

Srinagar

Tuesday

January 16 | 2024

04 Rajab 1445

Issue No: 13

Volume: 14

Mathews blames 'agenda' of former selectors for white-ball wilderness

P12

Shailendra presided over a mega Public Darbar at Banquet Hall Sgr

P3



Govt Committed To Weed Out Separatism, Terror Ecosystem from J&K: LG Manoj Sinha

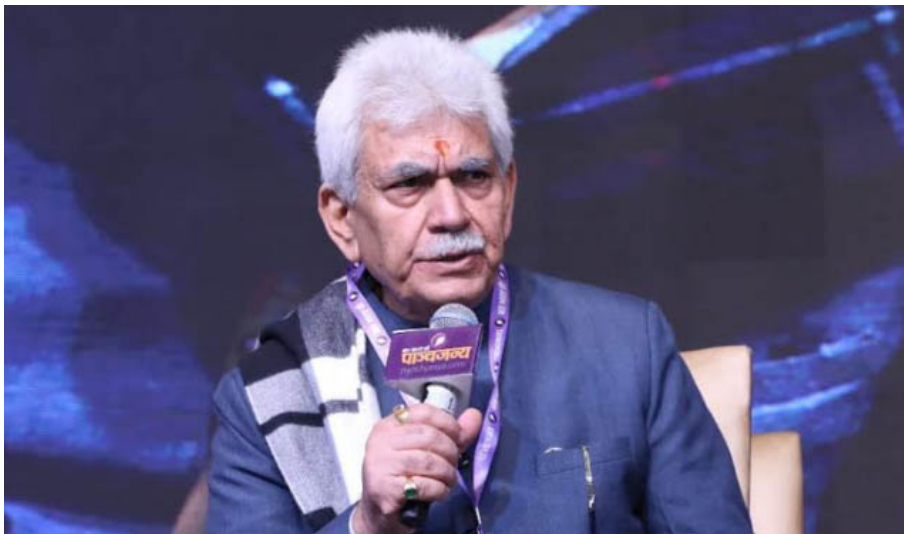
HT News Network

NEW DELHI, JAN 15: Terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir is taking its last breath and the government is working on a well-planned strategy to not only eliminate terrorists but also destroy the "separatist ecosystem" in the Union territory, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Monday.

Sinha further said that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir was generally normal and on the path of progress, with the government taking various measures since the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019.

The recent terror incidents in the Union territory were just efforts by the anti-India forces backed by Pakistan to start a discussion all over the world to claim that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is still not normal, he added.

Sinha was addressing an event here organised by the Bharat Prakashan, which



publishes the Organiser and Panchjanya magazines inspired by the Rashtriya Sway-

amsevak Sangh's line of thinking.

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Police Public Grievance Darbar To Be Held In Every District Of J&K: DGP Swain

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JAN 15: Director General of Police R R Swain on Monday said that Police public grievance redressal darbar will be held in every district of Jammu & Kashmir to address the issues of the needy people.

He said the public grievance redressal scheme will be held in every district of Jammu and Kashmir instead in Srinagar or Jammu only.

"There are lots of public issues and some are worth solving. But we are trying to resolve the things that are related to the police", DGP told media persons on the sidelines of his Public Darbar in north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

In reply to a question, Swain said that, officers do put in my ear that police cannot be moved forward without the public support.

Replying on the drug menace in the valley, he said "policing is a service and the strictness



is against some criminals not for the common people and against those who try to disrupt the peace", adding "we are thankful to the public ..as there are so many things where

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

NEWS BRIEF

J&K government goes for austerity measures to cut expenditure

SRINAGAR, JAN 15: In a significant move, the administration of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory on Monday unveiled a slew of austerity measures for fiscal prudence.

The Finance department today directed departments that the revenue expenditure should be limited to 30% of revised budget allocation during the last fiscal of the ongoing fiscal. "During the last quarter of the current financial year the revenue expenditure should be limited to 30% of revised budget allocation and in the month of March, the expenditure should be limited to 15% of such allocation," reads

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Ram 'Bhajan' Sung By Muslim Teenager From J&K Wins Hearts Online

SRINAGAR, JAN 15: A Muslim teenager from Jammu and Kashmir's Uri tehsil has become the talk of the town after her melodious rendition of a Ram 'bhajan' in Pahari language went viral online ahead of the consecration of the Ram temple in Ayodhya.

Syeda Batool Zehra (19), a college student who belongs to the Syed community, was inspired by a 'bhajan' sung by singer Jubin Nautiyal.

"Recently, I sang a Ram Bhajan which has gone viral," Zehra told reporters in Kupwara, where she had come to meet Director General of

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Police attach property of notorious drug peddler in Kulgam

SRINAGAR, JAN 15: Police on Monday attached property of a notorious drug peddler in Jammu Kashmir's Kulgam district.

Police said in a relentless effort to curb the menace of drug peddling, Kulgam Police attached property, a double storey residential house, measuring 625 Sq. Ft of a notorious drug peddler.

The accused has been identified as Mashooq Ahmad Sheikh, a resident of Khudwani Qaimoh, Kulgam, under section 68-F(2) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act 1985.

"The property was prima facie acquired from illicit trafficking in narcotic drug and psychotropic substances by the owner," police said.

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Around 20k J&K Govt Buildings To Have Rooftop Solar Projects By 2025

HT News Network

JAMMU, JAN 15: Determined to produce 300 MW electricity through solar energy, around 20,000 government buildings to have solar rooftop projects by 2025.

Official sources said on Monday that the Jammu and Kashmir government departments will have electricity supply through solar energy as the government has set a target of producing 300 MW of electricity by 2025.

"As many as 20,000 government buildings to have rooftop solar projects to be executed by the Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA),"

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Kashmir Valley Experiences Warmer Days, Colder Nights: Met

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JAN 15: Kashmir valley has been experiencing warmer days and colder nights in the wake of



dry spell with no significant weather activity till

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Situation In J&K Under Control, Increase In Terror Activities In Rajouri-Poonch: Army Chief

HT News Network

LUCKNOW, JAN 15: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Manoj Pande said on Monday that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir

is under control but an increase in terrorist activities has been witnessed in the southern region of Pir Panjal and Rajouri-Poonch in the last few months.

He, however, asserted that due



to the efforts of the security personnel, there has been a significant drop in violence in the interior areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing the 76th Army

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

J&K Govt Employees Should Submit Online Quarterly Performance 'Report Card' On EPMS

HT News Network

JAMMU, JAN 15: Jammu and Kashmir government employees have to submit online performance 'Report Card' on quarterly basis on official portal.

An official here on Monday said that in order to ensure evaluation of the efforts put forth by employees across different Govern-

ment Departments, Organizations and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) etc, the Employee Performance Monitoring System (EPMS) was introduced in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and relevant instructions were issued in terms time to time with reference to the Government Order No. 174-JK (GAD) of 2022 issued on

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Ladakh Witnessed Fast-Track Development Under Modi Govt: Dr Jitendra

HT News Network

NEW DELHI, JAN 15: Ladakh has witnessed fast-track development under the Modi Govt, said Union Minister of State (IC) Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (IC) Ministry of Earth Science; MoS of Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions Dr Jitendra Singh when a delegation led by the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC)-Kargil Councilor, Stanzin Lakpa called on him there today.

Under the leadership of Prime

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

CS For Laying Focus On Completion Of Schemes Under JJM



HT News Network

JAMMU, JAN 15: Chief Secretary, Atal

Dulloo today while chairing the Apex Committee meeting of Jal Jeevan Mission

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

زندگانی تھی تیری مکتب سے تابندہ تر
مثل ایوانِ بحرِ مرقدِ فرداں ہو تیرا
آسمانِ تیری لہرِ شبنمِ افشانی کرے
بزمِ نورِ ستِ اس گھر کی گہمانی کرے

شمالی کشمیر کی ہمہ جہت شخصیت
لالہ صاحب
مرحوم عبدالرحمان بٹ
1924-16 جنوری 2014ء
کو دسویں
برسی پر

خراجِ عقیدت

"میرا مقصد میرے والد محترم مرحوم خواجہ عبدالعزیز بٹ سوپوری کی اس شمع کو فروزاں رکھنا تھا جس کا مقصد شمالی کشمیر میں علم کا فروغ تھا جو انہوں نے 1900ء کے ابتداء میں قصبہ بندواڑہ میں دینی و تدریسی کتابوں کی تنظیم کاری سے شروع کیا تھا۔ آج اس شمع سے عبدالرحمان عبدالرشید تاجران نائب بندواڑہ، نقیب ارشاد، کشمیر ایجنٹ، کوٹ، امرود کشمیر، ویلی رپورٹ، کے پی ایس، کے پی ایس ایٹمی میڈیا جیسے ادارے علمی روشنی و اطلاعات فراہم کرتے ہیں"

(لالہ صاحب نے کوٹ کی رسمِ اجرائی کی تقریب 11 جولائی 2012ء کے دوران کہا تھا)

فرمودہ لالہ صاحب

لئے کرتے فرمائیں
دندہاڑو تس نبی جانائیں
بیت کرا اللہ رحمائیں
اُنی بیمہ ڈالو اسو فرقاچُ

کشمیر پریس سروس پبلیکیشنز (کے پی ایس) کے جملہ اراکین، اہل خانہ ورشتہ داران اس درویش صفت شخصیت کو ان کی ہوسوں برسی پر خراجِ عقیدت پیش کرتے ہیں اور اللہ تعالیٰ سے دعا گو ہیں کہ مرحوم کو کروٹ کروٹ جنت نصیب ہو۔

DC Kulgam reviews progress under HADP

Instructs concerned deptts to redouble efforts to achieve set targets well in time

■ **Farooq Rather**

KULGAM, JANUARY 15: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today chaired a meeting of officers at the mini-secretariat here to review progress and achievements made under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) in the district.

At the outset, the District Agriculture Officer briefed the chair that under Kisan Sampark Abhiyan Phase 1, 25977 farmers participated and 25637 registrations were made and under phase 2nd of the programme 2892 farmers participated and 2851 farmers were registered.

During the meeting, departments

presented a comprehensive overview of their achievements, detailing aspects such as plan implementation, beneficiary approvals, banking connections, convergence of activities, and processing of applications through a detailed PowerPoint presentation.

Highlighting the pivotal role of HADP in establishing a robust and profitable agricultural ecosystem, the DC underscored its significance in supporting local farmers.

He emphasized the need for effective implementation of the programme to ensure maximum benefits for the farming communities.

Special attention was given to the prompt approval of cases under allied department schemes, showcasing a proactive approach to meeting farm-



ers' financial needs and enhancing their overall well-being.

Recognizing the importance of awareness programs, the DC urged officers to conduct extensive outreach initiatives and reach out to people as the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme fosters a commitment to optimizing its advantages for sustainable agricultural growth.

He also instructed the concerned to ensure 100 percent expenditure of releases.

The meeting was attended by ADDC, Showkat Ahmad Rather; JDP Zahid Sajjad, ACR, CHO, CAHO, DAO, AD Fisheries, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, DFO, Representatives of Lead Bank and other concerned officials. He emphasized the need for effective

implementation of the programme to ensure maximum benefits for the farming communities.

Special attention was given to the prompt approval of cases under allied department schemes, showcasing a proactive approach to meeting farmers' financial needs and enhancing their overall well-being.

Recognizing the importance of awareness programs, the DC urged officers to conduct extensive outreach initiatives and reach out to people as the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme fosters a commitment to optimizing its advantages for sustainable agricultural growth.

He also instructed the concerned to ensure 100 percent expenditure of releases.

DC Pulwama chairs District Quality Assurance Committee meeting

■ **HT News Network**

PULWAMA, JANUARY 15:

In a strategic move towards advancing healthcare excellence, the District Quality Assurance Committee held a pivotal meeting under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr Basharat Qayoom.

The meeting aimed to assess the progress and adherence to National Quality Assurance Standards, charting a course for elevating healthcare facilities across the District.

The DC presided over the comprehensive overview of National Quality Assurance Standards, delving into policies, checklists, assess-



ment methods, and various levels of quality assurance.

Emphasizing a commitment to excellence, the DC directed the recommendation of additional facilities

for certification, underscoring the District's dedication to achieving and surpassing stringent healthcare benchmarks.

Acknowledging existing

gaps in health facilities at different assessment levels, the DC issued directives to ensure comprehensive fulfillment. A key aspect of the meeting was the emphasis on inter-departmental coordination to address local-level gaps efficiently, fostering a collaborative approach among departments.

Looking towards the future, the DC directed meticulous planning for the next year, urging that proposed facilities meet the highest standards with identified gaps promptly addressed. This forward-looking approach reflected the District's commitment to continuous improvement in healthcare services.

National Road Safety Month kick-starts at Shopian DC Shopian flags-off Road Safety IEC activities

■ **HT News Network**

SHOPIAN, JANUARY 15: IEC activities under National Road Safety month were today kick-started at Shopian in a function organised by the Motor Vehicles Department, Shopian.

Month-long observance of the Road safety, which is being celebrated from January 15 to February 14, was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb at Mini-Secretariat, here. Under the theme "Sadak Suraksha-Jeevan Raksha", various activities were organised today on the inaugural day, majorly IEC activities. The DC flagged-off Vehicle Rally from Mini Secretariat, which transversed through the town and culminated at



Mughal Road, near Helipad. The DC also administered Road Safety Pledge to all drivers present including officers, officials and transporters etc, who resolved to uphold ideal driving practices and adhere to standard traffic rules. Addressing the gathering, the DC said that the aim of observance of

Road Safety Month is to emphasise on adherence of traffic laws and regulations in letter and spirit to avoid accidents thereby saving lives and resources. The DC sought cooperation of stakeholders for imbining the good driving and traffic practices, stressing that it is the moral responsibility of everyone, to spread Road Safety Practices among the masses for desired results. Deliberations on the importance of use of helmets, avoiding use of Mobile phones during driving was stressed upon. ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; ARTO Shopian, Shakeel Ahmed; DIO, Ashfaq Ahmad, other dignitaries and officers and officials of Motor vehicles department Shopian along with drivers, transporters were present on the occasion.

Special camps for West Pakistani Refugees held in Samba



SAMBA, JANUARY 15: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma, special camps were held to provide guidance and assistance to the unemployed youth and West Pakistani refugees about the government schemes. The camps were organised in Panchayats of Badheri, Glar, Dhora, Rehian, Chak Gujral of Tehsil Samba, Channi Manhassan and District training institute of Tehsil Vijapur, Palli, Kartholi and Dollian of Tehsil Bari-Brahmana, Panchayat Tappyal in Ghagwal, Tehsil office Rajpura, Mawa, and Chachwal. A mega camp was organized at Samba Tehsil, Panchayat Ghar Chak Gujran on Monday. Tehsildar Shabir Ahmed interacted with the participants and informed them about the government schemes and benefits available for the WPRs, such as financial assistance, education, health, and skill development. The objective of the camps was to enable the WPR families to run small businesses or self-employment ventures, which can provide them some assured and sustained earnings. The camps also aimed to create awareness and empowerment among the WPRs, who have been living in J&K for more than seven decades without citizenship rights. Stalls were installed by various departments, such as Social Welfare, Employment, Education, Health, Agriculture, and Skill Development, to provide information and services to the WPRs. The participants appreciated the initiative and expressed their gratitude to the administration for organizing the camps. The camps will continue in different Panchayats of Samba district. The administration has appealed to the WPRs to take full advantage of the camps and avail the benefits of the schemes through print and social media campaign as well.

DC flags-off Car rally as month-long National Road Safety Awareness campaign begins in Budgam

■ **HT News Network**

BUDGAM, JANUARY 15: The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Budgam, Akshay Labroo today flagged-off a car rally from DC Office Budgam as observance of month-long National Road Safety Awareness campaign-2024 begins in the district.

ADC Budgam, Mehraj-ud-Din Shah; CPO, Fayaz Ahmad; Inspector MVD Budgam and other concerned officers and officials were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC, who is also Chairman District Road Safety Committee (DRSC) stressed on strict adherence to traffic rules.

He emphasized on safe driving and urged the general public to ensure they take all precautionary measures especially wearing of helmet, seat belts and observing speed limits for safety of themselves and others on



the road. The car rally passed through the various markets of Budgam displaying Road Safety related messages. On the occasion, the DC said that aggressive awareness campaigning shall be carried out on all precautionary measures to be taken by drivers and pedestrians during the month-long Road Safety Week celebrations. He said that many precious lives are lost every year in our coun-

try due to road traffic accidents and many more are permanently disabled.

In order to curb and minimize such mishaps in Budgam, the district administration is simultaneously working on mapping vulnerable spots, checking overloading on crowded routes and working on informing people about the possible blind curves to bring in immediate measures in all such areas to stop accidents.

Director Agri visits Baramulla, inspects various under implementation works at Pattan, Kanispora

■ **HT News Network**

SRINAGAR, JANUARY 15:

The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today visited different areas of Baramulla District and inspected various under implementation works at Pattan, Kanispora and some other places.

Addressing the officers, the Director asked them to strictly follow the guidelines for the implementation of different works. He asked them to speed up the process of implementation of different under implementation works, under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) and other centrally sponsored schemes so that they could be dedicated to the farmers.



Later, the Director inaugurated an awareness programme for the fertilizer dealers of north Kashmir (Baramulla, Bandipora, Kupwara) at Sopore.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director highlighted the importance of quality inputs including fertilizers to the overall socio-economic development of the farming community. He said that it is the moral responsibility of every stakeholder including

the department, fertilizer dealers to ensure that only genuine inputs (fertilizers, pesticides, seeds etc) reach the farmers.

Iqbal impressed upon the participants to work in a coordinated manner against the menace of sub-standard, duplicate inputs (fertilizers, pesticides etc). He said the poor quality fertilizer is not only an economic burden to the farmers but also an environmental disaster for the region.

He concluded that all the stakeholders including the department, fertilizer dealers must collaborate for the development of the farming community.

Director Agriculture interacted with the fertilizer dealers and took feedback regarding the stock and supply position of different fertilizers in the Kashmir division.

The programme was attended by the Deputy Director Law Enforcement Mujtaba Yahya, Assistant Director Law Enforcement Srinagar Feroz Ahmad Shapoo, District Law Enforcement Officer South Kashmir Sheikh Imran, District Law Enforcement Officer North Kashmir Dr. Amarjeet Singh besides fertilizer dealers of North Kashmir.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I informed to general public that my son's Date of birth (DOB) is 29/10/2020.....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 notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name....ABDUL HAMID WANI
F/O.... MOHAMMAD ANAS WANI
R/O.... DARWAFRASTI WARI Distt....BARAMULLA

PUBLIC NOTICE

I informed to general public that my son's Date of birth (DOB) is 07/07/2021.....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 notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name....IMRAN AHMAD KHAN
F/O.... AHNAIF BIN IMRAN
R/O.... MURANTANGWARI
Distt....BARAMULLA

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora) chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of WAHID AHMAD LONE S/O GHULAM RASOOL LONE R/O BURZAWACHAN Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 26/02/2017 and event has been shown to be occurred at S.D.H Kreeri for issuance of delay order. In this connection, if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class
kreeri

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora) chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of USMAN PARVAIZ S/O PARVAIZ AHMAD SHEIKH R/O MANGAM Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 15.06.2017 and event has been shown to be occurred at S.D.H Kreeri for issuance of delay order. In this connection, if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class
kreeri

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE NAME OF ELECTRICITY BILL

I inform to general public that my electric bill is on the name of GH AHMAD BHAT S/O. ABDUL AHAD BHAT R/O VIZER, bearing Consumer ID No..0212040002685...Now I want to change my electric bill name from GH AHMAD BHAT S/O ABDUL AHAD BHAT R/O VIZER to GULZAR AHMAD BHAT S/O GH AHMAD BHAT R/O VIZER ...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 of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name .GULZAR AHMAD BHAT
S/O ...GH AHMAD BHAT
R/o VIZER
Block...WAGOORA
Distt...BARAMULLAH

EDITORIAL

Winter Blues and The Mental Health Issues

As the winter arrives, it brings with it a silent and often overlooked challenge - the impact of winter on mental health. Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), a form of depression triggered by seasonal changes, casts a long shadow over the valley during its harsh winter months.

The beauty of Kashmir's winter, with its snow-capped mountains and frozen lakes, stands in stark contrast to the struggles faced by its residents. The limited sunlight and prolonged darkness characteristic of this season contribute significantly to the prevalence of SAD, affecting the emotional well-being of the community.

During these months, individuals often grapple with symptoms such as persistent sadness, low energy, and a lack of interest in activities they once enjoyed. The isolation imposed by the harsh weather exacerbates feelings of loneliness and hopelessness, creating a challenging environment for mental health.

Addressing this issue requires a multifaceted approach. Increased awareness about SAD and its symptoms can empower individuals to recognize and seek help for their mental health struggles. Community support networks, both formal and informal, play a crucial role in providing emotional assistance during these challenging times.

Furthermore, policymakers must prioritize mental health resources in the region. Accessible mental health services, counseling, and community outreach programs can provide a lifeline for those navigating the difficult winter months. The integration of mental health education in schools and workplaces can also contribute to reducing the stigma surrounding mental health issues.

While the winter in Kashmir remains a visual spectacle, it is imperative to acknowledge the emotional toll it takes on the residents. By fostering a culture of understanding, support, and proactive mental health initiatives, we can ensure that the beauty of the season is not overshadowed by the silent struggles faced by many in the Kashmiri community.



Prevention Of Environmental Disasters



■ By MooL Raj

In the grand tapestry of existence, our planet provides the backdrop for the intricate dance of life. However, this delicate equilibrium is increasingly threatened by the specter of environmental disasters. From devastating wildfires to catastrophic floods, the consequences of human activities are reverberating through the natural world. The urgency of addressing these issues cannot be overstated; it is imperative that we take proactive measures to prevent environmental disasters and ensure the well-being of our planet for generations to come.

Environmental disasters, often fueled by human-induced factors such as deforestation, industrial pollution, and climate change, pose a grave threat to ecosystems, biodiversity, and human communities. The frequency and intensity of these disasters have surged in recent decades, demanding a collective and resolute response. The key lies in acknowledging the interconnectedness of all life on Earth and understanding that the actions we take today

shape the world we inherit tomorrow.

Preventing environmental disasters requires a multi-faceted approach that encompasses policy changes, sustainable practices, and a global commitment to conservation. First and foremost, governments and international bodies must enact and enforce stringent environmental regulations. These regulations should address issues such as carbon emissions, deforestation, and waste management, setting clear standards for industries and individuals alike. By holding entities accountable for their ecological footprint, we can mitigate the factors contributing to environmental disasters at their source.

Education plays a pivotal role in fostering a collective environmental consciousness. Initiatives aimed at raising awareness about the fragility of ecosystems, the importance of biodiversity, and the consequences of unchecked human activity can inspire individuals to make informed choices. Schools, communities, and media outlets must actively engage in disseminating knowledge about sustainable living practices, fostering a sense of responsibility for the environment from an early age.

Technological innovation can serve as a powerful ally in the fight against environmental disasters. Advancements in renewable energy, waste reduction technologies, and sustainable agriculture practices offer tangible solutions to mitigate the impact of human activities on the environment. Governments and private enterprises must invest in research and development to promote and implement

these technologies on a large scale, transitioning towards a more sustainable and resilient future.

Conservation efforts must extend beyond borders, as environmental issues are inherently global. International cooperation is paramount in addressing challenges such as climate change, deforestation, and the loss of biodiversity. Treaties and agreements that facilitate collaboration on environmental protection should be strengthened, and countries should be incentivized to adopt sustainable practices through diplomatic and economic means.

The role of individuals in preventing environmental disasters cannot be overstated. Each person, as a custodian of the planet, has a responsibility to make choices that prioritize the health of the environment. From reducing carbon footprints to supporting eco-friendly products, individual actions collectively contribute to the broader effort of preserving our planet.

In conclusion, the prevention of environmental disasters is not a lofty ideal but a pragmatic necessity. The consequences of inaction are dire, with far-reaching impacts on ecosystems, communities, and future generations. By embracing a holistic approach that combines policy changes, education, technological innovation, and individual responsibility, we can create a sustainable and resilient world. The time to act is now, for in safeguarding our planet, we safeguard the very essence of life itself.

The author is a columnist and freelance

Role of parents during board exams



■ Vijay Garg

Parents play a crucial role during exams as they provide support and guidance to their children. Here are some roles that parents can fulfill:

1. Emotional support: Parents can provide emotional support and create a positive environment at home. They should encourage and motivate their children, boosting their confidence and reducing anxiety.
2. Routine and schedule: Parents can help in establishing a study routine and setting a schedule for their children. This helps in organizing their time effectively and ensures a balance between studying and other activities.
3. Proper nutrition: Parents should ensure their children have a healthy diet during exams, providing them with nutritious meals and snacks. A well-balanced diet contributes to improved concentration and overall well-being.



4. Adequate rest and sleep: Parents need to ensure that their children get enough sleep during exams. A well-rested mind is more focused and productive, and proper sleep also helps in retaining information.
5. Minimize distractions: Parents should create a quiet and peaceful environment at home during study hours. They can limit the use of electronic devices and avoid unnecessary noise or interruptions.
6. Revision assistance: Parents can help their children in reviewing their study

material by testing their knowledge and discussing topics. This can enhance understanding and retention of information.

7. Exam preparation: Parents can assist in organizing study materials, providing necessary resources, and discussing strategies for effective studying. They can also help in locating additional learning resources or practice tests.
8. Communication with teachers: Parents should maintain communication with teachers to understand the exam requirements and expectations. This helps in supporting their children's study plans, identifying areas of improvement, and addressing concerns.
9. Stress management: Parents should be aware of signs of excessive stress or anxiety in their children and offer guidance on stress management techniques. Encouraging breaks, physical activities, or relaxation exercises can help in relieving stress.
10. Celebrate achievement: Parents should celebrate their child's efforts and achievements during exams. This boosts their morale and encourages a positive attitude towards learning.

Overall, parents should provide a supportive and nurturing environment during exams, ensuring their children feel confident, motivated, and well-prepared.

Vijay GarG Retired Principal
Educational columnist malout

Month long National Road Safety campaign commences in Kishtwar amid Grand Inaugural Event

DC, SSP ask transporters, Public to adhere to Road Safety rules

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, JANUARY 15: The National Road Safety Month 2024 kicked off in Kishtwar district today with a spectacular inaugural ceremony held at the General Bus Stand.

Marking a crucial initiative to enhance road safety awareness in the district, the campaign was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav, who is also the Chairman of the District Road Safety Committee, as the Chief Guest. He emphasized the significance of promoting safe practices on the roads.

SSP, Khalil Ahmed Poswal was the guest of honour at the event attended by approximately 350

participants, including transporters, citizens, students and youth.

The Road Safety campaign has been organized by the District Motor Vehicles department in collaboration with Government Degree College, Government Boys Higher Secondary School and the local Transport Union. The month-long activities will span from January 15, 2024, to February 14, 2024.

The event commenced with a warm welcome address and the administration of the pledge by ARTO Mohammad Saleem Manhas in alignment with the National Road Safety Month.

The highlight of the program was a demonstration on Cardio-pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)



conducted by the Red Cross and SDRF team.

Numerous activities unfolded during the event, including a Nukkad Natak presented by Students of GHSS Boys Kishtwar and a Debate by GDC students in spirit with the Road Safety Protocol.

DC, SSP, ARTO and President Transport Union B.L. Shan threw light on road safety issues and emphasized safety precautions.

DC stressed upon the transporters to install CC cameras, VLTD, and Speed limit Devices in vehicles on priority.

Addressing the gathering, he said that the initiative like installation of safety equipment, Road Safety Audits, proper crash barriers in vulnerable areas, and

adherence to Speed Limit and road safety measures are instrumental to save lives of people.

He further urged individuals to embrace their responsibility as conscientious citizens, contributing to the collective effort for a safer journey on our roads.

The program concluded with an impressive Road Safety Awareness Rally led by students and NCC Cadets under the guidance of DC Kishtwar, DySPDAR Sajjad Khan, ARTO, EO Municipal Council Ninad Sen, all carrying placards and banners echoing road safety awareness from Bus Stand to Dak Bunglow through Market Kishtwar. DC, SSP, ARTO and President Transport Union B.L. Shan threw light on road safety issues.

Pioneering Start to National Road Safety Month at Doda by MVD

■ HT News Network

DODA, JANUARY 15: The National Road Safety Month commenced in Doda with a significant inauguration ceremony led by Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh and supervised by ARTO, Rajesh Gupta.

Enthusiastic volunteers, including school children, actively participated in an Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaign aimed at promoting road safety in the district. The primary objective is to raise awareness about adherence to traffic rules and regulations, particularly for those navigating hilly terrains. The Volunteers took to streets passionately



advocating observance of essential road safety measures tailored for hilly terrains. Recognizing the unique challenges posed by the geography, the initiative underscored the importance of vehicle operators exercising extra caution. The campaign emphasized discouraging overloading,

preventing over speeding, and dissuading the use of mobile phones while driving. The proactive involvement of the community, especially school children, highlighted a collective commitment to ensuring road safety in Doda. The inaugural ceremony showcased community engage-

ment and also unveiled a comprehensive set of safety measures specifically designed for hilly areas.

In addition to avoiding overloading, overspeeding, and mobile phone use, the campaign emphasized regular vehicle maintenance, adherence to traffic signals, and the use of reflective gear during low visibility. The month-long celebration aims to instill a culture of responsible driving, creating safer roads for all residents of Doda. During the road safety campaign organized by the Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) Doda, students from various government and private schools actively participated. Carrying banners showcasing road safety.

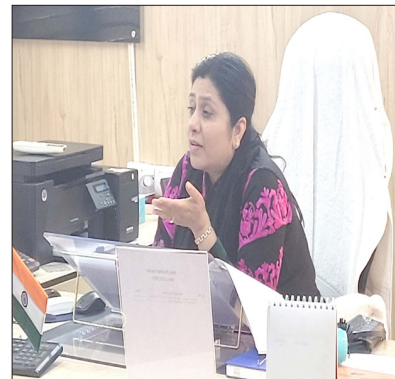
DG Rural Sanitation reviews district-wise progress under SBM-G Mission in J&K

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, JANUARY 15: In a proactive move towards ensuring the success of the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin, the Director General Rural Sanitation, Jammu and Kashmir, Anoo Malhotra presided over a comprehensive district-wise review meeting, here today.

The meeting witnessed active participation from the Assistant Commissioners of Panchayat (ACPs), underlining the collaborative approach towards achieving the mission's objectives.

The Director General emphasized the pivotal role each district plays in the Swachh Bharat Mission, urging ACPs to intensify efforts to promote sanitation and hygiene at the grassroots level. The Director General meticulously analyzed the progress of ongoing initiatives, highlighting successful practices and addressing challenges faced by different districts. Ms. Malhotra presented a strategic



roadmap for the upcoming phases of the Swachh Bharat Mission, emphasizing the need for creative solutions to address unique challenges in each district. The meeting showcased success stories and best practices from various regions, creating a collaborative platform for sharing insights and learning from one another.

During the interactive session, ACPs shared their experiences, providing valuable insights into the ground-level implementation of the mission.

Ms. Malhotra commended the efforts and encouraged a dynamic exchange of ideas to optimize strategies for enhanced effectiveness.

The Director General encouraged ACPs to foster community involvement and ownership of the mission, highlighting the role of awareness campaigns and education in sustaining behavioral change.

The Director General reiterated the mission's significance in fostering a cleaner and healthier rural environment, expressing her commitment to achieving the ambitious goals set by the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin. The meeting concluded with a sense of shared commitment, as Ms. Malhotra expressed confidence in the collective efforts to elevate the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin to new heights in Jammu and Kashmir. The Director General reiterated the mission's significance in fostering a cleaner and healthier rural environment, expressing her commitment to achieving the ambitious goals.

DC reviews Health services scenario in Rajouri District

■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, JANUARY 15: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat conducted a comprehensive review of progress made in the health sector a meeting held today.

The meeting focused on assessing the status of different healthcare initiatives and discussing strategies to enhance the quality of patient care at different levels. Chief Medical Officer Dr. Rajinder Sharma presented an overview of the progress achieved under National Health Mission (NHM) in the district. Furthermore, he informed that the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) teams have visited 839 schools and 1,462 Anganwadi centers to conduct health check up of the children. Additionally, 13,618 Unique Disability Identification (UDID) cards have been issued, emphasizing the focus on empowering persons with special needs.

Highlighting the achievements under the Ayushman Bharat program, the Chief Medical Officer informed that the district has achieved 100 percent coverage, ensuring access to quality healthcare for all eligible individuals. In the fiscal year 2023-24, a commendable total of 28,731 In-Patient Department (IPD) services



were provided, reflecting the dedication of healthcare professionals in delivering comprehensive care to the residents. The meeting also addressed the progress of immunization and family planning services, which are vital components of public health. Deputy Commissioner also assessed the progress of the National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP) in the district. The NTEP, a vital component of the National Health Mission, plays a pivotal role in

India's fight against Tuberculosis. The meeting highlighted the objectives and functioning of the TB Forum and discussed the achievements of the program within the district.

Deputy Commissioner underscored the gravity of Tuberculosis as a leading infectious disease and called for concerted efforts to effectively implement the NTEP in the district. A significant aspect of the discussion was the emphasis on registering all TB patients under the Nikshay Mitra scheme. Recognizing the importance of the institutional deliveries, the DC directed the Block Medical Officers to promote institutional deliveries over home deliveries. Stressing the benefits of institutional deliveries, he emphasized the importance of creating awareness among the public regarding the advantages and safety precautions associated with institutional births. The proactive approach aims to enhance maternal and child healthcare outcomes in the district. Furthermore, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the progress of various other important schemes, including Janni Suraksha Yojana (JSY), and developmental projects undertaken by the Health Department. He directed the concerned officers to ensure the timely completion of these projects while maintaining the highest quality standards.

Prof. J P Singh Joorel Appointed As Rector of "Bhaderwah Campus"

■ Amir Iqbal Khan

Bhaderwah, January 15: Prof. J P Singh Joorel from the Department of Statistics, University of Jammu today assumed charge as Rector Bhaderwah Campus

The outgoing rector Prof. Rahul Gupta served the institution diligently while making significant contributions to the development of Bhaderwah Campus during his tenure. On this occasion, Bhaderwah Campus staff expressed their gratitude for his dedicated services.

As per an official communication, University of Jammu appointed Prof. J P Singh Joorel as new Rector of Bhaderwah Campus relieving Prof. Rahul Gupta from the additional charge.

The communique said, "Prof. Joorel brings with him a wealth of experience in administration, having served as the Head of the Department of Statistics for more than five years." Upon assuming charge, Prof. J P Singh Joorel engaged with the teaching and non-teaching staff, leaving an indelible impression with his inspiring words. He urged everyone to work with honesty and dedication, fostering a collective commitment to the upliftment of Bhaderwah Campus, it added.

"His extensive career includes leadership roles such as the Director (VC Rank) of the INFLIBNET Centre in Gandhinagar, Gujarat,



an Autonomous Inter-University Centre of the University Grants Commission, where he served for five years. Presently a Professor of Statistics at the University of Jammu, Prof. Joorel boasts a remarkable 37 years of experience in teaching, research and administration," communication claimed stating,

"Prof. Joorel has a robust academic background, having served at various esteemed institutions such as Jammu University, Dr Y S Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan, HP, Panjab University, Chandigarh, Agra University (Agra College), and UP Government. He has supervised twenty-five Ph.D. and M.Phil students, published approximately 100 research papers in reputed journals, authored book chapters and presentation at international/national conferences".

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra: Awareness Camp hosted at Panchayat Sunari in Udhampur

■ HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, JANUARY 15: A day-long awareness camp was conducted by Animal Husbandry Department, Udhampur, as part of the ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra. The event took place at Panchayat Ghar Sunari in District Udhampur. District Development Council Chairperson, Lal Chand graced the occasion as the chief guest, encouraging active participation in the camp. A multitude of attendees, particularly farmers, gathered to partake in the program and took the Viksit Bharat pledge. Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Chief Animal



Husbandry Officer, Udhampur, enlightened farmers about various beneficiary schemes implemented by the Animal Husbandry Department.

The DDC Chairperson, urged the public to maximize the benefits of government schemes to enhance income and foster employment. He

commended the commendable efforts of the Animal Husbandry Department. Darshana Devi, Ex-Sarpanch Sunari, extended her gratitude to the department for organizing the awareness camp. The event saw participation from Ramakant Khajuria, Bank Manager J&K Bank Sunari, emphasizing the benefits of the KCC Scheme, and Dalip from HIMAYAT briefed about government-run skilled development programs for unemployed youth. In addition to informative sessions, free medicines were distributed during the camp. An interactive session with farmers addressed their queries, featuring the presence of Dr. Suresh Kumar.

DC reviews progress of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in District Kishtwar

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, JANUARY 15: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav, today chaired a meeting of the concerned officers and conducted a thorough review of the ongoing Viksit Bharat Yatra, discussing achievements and challenges. The meeting, attended by key officials including ACD Kishtwar, Manoj Kumar, SDM Marwah Mohd Ashraf, AD FCS&CA Shafqat Keen, LDM Kishtwar Pankaj Bhadani, and repre-

sentatives from various departments, focused on evaluating the progress of flagship citizen-centric schemes. The meeting was informed that the IEC VAN has successfully reached 116 Venues. The DC urged the health department to organize additional health camps during the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra till January 26, 2024. He called for expediting distribution of Ayushman Bharat Sehat Cards, and asked the Health Department to adopt a target-driven approach and ensure reaching 2000 beneficiaries by the following week.

Dr Sehrish Asgar reviews World Bank funded Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery project

Asks officers to rigorously remove impediments affecting progress of works

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JANUARY 15: Chief Executive Officer, Jammu and Kashmir Economic Reconstruction Agency (ERA), Dr. Syed Sehrish Asgar, today exhorted upon the officers to rigorously identify and remove the impediments hindering the progress of various vital works being executed under World Bank funded Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project.

She issued these directions while chairing a meeting held to review progress on ongoing works being executed under World Bank funded Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project at Civil Secretariat, Srinagar.

Dr. Sehrish was informed that as on date 174 sub-projects, out of the total of 213, taken up for execution under the World Bank funded Jhelum Tawi flood Recovery Project have already been completed while as work on remaining 39 sub-projects is in



progress. Besides, an expenditure of Rs 1352 crore has been incurred on the project till date.

While reviewing progress on under execution 39 sub-projects of JTFRP, Chief

Executive Officer was informed that progress on upgradation of 47 dewatering stations in Srinagar city is at advanced stage with work already completed on 40 stations while as work on remaining 7 stations will

be completed by March, 2024.

CEO directed the concerned nodal officers to submit progress report regarding work progress after every 20 days saying that no further delays in completion of the significant urban flood management project will be tolerated.

Nodal officer for R&B projects, while divulging the details of sub-projects being executed under the component of critical infrastructure, informed that work on construction of additional 160 bedded hospital block at Bone and Joints hospital Barzulla, Srinagar, is at the advanced stage with around 90% work completed on civil component of the sub-project. He added that an amount of Rs 59.36 crore has been spent on the critical healthcare project.

He also informed that work on construction of additional block at GDC, Bemina, is nearing completion and is expected to be completed by March, 2024. Besides, work

VBSY: Zubair visits Bandipora, emphasizes 100% saturation of govt schemes

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, JANUARY 15: As part of ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY), Commissioner Secretary, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Zubair Ahmad, on Monday visited Bandipora and assessed progress on various beneficiary oriented government schemes of different departments in the district. Chairperson District Development Council, Abdul Gani Bhat, Vice Chairperson DDC, Kowsar Shafeeq, Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Shakeel Ur Rehman, DDC members, ADDC, ADC besides other senior officers from different departments and locals were present on the occasion. Commissioner Secretary said that the Yatra aims to bring together government officials, local leaders and communities to ensure last mile delivery of govern-



ment schemes to all the people. He emphasised upon the officers to ensure that all eligible beneficiaries in Bandipora are covered under relevant schemes for their socio-economic development. He had detailed review of schemes being implemented by each department in the district and specific directions to further improve implementation status ensuring 100 per cent saturation of all government flagship schemes. He asked the J&K Bank officials to step up

their efforts in achieving complete financial inclusion within the district besides establishing self employment assistance counters in every panchayat. He also asked them to actively promote various financial schemes for benefit of the local populace.

Commissioner Secretary asked the Employment Department to facilitate job seekers of the area with suitable work opportunities. He also emphasised the need to facilitate and promote self-employment.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Sarmad Hafeez attends mega event at Rajori Kadal, Shahr-e-Khaas; seeks feedback on govt schemes

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JANUARY 15: As a part of ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, Secretary, Youth Services & Sports (YSS), Sarmad Hafeez, on Monday visited Rajori Kadal area in Shahr-e-Khaas of Srinagar district and attended a mega event organized under Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY). Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat and Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Dr. Owais Ahmad besides other senior officers and officials were present on the occasion.

The event witnessed overwhelming public participation with numerous issues raised concerning welfare and development of the area. The gathering



was made aware about the government programmes particularly centrally sponsored flagship schemes aimed at empowering the common masses.

The Secretary monitored the activities being conducted through the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Van and interacted with the gathering seeking feedback on various government initiatives. Addressing on the occasion, Sarmad Hafeez

highlighted the transformative impact of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra which envisages to bring the uncovered beneficiaries under the ambit of government schemes. He emphasized the importance of the yatra in fostering development and promoting engagement with government schemes besides achieving saturation under government sponsored citizen centric schemes.

Grassroots level Triumph: VBSY continues Transformative Journey through Pulwama Villages

■ HT News Network

PULWAMA, JANUARY 15: In an inspiring journey through the heart of District Pulwama, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) has achieved a remarkable milestone by seamlessly covering every Panchayat and Municipality in the region. Today, the Yatra continued its journey of reaching the core of communities, navigating through villages to disseminate crucial information about Government schemes. A pivotal focus of the VBSY has been the meticulous saturation of



Government schemes, ensuring that the benefits reach each and every individual. The Yatra's commitment to inclusivity shines through, leaving no one uninformed about the catalytic initiatives designed to foster transformative change. In a momen-

tous program spanning six villages, the Yatra showcased its dedication to micro-level engagement. Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) vans played a pivotal role in effectively delivering the Hon'ble Prime Minister's message, enlightening the

populace about the diverse spectrum of Government schemes.

An exceptional facet of the Yatra unfolded in the "Meri Kahani Meri Zubani" segment, where beneficiaries shared poignant accounts of their journeys, highlighting the life-altering impact of Government interventions. This personal touch served as a powerful testament to the positive transformations realized through these initiatives. Cultural programs added an exquisite touch to the event, captivating the audience and fostering profound engagement with the visionary goals of VBSY.

Road Safety Month Commences at Bandipora Commissioner Secretary FCS&CA along with DC Bandipora Flag off Awareness Rally

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, JANUARY 15 Commissioner Secretary, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Zubair Ahmad along with Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Shakeel Ur Rehman Monday flagged off a rally from the Mini Secretariat, setting the stage for a month-long focus on promoting safe and responsible road usage.

The rally witnessed participation from students, government representatives, and members of the local community. Marching through the streets, the participants displayed placards and banners emblazoned with catchy slogans advocating for road safety measures like wearing helmets, obeying traffic rules, avoiding over speeding, and driving under the influence. The rally while traversing through key thoroughfares of Bandipora, served as a potent reminder of the need for vigilance and adherence to traffic regulations. ARTO Bandipora, Bilal Ahmad Mir said that road safety month in Bandipora will go beyond the rally, encompassing a series of activities throughout the month.

Babila Rakwal reviews functioning of J&K SCARD branches across J&K

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, JANUARY 15: Secretary Cooperative Department, Babila Rakwal, today reviewed the functioning of J&K State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank Limited branches operating across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir at Civil Secretariat, Jammu. Administrator, J&K SCARD Bank Limited, Rakesh Dubey, presented a brief note regarding the working of the Bank.

Secretary took stock of different aspects of various activities being carried out by all branches of the Bank. She exhorted upon the concerned officers and officials to further intensify their efforts to achieve the set targets within the stipulated time frame specially time bound recovery of NPAs.

Babila Rakwal cautioned that stringent action would be initiated against the poor performing officers and officials of the Bank while asking all to perform their duties with utmost efficiency and dedication for greater public interest.

She had a detailed branch wise review and discussion on various vital aspects including deposits, loan and advances, CD ratio, recovery against NPAs, loan disbursement and other related issues.

The meeting was also attended by Registrar Cooperative Societies, Director Finance Cooperative Department, Additional Secretary, Cooperative Department, Managing Director, J&K SCARD Bank Limited, Managing Director, DCCBs and branch heads of all branches in both Jammu and Kashmir divisions.

DC Anantnag launches National Road Safety Month 2024

■ HT News Network

ANANTNAG, JANUARY 15: In a bid to enhance road safety awareness and mitigate accidents, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, SF Hamid today inaugurated the National Road Safety Month 2024 with a resolute commitment towards achieving zero accident-related mortality.

Addressing a gathering of officials, community leaders, and citizens, DC emphasized the importance of collective efforts to make roads safer for everyone. He highlighted the alarming statistics of road accidents and the need for a comprehensive approach to tackle this issue.

"As we embark on National Road Safety Month, our goal is clear: zero accident-related mortality. Each life lost on the road is one too many, and we must work together to change this narrative," stated Hamid.

The month-long campaign will feature various activities, including awareness drives, workshops, and educational programs aimed at instilling responsible road behavior. Special emphasis will be placed on educating drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists about the importance of adhering to traffic rules and adopting safe practices.

Additionally, DC Hamid announced the implementation of stricter enforcement measures to ensure compliance with traffic regulations. The initiative also involves collaborating with local schools, businesses, and community organizations to create a widespread impact.

"We need a paradigm shift in our approach to road safety. It is not just about regulations; it is about fostering a culture of responsibility and vigilance on our roads," emphasized DC during the event launch.

The National Road Safety Month comes at a critical juncture, aiming to curb the rising trend of road accidents and improve overall road safety infrastructure. DC's vision for zero accident-related mortality reflects a commitment to creating a safer environment for all road users.

DC launches month-long National Road Safety Awareness Campaign with Car Rally at Baramulla

■ HT News Network

BARAMULLA, JANUARY 15: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa in presence of Senior Superintendent of Police Amod Ashok Nagapure today inaugurated the National Road Safety Awareness campaign-2024 with the flag-off of a car rally from Dakbanglow Baramulla. Speaking at the event, DC, who also chairs the District Road Safety Committee (DRSC), underscored the crucial need for strict adherence to traffic rules. He urged the public to prioritize safe driving and emphasized precautionary measures such as wearing helmets, seat belts, and adhering to speed limits for the safety of all road users. The car rally traversed through the main market of Baramulla, featuring displays of Road Safety messages to enhance awareness among the general public. Minga Sherpa highlighted plans for aggressive awareness campaigns throughout the month, focusing on educating drivers and pedestrians about necessary precautions. Recognizing the alarming rate of road traffic accidents and associated fatalities in the country, he stressed the importance of collective efforts to minimize such incidents. The district administration is actively involved in mapping vulnerable spots, monitoring overloading on crowded routes, and informing the public about potential blind curves. Immediate measures are being implemented in these areas to prevent accidents. During the event, SSP Amod Ashok Nagapure emphasized the importance of people adhering to traffic rules for their safety. He specifically urged the youth to avoid rush driving, underscoring the need for responsible behavior on the roads.

Implementation of 'Revival, Restoration, Preservation & Maintenance of Architecture and Heritage' scheme reviewed at Ganderbal

■ HT News Network

GANDERBAL, JANUARY 15: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today chaired a meeting to discuss implementation of 'Revival Restoration, Preservation & Maintenance of Architecture and Heritage' scheme in the District. At the outset, DC was briefed about the importance of the scheme and progress achieved so far wherein it was revealed that only one project Prayagraj Temple is under revival at present and project report formulation of other sites is under preparation.

Deputy Director, Archives Kashmir informed that for DPR formation there is provision for hiring of consultant by the Districts and has informed that if proposal from District is received, authorization along with release of funds shall be accorded. The DC directed the Deputy



Director, Archives Kashmir to provide the list of important historical sites to the Superintending Engineer, PWD(R&B), Ganderbal within two days which need revival/restoration. It was directed that Superintending Engineer, PWD(R&B), Ganderbal shall prepare updated progress on revival of project viz. Prayagraj Temple and come up with detailed drawing and DPR in the next meeting.

Furthermore, it was directed that Superintending Engineer, PWD(R&B), Ganderbal shall take up matter with Archives Department Kashmir for seeking authorization along with release of funds for hiring consultant for preparation of DPR of heritage sites. It was also directed that DPR of already 04 sites submitted by Superintending Engineer, PWD(R&B), Ganderbal shall be re-appraised as per heritage norms and revised DPR shall be prepared in consultation with Archives Department for which template DPR in respect of Malsahi Bagh Masjid shall be taken as reference. The project report submitted by the Archives Department in respect of Malsahi Bagh Masjid was examined and approved by committee. The meeting was attended by Superintending Engineer, PW(R&B) Circle Ganderbal, Deputy Director, Archives Archaeology and Museums Kashmir, Assistant Director, (P&S), representative of Director Tourism Kashmir, Chief Education Officer.

Pariksha Pe Charcha: DDC Baramulla presides over a Program Emphasizes on creating stress free environment for students for upcoming exams

■ HT News Network

BARAMULLA, JANUARY 15: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa today presided over a mega program in connection to the 7th Edition of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' at Dak Bunglow here. The program was organised by the Education Department Baramulla and was attended by Chief Education Officer Baramulla Balbir Singh Raina, Zonal Education Officers, Principals and Headmasters of Higher Secondary and Secondary Schools, Teachers of Atal

Tinkering Labs and students from various schools. It is worth mentioning here that 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' is a nationwide program started by Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi in 2018 to create a stress free atmosphere for students appearing in the yearly board exams. The PM will be holding an interactive session with the students across the country on 29th of January. Speaking during the event, the DDC underscored the vital importance of holding such programs to help students not only to cope with stress but also enhance their preparation strategies for upcoming exams.



The DDC, Minga Sherpa, further stressed on the responsibility of teachers and parents to foster a conducive and relaxing environment for students appearing for the exams. Earlier, in an inspiring exhibition of innovation at Dak Bunglow, Minga Sherpa interacted with the meritorious students showcasing their innovative projects developed at Atal Tinkering Labs. The DDC commended the students and encouraged them to nurture their curiosity and continue their flame of innovation throughout their academic journey. The program was organised by the Education

Department Baramulla and was attended by Chief Education Officer Baramulla Balbir Singh Raina, Zonal Education Officers, Principals and Headmasters of Higher Secondary and Secondary Schools, Teachers of Atal Tinkering Labs and students from various schools. It is worth mentioning here that 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' is a nationwide program started by Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi in 2018 to create a stress free atmosphere for students appearing in the yearly board exams. The PM will be holding an interactive session with the students across the country on 29th of January. Speaking dur-

JK SHIKSHA MANCH HOLDS IT'S 2ND ONLINE POETIC SYMPOSIUM

Dr Shabnum Showkat presided over the symposium, Dr Reyaz Rabbani Kashmiri directed while as Rutba Qureshi hosted the proceedings.

■ Abid Rasool Alaie

Shiksha Manch, an international literary and educational unit of Jammu and Kashmir organised its 2nd monthly online poetic symposium (Mushaira) on 14/01/2024. The poetic symposium in which teacher-poets/poetesses from every part of Jammu and Kashmir participated. The poetic symposium was presided over by the President of JK Shiksha Manch, Dr Shabnum Showkat while as the programme was hosted by the General Secretary of JK Shiksha Manch Rutba Qureshi. The welcome note to the guests, poets, poetesses, and students was presented by the President of the JK Shiksha Manch Dr. Showkat Shabnum. A number of teacher-poets and poetesses of Department of Education JK participated in this Online Poetic Symposium and made it memorable for the audiences. The Poets and poetesses who charmed everyone by their eloquent poetry, profound depth of theme,



language, subject matter and lyrical efficiency were Dr. Shabnum Showkat, Dr. Riyaz Rabbani Kashmiri, Rutba Qureshi, Safdar Yousuf, Aasima Jan, Veena Koul, Sufeena Sufi, Farooq Ahmed. Panoo, Jahangir Ayaz Haali, Irshada Bano and Haseena Mukhalis. The President of the JK Shiksha Manch, Dr Shabnum Showkat gave the presiding sermon. She appreciated, praised and highlighted the poems and verses of the participants. While as the Vice President of the JK Shiksha Manch Dr Reyaz Rabbani Kashmiri presented the vote of thanks to all the literati. Dr Reyaz Rabbani Kashmiri said that more such literary and educational platforms should be created where all the talented people from the Department of Education would get an opportunity to participate and showcase their talent. He appealed all the inherent talents in education sector to come forward and get the opportunity to explore their talent through the platform of Shiksha Manch.

Change of Land Use meeting held at Anantnag

■ HT News Network

ANANTNAG, JANUARY 15: The Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Anantnag, Dr. Mohammad Ashraf today chaired a Change of Land Use (CLU) committee meeting at DC office Complex, here.

The meeting addressed cases with significant decisions made for the betterment of the community and in accordance with the established guidelines.

Out of the 13 cases, nine received approval, signifying the committee's endorsement of the proposed changes that are deemed beneficial for the community. This signifies a positive stride towards facilitating development projects that align with the community's best interests.

Three cases were identified for re-verification, emphasizing the committee's commitment to thorough scrutiny and adherence to regulations ensuring a meticulous decision-making process.

ADC expressed satisfaction with the diligence and commitment demonstrated by all participants. This acknowledgment underscores the importance of collective efforts in ensuring that decisions made during the CLU meeting align with the community's best interests and comply with stipulated norms.

DC Ganderbal reviews modalities for delimitation of Municipal Wards

■ HT News Network

GANDERBAL, JANUARY 15: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today chaired a meeting at V.C Room, here focusing on the potential delimitation of municipal areas of Municipal Council Ganderbal.

At the outset, a comprehensive discussion about various challenges, including population slabs, voter numbers, and other criteria that might influence the creation of new wards and inclusion of new areas under the municipal limits were discussed.

The EO Municipal Council Ganderbal informed that currently, Ganderbal municipal limits comprise 17 wards and criteria for creating new wards and inclusion of new areas were clarified.

The DC directed the EO Municipal Council Ganderbal that the suggestion for creation of new wards and inclusion of new areas shall be proposed so that the same could be taken at appropriate level for approval.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, EO Municipal Council Ganderbal, Tehsildar Ganderbal and other concerned.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra inspires residents of Lamberi, Siot & Sunderbani blocks

■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, JANUARY 15: The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) today extended its reach to panchayats of Lamberi Upper, Lamberi East, Prat, Marchola, Bambiya, Thangriote, Seiya and Devak of Lamberi, Sunderbani and Siot blocks.

This ambitious initiative is strategically crafted to transform Rajouri by taking governance to underserved areas and ensuring the effective execution of government programs, ultimately enhancing the quality of life of its 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 daily lives.

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.

R-Day arrangements finalized at Ganderbal

■ HT News Network



GANDERBAL, JANUARY 15: The Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Ganderbal, Gulzar Ahmad today finalized arrangements for smooth celebration of forthcoming Republic Day-2024, at a meeting, here.

The meeting held threadbare discussions on various arrangements to be put in place at the venue for the National function including security plan, cleanliness and sanitation, seating arrangement, traffic management, cultural programmes, media management and beautification of town. On the occasion, various committees like invitation cards committee, stage management committee, selection committee, seating arrangement committees which were formed were directed to complete formalities for the smooth conduct of the celebrations. The special emphasis was laid on refreshments, transportation and change room facilities for participating students. The ADC also gave specific instructions for beautification of town and media management at the venue. DySP was instructed to ensure fool-proof security arrangements at all venues where functions in this regard will be held across the district. The ADC also instructed the HODs to install banners for showcasing their activities for the general public.

From Zadoora to Sadoora in Anantnag, VBSY's IEC Van marches ahead

■ HT News Network

ANANTNAG, JANUARY 15: In a transformative journey, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) is making an indelible mark on the landscape of development in Block Vessu, Anantnag.

The visit of the VBSY IEC Van to key locations, including Zadoora, Nee-pora, Bumthan, Sadoora, Sadoora A, Damjan, and Vessu Gram Panchayats, has become a rallying point for the community, showcasing a remarkable surge in public participation. This fervor reflects a shared commitment to progress and underlines the collective determination to usher in positive change throughout the region.

As the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision unfolds, the VBSY IEC Van has become a symbol of innovation and development, illu-



minating the path towards a brighter future for the residents of Block Vessu. The Yatra's strategic focus on these pivotal Gram Panchayats underscores a commitment to reaching the grassroots, ensuring that every corner of the region benefits from the initiatives set in motion.

In a remarkable achievement for the Yatra in the Anantnag district, a staggering number of over 2.53 lakh people have actively engaged and participated, showcasing the

profound impact and immense potential of this movement in unifying the populace towards the common goal of a developed India. The Yatra, spanning the farthest reaches of the district, has been instrumental in disseminating awareness regarding various government welfare schemes, ensuring their reach even to the most remote corners.

During the Yatra, citizens have actively involved themselves in numerous government

schemes, underscoring substantial participation. Over 2499 individuals gained access to clean cooking fuel under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, while distribution of Ayushman cards has extended comprehensive health cover of Rs. 5 Lakhs per family per year to thousands. Notably, more than 94,184 citizens have benefitted from health screenings conducted at Health Camps during the Yatra.

Moreover, the Yatra has facilitated over 222 beneficiaries under the PM SVANidhi scheme and enrolled more than 215 new beneficiaries under PM KISAN, promoting financial independence and agricultural support. The 'MY Bharat' initiative witnessed over 16,097 lakh youth registrations, reflecting a significant surge in engagement within the framework of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.

DC Pulwama kicks-off National Road Safety Month-2024 with a vision for 'Zero Accident Related Mortality'

■ HT News Network

PULWAMA, JANUARY 15: In a solemn inauguration ceremony at the Administrative Complex Pulwama, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr Basharat Qayoom today spearheaded the commencement of National Road Safety Month-2024.

This significant event saw the convergence of key figures, including SSP Pulwama and ARTO Pulwama, symbolizing a unified front in the pursuit of heightened road safety standards.

Articulating the ambitious objectives of the month-long initiative, DC outlined a comprehensive strategy including a multifaceted approach encompassing road safety awareness campaigns, meticulous vehicle fitness



evaluations, and health checkups for drivers throughout the duration of the month. The overarching goal as emphasised was to achieve zero accident related mortality in the upcoming year. Addressing the pressing issue of congestion, DC urged the public to abstain from illegal parking as a pivotal step towards

congestion mitigation. He stressed the need for consistent enforcement and also called for a collective effort.

The DC recognized and applauded the pivotal role of stakeholders, particularly commending the invaluable support of trade unions. He underscored the media's influential role in amplifying the awareness.

DC/ DPEO Kulgam reviews preparedness for smooth conduct of Revision of Panchayat Electoral Roll

■ Farooq Rather

KULGAM, JANUARY 15: The Deputy Commissioner/ District Panchayat Election Officer (DC/ DPEO) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today chaired a meeting of EROs, AEROs and other concerned officers at mini-secretariat here to review the arrangements and preparations made for successful conduct of Revision of Panchayat Electoral Roll in the district.

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

He instructed that field staff viz. PEBOs who are VLWs/ MPWs/ GRS 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 Panchayat Electoral Roll yet.

The DPEO directed EROs/AEROs and BDOs to monitor the progress of PEBOs during the revision period and ensure wide publicity of Panchayat Electoral Roll in all panchayats.



During the meeting, it was revealed that the special camps will be organized on 27 & 28 January, 03 & 04 February, 2024 at Polling booth locations. The Assembly BLOs and Panchayat Election Booth Officers (PEBO) shall remain available on designated Special Camp Days in the panchayat polling stations along with sufficient forms 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D for addition, deletion, correction and transposition respectively.

It was also informed that final Panchayat Electoral Roll-2024 will be published on 26-02-2024 and period for filing of claims and objections for Additions/ Deletions/ Corrections and Transpositions is from 15-01-2024 to 05-02-2024.



Kohli Buys Into India's Plan To Bat With Wild Intensity

The No. 3 Batter Tried To Hit Half Of The 16 Balls He Faced Against Afghanistan To The Boundary

NEW DELHI: The ball pings off the middle of the bat. Poof. It's a rasping slog-sweep from outside off. Both the outfielders are on the leg side - deep midwicket and wide long-on - in the powerplay, but neither has a chance to cut it off. The slog - and it's variety - is among the most productive shots for big-hitters in T20 cricket. But Virat Kohli, even at his destructive best, isn't much of a slogger and relies more on timing the ball. Playing his first T20I in more than a year though, he was prepared to slog at a spinner in the powerplay.

It wasn't just any spinner. Mujeeb Ur Rahman can turn the ball both ways and can even get the new ball to swing. He is in demand in T20 - and T10 - leagues around the world.

Kohli has had his share of troubles against spin in T20 cricket and has been averse to taking risks against this variety of bowling in the past. But on Sunday, he tore up the old template and bristled with high intent. He hit 29 off 16 balls, with five fours. He tried to hit half of those 16 balls to the boundary, according to ESPNcricinfo's logs. He took Mujeeb alone for 18 off seven balls at a strike rate of 257.14.

In a middling chase of 173 against an Afghanistan attack that was without its leader Rashid Khan, Kohli could have opted to ease his way in. But he didn't. Instead, he batted with purpose and looked entirely in sync with the way modern-day T20 cricket is played. Of course, the flat Indore pitch and the

fast outfield helped Kohli, but the change in batting approach was clear. A plan is taking shape with the T20 World Cup, in the USA and the West Indies, less than six months away.

Kohli even slogged Naveen-ul-Haq wide of long-on. He also dashed out of the crease to Fazalhaq Farooqi. He kept throwing his hands, hips, and shoulder at the ball despite the odd play-and-miss. He admonished himself when he missed. He also admonished himself when he failed to perfectly recreate that six off Haris Rauf from the 2022 T20 World Cup in Melbourne. Just for the record, this ball that caused Kohli such grievance had almost sailed over the rope for six.

Once again, there was precious

little reason to be going so hard. This was a choice made by a high-class batter willing to adapt to the world around him. When Kohli tried to pump another boundary down the ground off Naveen, he ended up slicing it to mid-off. He then sat back in the dug-out and watched Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shivam Dube operate with similar high intent. Jaiswal struck at two runs a ball and Dube just under it as India made a mockery of the chase.

India captain Rohit Sharma has also veered away from a safety-first T20 batting approach. After being run-out for a duck in the first T20I in Mohali, he could have taken his time to settle down in the second, but he chose to go hard from the get-go. He backed away

and swung for the hills first ball, but Farooqi bowled full enough to trim the off bail.

Perhaps having capable hitters like Axar Patel and Washington Sundar at Nos. 7 and 8 is giving India's top-order batters more freedom to attack. In the 2022 T20 World Cup semi-final, India had R Ashwin and Axar at Nos. 7 and 8. Ashwin has improved as a T20 batter, but he is more of a four-hitter than a six-hitter. When Hardik Pandya returns, he will lend even better balance.

India will play just one more T20I, in Bengaluru on Wednesday, before the World Cup in June, but Rohit has already seen enough. He was very pleased with how his batters are refusing to take a backward step.

Mathews blames 'agendas' of former selectors for white-ball wilderness

COLOMBO: Expect to see more of Angelo Mathews in Sri Lanka's T20 side this year. Expect to see him bowl more frequently. And because this is late-career Mathews, coming back into the white-ball frame after years of being picked only for Tests, expect him also to be driven by grievance to some extent.

Following his first T20I outing in almost three years, Mathews seemed to take aim at the previous set of selectors - headed by Pramodya Wickramasinghe - for working to their own "agendas". He also said the freshly-installed selection panel, headed by Upul Tharanga, had him in their T20 World Cup plans.

In any case, in his first international T20 outing since March 2021, Mathews played a critical role in a last-ball win, top-scoring with 46 off 38 balls. This is after he had taken the new ball and bowled two overs for 13 runs. He thinks he shouldn't have spent so long in the white-ball wilderness. "In the last two Lanka Premier

League (LPL) seasons I batted and bowled well, but unfortunately I wasn't selected for the T20 World Cups, and I wasn't given reasons for that," he said after the game, having picked up the Player-of-the-Match trophy. "If you take decisions that are driven by agendas, these kinds of things can happen - we haven't even qualified for the Champions Trophy."

"But one thing I believe is that if you train and play wholeheartedly, you can create an environment for yourself where you can perform. I kept my efforts up over the last couple of years. I think I can play for a little while longer."

Mathews' bowling has been a sticking point over the years. He had been an important member of the attack in arguably Sri Lanka's best white-ball sides (between 2007 and 2014), where he frequently bowled in the powerplay in T20s. But a growing catalogue of injuries over the years had either prevented him from bowling, or put him in a frame of mind to play only as a specialist batter, depend-

ing on who tells the story. More recently, though, he has become a regular contributor of quiet overs again - a role he said he relishes. "The communication with me and the new selectors is quite clear. They asked me what my plans were for the future and [told me] their plans as well. We had a very good discussion. They said that I'm in their plans for the T20 World Cup, and if I could bowl a few overs. I said: 'Absolutely - if I can help the team in any way'."

"I've been bowling in the LPL as well, and you saw bowling in the [domestic] one-dayers as well recently. If I can bowl a few overs that helps the balance of the team and the captain can decide whether he wants to play an extra batter or a bowler."



Increasing business profitability

by reducing printing cost

LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS

ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR ALL PRINTING NEEDS

LUBAAB Printing services means I get my job back on time, always accurate and of the highest quality



When you need a Company that can handle a complex workload, save your money and deliver on time..... leave it to

LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS

Also visit us for: Newspapers & News Magazines

Specialists in: Non Woven & Paper Bags

Mobile: 9999038812, 9419008414
Tel: 0194-2496287
Email: jahangirbukhari@gmail.com
Radio Colony Gund Hassibhat Lawaipora Srinagar 190017



- Prepress
- Sheet Fed
- Bindery
- Finishing
- Promotions

Our Printing Services

- Flyers
- Posters
- Business Cards
- Envelopes
- Brochures
- Booklets
- Catalogues
- Post Cards
- Presentation folders
- Letterheads
- Magazines
- Newsletters
- Wedding Cards
- Invoices
- Note pad
- Forms
- Labels
- Scratch coupon
- Signs/Banners
- Pen/Caps
- T-Shirts
- Calendars
- Embroidery
- Door Hangers