fueled by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's leadership, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is making strides in advancing prosperity in Block Vessu, Anantnag. The VBSY IEC Van's visit to L.G.Pora A, L.G.Pora B, Malpora, L. G. Pora C, and Furrah GPs resonates with a remarkable upswell of public engagement, symbolizing a united dedication to fostering devel-

opment in the region. Embarking from Khunti, Jharkhand, on November 15, this Yatra signifies a meticulous endeavor to promote awareness about a myriad of welfare schemes. Fostering active involvement through the 'Jan Bhagidari' initiative, the unprecedented nationwide initiative by the Government is poised to leave a lasting impact throughout the country, covering 2.60 lakh Gram Panchayats and over 4000 urban local bodies by January 25, 2024. Going beyond mere rhetoric, the Yatra transforms into tangible progress, surpassing expectations in Anantnag, uniting an impressive 2.50 lakh participants across 335 Gram Panchayats and 138 Urban local bodies.

Within the confines of Anantnag District, the Yatra camps have evolved into vibrant hubs, proactively involving the community in a myriad of events and providing immediate services. The health camps have played an indispensable role, screening 93,347 individuals for prevalent health issues including TB, sickle cell anemia, and non-cmmunicable diseases.

Are sounding commitment echoes in District Anantnag, with over 16,097 devoted My Bharat volunteers and an impressive 2.28 lakh individuals expressing their dedication through the transformative "Sankalp Pledge."

Recognition is extended to noteworthy contributors, encompassing 1,288 women, 3,601 students, 396 local artists, and 397 sports personalities, underscoring their steadfast commitment to the cause. Proactively engaging farmers, the Yatra showcased drone demonstrations and conducted Soil Health Card sessions, fostering the adoption of sustainable Natural Farming practices.

# Dir Horticulture presides over awareness camp at Kulgam

### **■** HT News Network

Degree College Kulgam.

SRINAGAR, JANUARY 13: The Director Horticulture Kashmir GR Mir today presided over training cum awareness camp at Kulgam organized by the district Horticulture department.

The programme was attended by Chief Horticulture Officer Kulgam, Subject Matter Specialist Kulgam, and various other officers and officials from the department, along with a huge number of orchardists.

The primary objective of the camp was to empower local farmers by providing them with valuable insights into the latest horticultural schemes and technological advancements.



The programme focused on disseminating information about significant UT and centrally sponsored schemes, including HADP, High-Density Plantation Scheme, and MIDH.

During the event, a technical guidance session was conducted by experts from equip farmers with the nec- the region.

essary knowledge to enhance their horticultural practices.

While addressing the participants, Director Horticulture underscored the department's vision and ongoing initiatives, emphasizing the pivotal role of horticulture in propelling the Department, aiming to the overall development of

## GOI Prabhari officer of Viksit Bharat Yatra, DC Budgam distribute Commercial Vehicles amongst beneficiaries of Mumkin scheme in Budgam

### ■ HT News Network

BUDGAM, JANUARY 13: To facilitate youth to establish sustainable livelihoods in the transport sector, commercial vehicles were today distributed among the unemployed youth of the district under the Mumkin scheme of Mission Youth programme  $at\,DC\,Office\,Budgam. Prabhari\,Officer\,Viksit$ Bharat Sankalp Yatra Mushtaq Ahmed, Director Ministry of Mines Gol & Deputy Commissioner(DC)Budgam, Akshay Labroo subsidy of the on-road price provided in presence of SSP Budgam Tahir Gillani & other senior officials handed over keys to Mumkin scheme beneficiaries of the Dis-Employment and Counselling Centres at District level to provide sustainable livelihood to the unemployed youth of UT of

youth of J&K with the total 20 percent other District and Sectoral officers.

Jammu and Kashmir.



enriching its cultural tapestry.

At the core of the Yatra was the

collective oath-taking ceremony,

where people from all walks of life

pledged their commitment to trans-

formative ideals. This symbolic ges-

ture served as a unifying force,

embodying the shared aspirations of

transcended rhetoric, emerging as a

potent force of positive change. It not

only heralds a transformative chapter

in Pulwama's history but also lays the

foundation for a more inclusive and

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra has

the community.

vibrant future.

jointly by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and Vehicle Manufacturers.

Till date 182 cases have been district. Mumkin scheme under the Mission bursed under Mumkin scheme in District Youth programme is implemented by Budgam. The beneficiaries expressed their gratitude to the district administration by providing them a good source of livelihood under Mumkin Scheme.

Other officers who were present on Under the Scheme, commercial the occasion included CPO, CMO, XENs vehicles are provided to the unemployed from different engineering wings and

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

ISSUANCE OF REGISTRATION ORDERS IN RESPECT OF DELAYED **BIRTH/ DEATH CERTIFICATE.** 

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora) has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of MOHAMMAD ALTAF RATHER S/O JAID Ahmad RATHER R/O TELGAM Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla, After having verified the date of Birth, as 28..04..2021 at S.D.H Kreeri. The event has been shown to

Anybody having any objection if any to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim at the office of Executive Magistrate 1st Class, kreeri, within 07 days. No objection shall be entertained after the said time period.

**CMYK** 









**PRINCE HEADLINES** 

**HT-SPORTS** 

# **BEACH GAMES 2024, DIU**

# MP emerges Champion of Maiden Beach Games at Diu

Successful conduct of Diu Beach Games lay foundation for exciting sporting events by the Sea – Anurag Thaku











#### **HT SPORTS DESK**

New Delhi | Diu 13.1.2024 The Beach Games 2024, the first multi-sports beach games in India, organized at the pristine blue flag certified Ghoghla Beach in Diu concluded with landlocked Madhya Pradesh emerging overall champion, topping the medal tally with a total of 18 medals, including an impressive haul of 7 golds. This remarkable feat not only showcased the sporting

prowess of Madhya Pradesh's contingent but also highlighted the depth of talent fostered within the state.Maharashtra won 14 medals including 3 gold, while Tamil Nadu, Uttarkhand and hosts Dadra, Nagar Haveli, Diu & Daman secured 12 medals each. Assam won 8 medals, out of which 5 were Gold. In a thrilling turn of events, Lakshadweep secured the gold medal in Beach Soccer, marking a historic achievement for the pristine island territory. They beat Maharashtra 5-4 in the well contested final. Lakshadweep's victory not only added to the diversity of medal winners but also underscored the inclusive and nationwide impact of the Diu Beach Games 2024. Sporting excellence took centre stage from January 4-11, as 1404 athletes, all under the age of 21, from 28 states and Union Territories, supported by 205 match officials, participated in a diverse range of disciplines. The games were structured into 2 sessions each day. The Morning Session, starting from 8 am and concluding at noon, folcommencing at 3 pm. This scheduling not only optimized the athletes' performances under suitable weather conditions but also allowed for a dynamic and engaging viewing experience for the enthusiastic audience.From the strategic showdowns in Tug of War to the breath-taking feats of Sea Swimming, the martial artistry of Pencak Silat, the acrobatic displays of Mallakhamb, the fast-paced action of Beach Volleyball, the strategic battles of Beach Kabaddi, and the electrifying kicks and goals of Beach Soccer, each sport

brought its unique energy to the event. The debut of Beach Boxing added an extra layer of excitement, captivating both participants and spectators and marking a historic moment in the nation's athletic journey.Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports Anurag Thakur took to X (formerly Twitter) to express his support and enthusiasm for this event. He captioned the post "The energy of the athletes and the beauty of Diu has woven a never-before vibe that is enchanting & exhilarat-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi to bring new life to the Beaches of Bharat has taken a sporting turn, with the organization of the first ever Beach Games in Diu, off the Gujarat coast.India is geographically gifted with some of the most beautiful beaches in the world. 12 of the beaches in India have Blue Flag certification given to cleanest beaches promoting sustainable tourism. However, many of the country's beaches aren't as explored as they should be. Hence the successful hosting of Diu Beach Games comes.

# **Historic Winter Cricket Championship** culminates in Kupwara district

KUPWARA, JANUARY 13: The final ceremony of Winter Cricket Championship being organized by the Department of youth services and sports District Kupwara in collaboration with the District administration Kupwara culminated at Sports Stadium Galizoo Kupwara yesterday.

The competition was carried out at 4 designated venues viz Galizoo Stadium Kupwara, Sports Stadium Haqaniabad Punzwa, Sports Stadium Pandithpora, Langate and Sports Stadium Chamkoot Karnah.

In the competition, 150 teams had thrown their hats into the ring to be the winner of the competition. Despite cold weather conditions, a huge number of teams took part in the competition. At all the designated venues, the championship was kicked off by the respective DDC members on 9th of December 2023.

The venues had been designed with the view to cater to the needs and aspirations of the sports loving fraternity of the District.

It is for the first time in the history of Kupwara that such a huge number of teams participated with zeal and zest in spite of bone chilling

This all happened under the visionary directions of the District Development Commissioner Kupwara, Ms Ayushi Sudan

All the venues exhibited a festive look and palpable excitement from both players and Spectators alike



throughout the course of competition. The move of organizing such an extravaganza aimed to nurture sports talent and foster camaraderie

among the youth of the District, besides, desisting them from being trapped in social evils. The District Youth Services and Sports Officer, Zahoor Ahmed Wani

both men and material to make the event a successful one. On the closing ceremony of the competition, the Chief Guest, District Development Commissioner, Ayushi

Sudhan hailed the department of Youth

channelized all available resources

Services & Sports for culminating the event successfully.

Vice chairman DDC Council Haji Farooq Ahmad, ADC Kupwara, Gh Nabi Bhat, DDC Drugmulla Ms. Aamina and other officials of District Administration also witnessed the programme.

The final Match was played between Town 11 Kupwara and Gana-

Town 11 defeated Ganapora by a margin of 54 runs. Qaisar Ahmad was adjudged man of the series for his best performance in the tournament.

# Morocco under pressure to repeat World Cup heroics at AFCON

ABIDIAN: Morocco set new standards for African football just over 12 months ago at the Qatar World Cup but the pressure is now on to improve a dismal record in the Africa Cup of Nations, which kicks off on Saturday.

Morocco became the first Arab and African country to reach a World Cup semi-final in their thrilling run that captivated the continent but they are now expected to take that form into the Cup of Nations and expunge a record of consistent failure.

Morocco are one of 12 countries in the 24-team field who have had previous success in the continental championship but their only past triumph came almost a half century ago in 1976.

They have a long history since of crashing out unexpectedly when having been cast as favourites. "I want to at least get to the semi-finals,"

coach Walid Regragui told local television channel Arryadia. They are in Group 'F' with DR Congo,

Zambia and a Tanzania side who have never won a game at the tournament. There will many teams eager to scythe them down, particularly a strong challenge from hosts Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria and holders Senegal.

Sadio Mane, who took last weekend off to get married, again headlines a Senegal side that, like Morocco, had success over Brazil in a friendly last year and is bristling with experience and talent. They were deserved winners of the last



Cup of Nations in Cameroon, albeit needing post-match penalties to overcome Egypt in the final.

Senegal are in Group 'C' with Cameroon, Gambia and the Guinea of Serhou Guirassy, prolific in the German Bundesliga with VfB Stuttgart and reportedly fine after an injury scare this week. The Ivorians will also be expected to go deep into the tournament, although often the burden of expectation from

Egypt in 2006 were the last hosts to win the Cup of Nations, ironically on spot

home supporters can weigh too heav-

kicks over the Ivory Coast. The Ivorians kick off proceedings in Saturday's opening match in Group 'A' against Guinea Bissau at the Alassane Ouattara Stadium at Ebimpe, on the outskirts of the economic capital Abidjan.

The 60,000-seat stadium was built for a tournament initially supposed to be played in June and July last year to avoid a clash with the middle of the season in Europe, where so many top African players are based.

 $However, fears\, over\, staging\, it\, during\, the$ rainy season led to it being pushed back to its more traditional January and February slot. Matches will be staged in six stadiums, with two venues in Abidjan, including at Ebimpe, which will host the

Games will also be played in the capital Yamoussoukro and neighbouring Bouake, as well as in San Pedro on the coast and in Korhogo, in the north near the frontiers with Mali and Burkina Faso. It is the first AFCON in West Africa since Ghana in 2008, and \$1.5 billion has been invested by the Ivorian government.

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