**Cummins reassures Bancroft and Harris over Test futures** 

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**DC Srinagar visits Makdoom** Mandal, Ganpatiyar Temple and Soumyaar Temple

# With Emphasis on Strengthening **Industry-Academia Connect, Building Strong Relationship with Corporate**

LG Manoj Sinha Chairs the Maiden Meeting of ABCDE at Jammu

#### **■** HT News Network

JAMMU, JAN 18: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha chaired the first meeting of the Advisory Board for Creating and Developing Entrepreneurship (ABCDE), constituted under the aegis of J&K Higher Education Council, at Raj Bhawan today.

The meeting, attended by Prof Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman, J&K Higher Education Council; Sh Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary Higher Education Department; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Sh Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department; Vice Chancel-



lors of various Universities, Director, CIC Delhi University; Director Colleges and other Board members,

emphasised on strengthening of industry-academia connect and building new partnership with corporate.

The Lt Governor exhorted Higher Education Institutions of the Union TURN ON.....PAGE 02

# **Prolonged Dry Spell Sparks Surging Interest in Snowfall**

Google Trends Reveals Increased Searches for Kashmir's Winter Wonderland

**■** HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JAN 18: As an unexpected and prolonged dry spell grips the valley, Google Trends data has revealed that there has been a significant surge in Google searches for snowfall in Kashmir over the last month.

As per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the unprecedented spike in virtual interest has been attributed to the extended period of dry weather, leaving locals as well as tourists yearning for the snowfall.

Google's search analytics depict a notable increase in queries related to "snowfall in Kashmir," "best time to visit Kashmir for snow," and similar snow-related topics.

For instance Google search related to the "snow forecast in Kashmir", which the Google Trends shows hit 14 mark on December 31 reached 100 on January 15.

Similarly otsearches which include "best time to visit Kashmir for snow" and "expected snowfall in

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

## **NEWS BRIEF**

### **Police attaches** property of militant associate in Anantnag

SRINAGAR, JAN 18: Police on Thrusday attached the property of militant associate in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Police along with concerned executive magistrate attached the residential property belonging to Abdul Salam Rather at Tangpawa Kokernag in Anantnag during the investigation of a case registered under sections 307 IPC, 7/25 I A Act, 16,18,19,20,23,38,39 UA (P) Act of Police Station Kokernag of 2022.

Police said during the investigation of the case, it had surfaced that Zahoor Ahmad Rather son of Abdul

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

## 2-2.5 Hour More **Power Curtailment In Offing In Kashmir**

SRINAGAR, JAN 18: Kashmir Power Distribution Company Limited (KPDCL) Thursday announced the likelihood of an increase in electricity curtailment by 2 to 2.5 hours across Kashmir Valley during peak hours.

"This is for the information of the general public that due to a drastic reduction in power generation resulting in reduced availability of power, KPDCL shall be forced to temporarily increase the curtailment by 2 to 2.5 hours across Kashmir Valley during peak hours," KPDCL said in a post on X, according to GNS. "The temporary
TURN ON.....PAGE 02

## **Ganderbal village** grapples with monkey menace

**GANDERBAL, JAN 18:** The tranquil village of Ganie Mohallah Fraw in Ganderbal is grappling with a rising concern as monkeys from the nearby forest invade, prompting local residents to abandon their homes.

As per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), over the past several years, a substantial number of these monkeys have infiltrated the village, seeking refuge near the power house and causing havoc in homes and fields.

Despite repeated pleas from residents to trim the overgrown vegetation around the power house, authorities have yet to take action.

The monkeys, now entrenched TURN ON.....PAGE 02

#### PM Modi likely to inaugurate Jammu IIM complex in **February**

HT News Network

JAMMU, JAN 18: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to



inaugurate the modern technology laced new complex of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) constructed at Jagati in Nagrota area in the city outskirts.

The new building has come TURN ON.....PAGE 02

# **CS For Ensuring Functionality Of Assets Created For Rural Sanitation** HT News Network

JAMMU, JAN 18: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today while reviewing the updated scenario of Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G) here impressed upon the concerned authorities to carry out frequent field visits to the nook and corner of the UT for having first hand appraisal about TURN ON.....PAGE 02



**Automation, Digitization** way forward towards better management of Tpt sector: CS

JAMMU, JAN 18: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today chaired a meeting to review the working of Transport

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

# **ED Attaches Rs 36.57 Cr Properties** In J&K Medical Insurance Scam Case

**HT News Network** 

SRINAGAR, JAN 18: **Enforcement Directorate** (ED) has provisionally

attached immovable and movable properties worth Rs 36.57 Crore in the alleged medical insurance scam case, officials said.

The immovable and movable properties were provisionally attached in the case of M/s Reliance General Insurance Pvt. Ltd.

(RGIPL) and M/s Trinity Reinsurance Brokers Private Limited (TRBL) related to fraudulent awarding of tender TURN ON.....PAGE 02

## **Three British MPs Table Motion** For Kashmiri Pandits' Cause

**■** HT News Network

LONDON, JAN 18: Three members of the British Parliament have moved an Early Day Motion demanding the Indian government to deliver "much-awaited justice" to the Kashmiri Pandit community while urging the UK government to extend commitment for the victims of "this genocide TURN ON.....PAGE 02

## 'Viksit Bharat Yatra' Raised **Aspiration, Esteem In Common** Citizen: Dr Jitendra

**■** HT News Network

JAMMU, JAN 18: "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra" (VBSY) has raised aspiration and esteem in common citizen, and brought about change in the work culture both at political as well as official level, said Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh here on Thursday. The Minister was addressing media-persons after participating in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's



virtual interaction with beneficiaries of VBSY.

### Panzath spring a source of drinking water for over 50k souls faces official apathy

**■** HT News Network

**ANANTNAG (PANZATH), JAN 18:** Amid the dry spell in Kashmir, numerous water bodies are grappling with alarming lows. Similarly, Panzath Nag, situated in the Qazigund belt of South Kashmir's Anantnag district, emerges as a crucial source, providing 6,720,000 liters of water daily and sustains a population of over 50 thousand residents during these challenging times.
TURN ON.....PAGE 02

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# All Citizens Are Invited At Republic **Day Function: Div Com Kashmir**

**■** HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JAN 18: To celebrate Republic Day in a befitting manner and to make the national festival a radiant occasion, the Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri today chaired a meeting of galaxy of officers from Civil and Security departments at TRC,

The objective of the meeting was to fix responsibilities to departments regarding
TURN ON.....PAGE 02



**HT - NEWS** 

# CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

#### Lt Governor.....

Territory to reinvent classroom learning, reorient curriculum to focus on entrepreneurship in education to develop critical thinking, problem-solving skills and promote hands-on activities and projects in collaboration with diverse industries.

Today, Jammu Kashmir is emerging as a frontrunner in planning and implementing innovative interventions in education sector. It is high time for our Higher Education Institutions to carry out selfassessment of capabilities and work on a collaborative model of 'Entrepreneurship with Education' aligning with National Education Policy, he said.

He further highlighted the need for mentoring the students and providing them with an enabling environment where they can realise their ideas and specific goals.

The meeting also discussed the comprehensive strategy for the seamless integration of entrepreneurship into academic curriculum and creation of progressive entrepreneurship ecosystem spearheaded by Design Your Degree programme.

Pioneers in the industry including Sh Piyush N Singh, Senior Managing Director Accenture; Sh Vinod Sood, Co-Founder Hughes Systique Corporation; Sh Sanjay Salil, MD Media Guru; Dr Subi Chaturvedi, Global SVP Chief Corporate Affairs & Public Policy Officer InMobi and young entrepreneurs Ms Aditi Kakar and Ms Garima Sipani-Co-founders Timoniyo Design also attended the meeting and shared their valuable suggestions and inputs on promotion of startups and entrepreneurship in Jammu Kashmir.

#### Prolonged.....

Kashmir" too has hit between 60-90 mark.

Pertinently, the calculation of Google Trends is based on a graph that shows the relative frequency of any search term on a scale of zero to 100. Hundred represents the highest level.

Apart from the forecast, netizens also search for places in Kashmir, which are covered with snow.

Google searches like "snow-covered areas in Kashmir" have seen a surge for the last one month.

Meanwhile, Sinthan Top is trending online for the snow, the mountainous region possesses when the entire valley has no such traces of snow.

As such, Sinthan Top has become a go-to place for the tourists visiting the valley from different parts of the country.

"We went to Sinthan Top last week and fortunately we witnessed a snowfall. We were overioved since we had planned our trip in January exclusively to witness snowfall," said Aamir Sheikh, a tourist from Mumbai.

Travel agents claimed that queries related to the Sinthan Top have increased as the main attraction are dry in Kashmir.

"Tourists do some research online and have been expressing their interest in visiting Sinthan Top. So, we follow their plan and take them to the location," said Khurshid Ahmad Mir, a travel agent.

#### PM Modi.....

up nearby IIT Jammu.

According to administrative sources, the Jammu IIM equipped with modern infrastructure and technology of Indian Research Institute is almost ready and is expected to be inaugurated by Modi probably in the month of February.

"PM Modi is expected to inaugurate the complex next month but confirmed dates are yet to be received," said an official.

"Started with 47 MBA students in 2016, the Jammu IIM has been built on 200 acres of land on which about Rs 500 crore has been spent," they said.

"The state-of-the-art infrastructure has been developed in the new campus and has many facilities including modern labs which will provide students with good opportunities for learning and an activity-filled campus life," said an official.

He said that IIM Jammu is the second IIM after IIM Nagpur, which has prepared its permanent

campus for operation in the beginning of seven years. The academic session will commence from 2024-25 and IIM Jammu will conduct classes for MBA 2024-26 batch in the new permanent building.

IIM Jammu is the 20th IIM, which has graduated six batches and was initially associated with IIM Lucknow.

The strength of the MBA batch at the present campus has reached 240 students and is expected to increase further with the inauguration of the permanent campus of IIM Jammu. (UNI)

#### **CS For Ensuring.....**

the utility and functional status of the assets created for sanitation of rural areas.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, RDD; DG, Rural Sanitation besides other concerned officers of the Department.

While taking cognizance of the status of door to door collection of waste in rural areas the Chief Secretary emphasized upon adopting sustainable models keeping in view the significance of this national mission. He maintained that after achieving the status of ODF+ Model category for the UT, it is imperative to maintain it without any slackness

creeping in our approach. He advised to conduct a study of all the assets created across the villages of the UT to evaluate their utilisation in their respective areas. He stressed on their proper upkeep and maintenance for their operational readiness round the year. He urged the department to evolve a roadmap to receive the real time information about the utility of these assets in

Dulloo ensured the concerned that the LG administration would extend every possible assistance in maintenance of these rural assets. He asked them to come up with a suitable plan for their optimum use and operation to make sanitation a hallmark of our villages here.

Regarding the promulgation and execution of carbon neutral plan for the panchayats of the UT as

envisioned by the Prime Minister, the Chief Secretary upheld that interdepartmental coordination and synergy should be shown to make it successful. He also encouraged them to conduct the survey of the villages by experts to estimate the carbon these villages produce and the possible remedial measures to be taken there.

In his presentation the Secretary, Rural Development Department, Shahid Iqbal Choudhury gave an in-depth description of the measures and achievements registered by the department in implementation of the mission. He revealed that all the 6650 villages of the UT have been declared ODF+ in August last year after complying with the guidelines for the same.

He further apprised the meeting that both the Solid Waste and Liquid Waste Management in these villages have been upgraded and drainage facilities provided to the villages either. It was revealed that a total of 2,36,137 SWM assets, 923331 assets for Grey Water Management (GWM), 80 Plastic Waste Management Units (PWMU), 7 Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants and 3 Gobar Dhan Plants including 17,20,765 individual household latrines (IHHLs) have been raised by the department in rural areas.

Moreover it was given out that the department has created 28,077 IHHLs and 565 CSCs as per the demand from districts during current financial year. It was informed in the meeting that the department is in a process of establishing 8 Gobar Dhan Biogas plants in the UT besides completing 76 more PWMUs which would take the tally to 218 blocks for taking care of the plastic waste generated there.

While discussing the carbon neutral panchayat project it was said that the energy emission format was prepared in coordination with the Department of Environment, Ecology and Remote Sensing with inputs from IIT Delhi, IIT Jammu, Kashmir University, and Jammu University. In addition the pilot project for declaring Palli in district Samba a Carbon Neutral Panchayat was also discussed.

It was said that this Panchayat has been provided with 10 Biogas plants, 1 Govardhan plant, distribution of solar cookers, planting 25000 trees, introduction of organic farming, constructing an Amrit Sarovar, organising catch the rain campaign, crop diversification and other clean energy measures had been initiated by the department there in convergence with others.

Further the finalization of Energy Emission Template for other panchayats, development of an online portal for conducting surveys based on energy Emission format, Capacity Building of field functionaries under RGSA for conducting the surveys, calculations of Emissions and formulations of panchayat wise carbon neutral plans were also discussed in this meeting.

#### Automation.....

Department along with its allied activities of traffic here in the UT.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, Transport; IG Traffic; DIG, Traffic, Jammu; MD, JKRTC; besides other concerned officers of the Department.

While speaking in this meeting the Chief Secretary impressed upon the officers that the technological interventions and digital services are pivotal for ensuring hassle free, time-bound and flawless working of the transport department here. He observed that the modern technology has made many strides in this field and there is still scope for making the functioning of this department seamless

by invoking such advancements.

Dulloo further declared that in order to obtain the flawless results in issuance of driving licences and fitness to vehicles the technology can play a very indiscriminate role. He maintained that the department has an added responsibility of ensuring smooth plying of traffic on the roads which can evenly be taken care of by the intervention of artificial intelligence and other smart solutions.

He emphasized upon the optimum use of such measures as adopted in other regions of the nation for making the transport sector vibrant and progressive. He called for bolstering the technology with strict enforcement of rules and legislations for obtaining the best results on ground. He also advised for efficient use of road infrastructure and manpower for reducing occurrence of mishaps thereby saving lives lost due to road accidents.

The Chief Secretary was informed by the Secretary Transport, Niraj Kumar that the department has made much advancements in offering services to public facelessly. He apprised him that services related to both driving and vehicle operations here have been made online with offering around 53

digital services by the Motor Vehicles Department. He further gave out that the Department has switched over almost completely to online/auto approval mode in providing the services to the general public to reduce the footfall in the office of the RTOs/ARTOs across the UT to encourage paperless, cashless & faceless transactions here.

As far as the working of J&K Road Transport Corporation (JKRTC) is concerned it was explained that the implementation of Intelligent Transport Management System (ITMS) portal (www.starbus. jk.gov.in) was launched to streamline plying of its bus fleet and it's availability for public.

It was given out that the portal offers seven modules viz. Online Ticketing Facility/Management, Web-based Current/Counter Booking Management, Route Schedule Management, Employees Database Management, Real Time Fuel Pump Management System, Real Time Management Information System (MIS) and Public Information

System (PIS). For the convenience of the travellers a Mobile App has also been developed for both Android as well as IOS, wherein tickets can be booked from any comfort zone of the traveller. The process of hosting the app on google Play-store and Apple Store has also been initiated by NIC which shall be completed shortly.

Regarding the Road Accident Victim Fund it was given out that its objective is to provide immediate succour to the dependents/kith and kins/legal heirs of the persons killed/injured in road accidents. Relief amount to the tune of Rs 1,00,000 in case of death, Rs 75,000 in case of permanent disability, Rs 50,000 in case of grievous injuries and Rs 10,000 in case of minor injury to the next of kin or the victims themselves as the case may be.

While throwing light on the future roadmap of the department it was said that the operationalization of Institute for Driver Training and Research (IDTR) at Samba, setting up of Regional Driving Training Centres (RDTCs), establishment of Automated Testing Stations(ATS), customization of IRAD in a way that enables first responders in an accident to send alerts to all the departments parallelly.

The department also aspires for launching eDAR for collection of road accident data for efficient processing of claims for accident victims and thereby reducing the time taken in settlement of claims for road accidents cases.

It also delineated that it is looking into going for auto approvals as per the guidelines of the PSGA, scrapping redundancy for better quality interfaces in issuance of Drivers' licenses/Registration Certificates by making the process paperless as in Assam and Andhra Pradesh for ease of doing business

It also looks for promotion of electric vehicle policy for J&K besides use AI for ensuring road safety by introduction of Project iRASTE (Intelligent Solutions for Road Safety through Technology and Engineering) in the UT, as was given out in the meeting.

#### ED Attaches.....

of Mediclaim Insurance Policy for the I&K Government Employees, PSU's employees & Pensioners fraudulently to M/s Reliance General Insurance Pvt. Ltd. by Finance Department, J&K in collusion with M/s Trinity Reinsurance Brokers Limited (Insurance Broker).

ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation, Anti Corruption Bureau, Srinagar for commission of offences under various sections of RPC (Pari-Materia to sections 120-B & 420 of IPC) and JKPC (Pari-Materia to sections 13(1)(d) read with 13(2) of PC Act), on the basis of complaint filed by the General Administration Department of J&K government against M/s Trinity Reinsurance Brokers Limited, M/s Reliance General Insurance Company Limited and unknown Public Servants & private persons.

ED said that investigation revealed that the Finance Department of J&K, deliberately awarded the tender for engagement of Intermediary (i.e Insurance Broker) for designing, floating the tender for and implementation of the said Health Scheme for Government Employees & pensioners of J&K by dubious or questionable selection, shortlisting process to M/s TRBL without holding the essential eligibility criteria.

"Moreover, the tender for engagement of IRDAI registered Insurance Company was awarded through M/s TRBL to the said Insurance Company which was already blacklisted by Government of Chhattisgarh by modification and deletion of essential eligibility criteria even though the said company had less presence in the State of J&K and bare minimum experience, as pre requirement of the said Tender, during the stipulated period.

In this way, an amount of Rs 63.53 Crores was fraudulently disbursed to the above companies," an ED spokesman said.

"Out of the said amount, the medical claims of approximately Rs. 17 Crore have been disbursed by the M/s RGIPL. ED has attached land worth 4.04 Crore approx. in the name M/s Globus Trade Links Pvt. Ltd., a subsidiary of M/s TRBL and FDRs to the extent of value of 32.53 Crore, pertaining to M/s Reliance General Insurance Pvt. Ltd," he added.

ED said further investigation is under progress. (UNI)

### Three British.....

The motion comes ahead January 19, which is observed as the 'Exodus Day' by the Kashmiri Pandits to mark the exodus of their community from the Kashmir Valley in 1990 due to threats and killings by Pakistan-sponsored terrorists.

According to the Early Day Motion (EDM 276), available on the UK Parliament website, Conservative Bob Blackman, Democratic Unionist Party leader Jim Shannon and Labour leader Virendra Sharma tabled the '34th anniversary of the genocide of Kashmiri Pandits from Jammu and Kashmir in India' on January 15 for the 2023-24 session.

"This motion has been signed by three Members. It has not yet had any amendments submitted," the website said.

The EDM read, "That this House commemorates with deep sadness and disappointment the 34th anniversary of the co-ordinated attacks in January 1990 by cross-border Islamic terrorists and their supporters on the innocent population of Jammu and Kashmir," and expressed its condolences to the families and friends of all those killed, raped, injured and displaced "by force in this planned massacre." The EDM condemned "the desecration of holy sites in Jammu and Kashmir," and said, it is concerned that Kashmiris who fled persecution "have still not seen justice or recognition of the atrocities committed against them." Further noting that the international principle of responsibility to protect obliges individual States and the international community to take effective measures to prevent the commission of genocide and crimes against humanity as suffered by Kashmiri Hindus, the EDM highlighted that properties

belonging to minority Hindu community "continue to be occupied." The three MPs through their motion have urged the Government of India "to fulfil its long-standing international commitment to recognise and acknowledge the worst form of genocide of Hindus in Jammu and Kashmir ...," thereby delivering "much-awaited justice" to the Kashmiri Pandit community.

The motion further urged the UK Government "to extend the UK's longstanding commitment to protect and demand justice for the victims of this genocide." (Agencies)

#### Viksit Bharat.....

 $He \, said \, that \, the \, VBSY \, has \, also \, transformed$ people's attitude and behaviour. Dr Singh explained the change in the work culture, saying government servants are now delivering services at the doorsteps of citizens since the launch of the VBSY.

The Union Minister said, earlier people had to make rounds of government departments to get their work done. Despite making visit after visit to these departments, their work continued to remain pending. As a result, they would feel dejected, and resigned to their fate. All that has now changed for good, Dr Singh added.

He stated that due to the VBSY, there is a spurt in people's aspirations as their dreams are being realised by the government and said the poor and the underprivileged have now their own concrete houses built under the PM Awas Yojana.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that district officials are reaching to the people on their own, urging them to avail of the government services as they have to be accountable to Prime Minister Modi-led government. The services are being provided by the government to the deprived and deserving sections of society without any discrimination on the basis of caste, creed and political affiliation.

The Minister said PM Ujjwala Yojana has not only empowered women and increased their respect but has also taken care of their health because they no longer have to breathe toxic air emanating from traditional methods of cooking. In the same way, women do not need to defecate in the open in absence of toilets in their homes, Dr Singh said.

Swachh Bharat Mission has totally changed the rural landscape, with the construction of toilets for public use, he added.

The Union Minister asserted that development is the main mantra of the government which has risen above politics to commit itself to the service of all sections of society across the country.

He said that Prime Minister Modi has dedicated himself to serving the nation from day one in the office. The Union Minister maintained that the government's sense of service to citizens is not driven by vote bank politics. Rather, it is due to the love and commitment for the motherland, Dr Singh underlined. (UNI)

#### Panzath spring.....

Panzath Nag, located barely 2 kilometers  $from\,Qazigund, the\,gateway\,of\,Kashmir\,on\,the$ national highway, derives its name from the combination of two words: "Panzath," meaning five hundred, and "Nag," meaning spring.

The spring is mentioned in the ancient texts of Kashmir, namely the Rajtarangrani and Nilamata Purana, written in the 12th century

Talking to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) of Jal Shakti in Qazigund, Rafiq Ahmad Bhat said, "Panzath Nag has been meeting water supply demands for decades. For over 40 years, we have been extracting water from the spring."

In addition to offering irrigation water facilities to over 30 villages, Rafiq said that a large population is benefiting from the spring.

"Currently, the Jal Shakti department is operating nine water supply schemes from this water source, providing approximately 6.72 million liters daily to about twelve villages,"

A population of 51,325 people relies on the drinking water supplied by Panzath Nag, Rafiq said, adding that that despite the dry spell in the valley, other water bodies have experienced low discharge, but Panzath spring continues to provide an ample water supply.

Regarding the water quality from the spring, the official said, "We are consistently testing the water supply from the spring. During the rainy period, organic matter can mix with it. To ensure water quality, the Jal Shakti department conducts regular tests and has plans to install pre-settling tanks."

He further said that the water supply is suitable for human consumption as they regularly treat it.

In a message, he said that people should use water judiciously, avoid wastage, as it is precious.

"Service in higher contour areas may experience lower availability, and preserving water will contribute to sustainable water sources," the official added.

Locals expressed concern that the spring is rapidly losing its richness due to extensive pollution and official negligence.

"Despite having abundant resources and being designated as a tourist village, Panzath has been overlooked by government departments," Ghulam Nabi, a local said. He said that preserving the spring would rejuvenate tourism and ensure a consistent supply of irrigation and drinking water.

He suggested that the administration should clean the spring of waste sewage, weeds and pipelines should be laid beneath the spring, not in it, as placing them inside the spring hinders water flow and leads to high pollution

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag Syeed Fakhurdin Hamid told KNO that a team would be deputed to the area to check the issues. "The matter will be looked into," he said.

#### All Citizens.....

participation of staff, students and citizens in Republic Day Celebrations.

Addressing the meeting, Div Comr directed HoDs to ensure participation of their respective staff members in the mega function at the main venue immediately after concluding festivity programmes at their respective offices.

He said all citizens are invited at the Republic Day function to celebrate the magnanimous occasion of the national event.

However, Citizens and Employees are advised to approach the venue by adopting carpooling to avoid traffic congestion on the routes leading to the stadium.

Div Com directed for appointment of Nodal Officers to facilitate the movement of staff members and citizens to the main venue.

He asked for identification of parking places in the proximity of the venue where the vehicles shall be parked.

Moreover, he directed the Srinagar Municipal Corporation and R&B department to keep their men and machinery on standby position for snow clearance in case of snowfall on the Republic Day.

Strict directions were passed to concerned officers for ensuring availability of portable water and clean public utilities besides conducting sanitation drives.

Regarding security arrangements, the Police and other agencies were asked to ensure foolproof arrangements.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar; VC, SDA/ LCMA; Directors of Sericulture, Social Welfare, Sheep Husbandry, Tourism, Floriculture, H&H, I&C, School Education, Colleges, Employment, Rural Development, FCS&CA, EDI, ICDS, ICPS, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Accounts & Treasuries, Agriculture, Health Services, Kashmir.

Besides, Officers of J&K State Sports Council, Srinagar; PWD (R&B) Central, PHE, KPDCL. KPTCL, I&FC, MED, PMGSY & UEED, Kashmir University, SKUAST-K, NIT Srinagar, YSS, Information, Fund Organization, Geology & Mining Kmr, Transport, AACL, Kashmir, J&K Bank Ltd, Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner, Migrant J&K and Zila Sainik Welfare

While from security agencies, the meeting was attended by IGP Kashmir/Armed Zone, DIG Armed, Kashmir, Senior Superintendent of Police, Srinagar/Security Kashmir/Traffic City Sgr, SSP/Nodal Officer, Parade officers of CRPF, BSF Kashmir, ITBP, Pantha Chowk Srinagar and GOC 15 Corps Srinagar.

#### Police attaches....

Salam Rather was working as militant associate/ overground worker.

He was providing food, shelter and other logistic support to militants now slain -Asif Reshi alias Khubaib of Sheikhpora Marhama and Wakeel Ahmad Bhat alias Talha Nai Basti Marhama- at his residential house.

"This act falls within ambit of proceeds of terrorism under section 2(g) r/w section 25 of UA(P) Act 1967. Confirmation of attachment of property was sanctioned by competent authority."

The police also said the attachment was done as part of continuing crackdown on terror ecosystem. (UNI)

### 2-2.5 Hour....

increase shall be reversed as soon as sufficient power is available," it said, adding, "The inconvenience caused is deeply regretted."

The statement comes less than two weeks after Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Saturday said that he reviews the electricity supply on a daily basis in Jammu and Kashmir.

"I personally review the electricity supply in Jammu and Kashmir. I'm personally monitoring the supply scenario every evening. I get feedback on area-wise power supply," Lieutenant Governor had said while addressing a

function in Srinagar. He had asserted that "there is no dearth of electricity supply in Jammu and Kashmir" and added the damaged and faulty transformers are being addressed and replaced within 24

#### hours. Ganderbal.....

in the surrounding bushes and trees, not only damage crops but also pose a threat to fruit gardens, leaving the community in constant fear.

Especially vulnerable are women, children, and the elderly, who find it increasingly difficult to venture outside due to the escalating monkey population.

Urgent appeals are being directed to Wildlife authorities overseeing the power house to intervene promptly and implement measures to control the monkey invasion, ensuring the safety and peace of this local town.





# DC Pulwama chairs DLRC meeting

# **Emphasizes Financial Inclusion & focus on Social Security Sectors**

#### ■ HT News Network

PULWAMA, JANUARY 18: The District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting convened today at the Circuit House Pulwama chaired by Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom highlighted significant strides in the banking sector's development.

The Lead Bank Manager provided a comprehensive overview of the banking sector's performance, showcasing notable increases in deposits, advances, and the CD ratio for the quarter. The meeting was informed of a substantial rise in the priority sector.

Dr Basharat conducted a meticulous sector-wise performance review,

focusing on the banks' implementation of various Government initiatives aimed at employment generation. The chair was appraised that in the current financial year, 5640 cases were sanctioned, with 4983 cases disbursed, totaling 1236 crores and benefiting 27,193 youth in the District.

The meeting addressed the disbursement of pending cases in agriculture, handloom, and allied sectors, with a directive to expedite clearance. The DC engaged in a detailed discussion on lending in priority and nonpriority sectors, agro sector, and cases sponsored by various depart-

A comprehensive review of schemes such as Mumkin, Tejaswani, NRLM,



Mudra, PMEGP, REGP, PMFME, PM-Svannidhi, among others, was conducted. Clear directives were given to expedite case processing, ensuring a timely boost to self-employment in the district. Highlighting the success of earlier initiatives on financial and digital inclusion, the chair was appraised that digital coverage in the District has reached an impressive 99.62%.Reviewing the KCC scheme, the DC emphasized a micro-analysis to maximize benefits for every farmer. Stressing on financial inclusion and prioritizing social security schemes, the officials were directed to ensure maximum benefits for the community.The meeting, attended by key officials, including ADDC Pulwama,

ACR Pulwama, CPO Pulwama, ACD Pulwama, Lead District Manager, bank representatives, and District and Sectoral officers, concluded with a commitment to continued collaboration for the District's holistic development. Highlighting the success of earlier initiatives on financial and digital inclusion, the chair was appraised that digital coverage in the District has reached an impressive 99.62%.

Reviewing the KCC scheme, the DC emphasized a micro-analysis to maximize benefits for every farmer. Stressing on financial inclusion and prioritizing social security schemes, the officials were directed to ensure maximum benefits for the commu-

# DC Baramulla chairs DLEPC meeting, approves DEAP

#### **■** HT News Network

BARAMULLA, JANUARY 18: In an endeavour to boost export prospects of the district, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa today chaired a meeting of District Level Export Promotion Committee at the DC Office Baramulla. The focus of the meeting was to review and approve the District Export Action Plan (DEAP) for Baramulla district. During the meeting, a comprehensive presentation was provided by the Jammu and  $Kashmir Trade \ Promotion \ Organization (JKTPO) consultant,$ highlighting both hard and soft measures crucial for  $enhancing \, exports. The \, meeting \, comprehensively \, discussed$ One District One Product (ODOP) initiative, with special attention to positioning Baramulla as an Export Hub, particularly for products like apples and carpets. The DC while approving the DEAP provided by JKTPO, exhorted upon committee members in the meeting to meticulously examine the plan, emphasizing the need for realistic data like accurate production and export figures in finalizing potential export products for the district.

Minga Sherpa further directed the JKTPO team members to conduct a physical survey in the district, focusing on production trends and other relevant data related to products identified by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to gather precise information.

# Republic Day-2024: DC Kulgam finalises celebration arrangements

Instructs Officers to ensure adequate arrangements to make remarkable celebrations across the district

#### **■** Farooq Rather

KULGAM, JANUARY 18: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today reviewed and finalised the arrangements for the celebrations of Republic Day function 2024 during a meeting of officers held at the mini-secretariat. here.

The DC on the occasion instructed the officers to put in place impactful and adequate arrangements for smooth conduct of this National function.

The meeting held threadbare discussions on finalisation of arrangements to be



including security, seating, car parking, transportation and illumination of buildings, PAS, Cultural programmes, March past, power, water, heating, snow clearance, sanitation etc.

The concerned departments were instructed to make heating arrangements keeping in view the prevailing cold weather conditions, for trouble-free rehearsals and final day celebration.

The DC directed the concerned officers and agencies to maintain close coordination while making arrangements for the national func-

Besides the main function at District level, subdivisional, tehsil and village levels celebrations shall also be held across the district. The DC also called upon all to take due care in celebrations and honour the National Flag and National Anthem as per protocol.

The DC also instructed the concerned to arrange relevant cultural programmes and also to illuminate the town on the occasion.

All the heads of the departments and institutions were also directed to unfurl the National Flag within their offices and institutions.

# **DLTFC** approves 34 cases under JKREGP at Ganderbal



#### HT News Network

GANDERBAL, JANUARY 18: A District Level Task Force Committee (DLTFC) meeting under JKREGP Scheme of J&K Khadi and Village Industries Board was today held under the chairmanship of Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Ganderbal, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani at Mini Secretariat, here. All the beneficiaries attended the DLTFC meeting and were interacted/interviewed by committee and were selected for Sponsorship under different Industries sectors including, Shuttering and Mixer, Shawl Embroidery, Zari Embroidery, Cutting Tailoring Boutique, Dairy farm, Sheep farm, Rural transport, Departmental Store etc.Out of 43 applications, 34 cases were approved by the DLTF Committee, the rest of 09 Cases were deferred for the next DLTFC meeting

## **DC Pulwama chairs Preparatory Meeting to forward Achievements for PM's Awards in Public Administration**

#### **HT News Network**

PULWAMA, JANUARY 18: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr Basharat Qayoom today chaired a pivotal preparatory meeting at Administrative Complex, here to streamline and showcase the remarkable achievements of Pulwama District under various Government hensive overviews of their respective ing the District's exemplary perforschemes.This concerted effort is in achievements, showcasing Pulwama's mance in public administration.

Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration.

The meeting focused on highlighting the District's success in schemes such as Har Ghar Jal Yojana, PMAY, Mission Indradhanush, PM-JAY, Ujjawala, PM-Svanidhi, Vishwakarma, Poshan, and others.

District heads presented compre-

preparation for the prestigious Prime commitment to effective governance and public welfare. Recognizing the significance of accurately portraying these accomplishments, DC directed the concerned departments to ensure meticulous documentation. The preparatory meeting serves as a crucial step in presenting a compelling narrative for Pulwama's nomination in the Prime Minister's Awards, reflect-

## **DDC Shopian chairs DLRC** meeting, emphasises on saturation of beneficiary oriented schemes

#### HT News Network



SHOPIAN, JANUARY 18: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb today presided over the District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting to review the performance of financial institutions of the district for quarter 2nd ended 30th September, 2023 of FY 2023-24, at Mini-Secretariat, here.

The meeting held in-depth discussions regarding the performance of banks during the fiscal year 2023-24.

DDC emphasized the importance of identifying beneficiaries and ensuring the smooth flow of credit to them through the convergence of assistance from governmentsponsored schemes. He instructed banking institutions to increase credit flow in the priority sectors.

It was intimated that the deposits of the district increased from Rs. 1273.01 crores as on September 30, 2022 to Rs. 1373.61 crores as on September 30, 2023 thereby registering a growth of 7.9% on YOY basis and has shown decrease of -6% on quarterly basis from Rs. 1468.64 crores as on 30th June 2023.

The advances of the district increased from Rs. 1901.46 crores as on September 30, 2022 to Rs. 2117.40 crores as on September 30, 2023 thereby registering a growth of 11.35% on YOY basis and 6% on quarterly basis from Rs. 2004.21 crores as on 30th June 2023.

The priority sector advances of the district have decreased from Rs. 1429.30 crores as on September 30, 2022 to Rs. 1185.36 crores as on September 30 2023 thereby registering a decline of -17% on YOY basis and 2% decrease on quarterly basis from Rs. 1209.21 crores as on 30th June 2023.

Non-priority sector of the district increased from Rs. 472.24 crores as on September 30, 2022 to Rs. 932.11 crores as on September 30, thereby registering a growth of 97%on YOY basis and 17% on quarterly basis from Rs. 795.92 crores as on 30th June 2023.

The DDC advised bankers and line departments to enhance credit flow under the priority sector, with special attention given to education, women's, development, and agriculture-related sectors.

# **ADC Kupwara reviews** arrangements for celebration of Republic Day-2024

#### HT News Network

Kupwara, Jan 18. In connection with celebrations of forthcoming Republic-Day-2024, On the directions of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ms. Ayushi Sudan, ADC Kupwara, Gh. Nabi Bhat held a review meeting here today at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex to ensure smooth and flawless conduct of the national event. District Officers and Senior Police Officers were present in the meeting. At the outset, the ADC took a Department wise review about the arrangements to be put in place by the respective Departments. The ADC directed the Officers of the concerned Departments to ensure all preparations including Seating arrangements, March Past Parade, Cultural programmes, Transport & Parking facilities, Power & drinking Water Supply, deployment of Sanitation.

#### OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR KREERI (Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

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

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of ADEEBA AFZAL D/O MOHAMMAD AFZAL SHEIKH R/O WALRAMAN Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 30/11/2022 and event has been shown to be occured at S.D.H Kreeeri 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 entertaine.

> **Executive Magistrate 1st Class** kreeri

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I informed to general public that my son's Date of birth (DOB) is 21 /09/2022.....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....IRSHAD AHMAD KHAN F/O.... MOHAMMAD ARIB KHAN R/O....CHANDOOSA Distt....BARAMULLA

# **Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences** Kashmir P.G. Department of Psychiatry

Government Psychiatric Diseases Hospital, Kathidarwaza Rainawari An associated Hospitals of Government Medical College, Srinagar. 10-Karan Nagar, Srinagar, Kashmir, 190010. Phone No. 0194-2504114, Fax. 0194-2503115.

#### **NOTIFICATION**

It is hereby notified for information of all concerned candidates who have applied for engagement against the following positions under different schemes in response to notifications shown against each that their written examination will be held in Government Medical College Srinagar, Government Nursing College GMC Srinagar, AMT School GMC Srinagar and Government Dental College Srinagar on Wednesday the 31st January, 2024 as per the details given below:

S.No.	Advertisement Notice No.	Name of the scheme	Name of the position	Time of examination
1.	PSY/HOD/2023/IMHANS/A TF/1074-86 Dated. 25-10- 2023 and No. Psy/2024/Adv/DTC/1180- 91 Dated. 02-01-2024	Establishment of Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF) and Establishment of Drug Treatment Centre Scheme (DTC) at IMHANS Srinagar.	Nurse	11:30AM to 12:30PM
2.	PSY/HOD/2023/IMHANS/A TF/1074-86 Dated. 25-10- 2023 and No. Psy/2024/Adv/DTC/1180- 91 Dated. 02-01-2024	Establishment of Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF) and Establishment of Drug Treatment Centre Scheme (DTC) at IMHANS Srinagar.	Medical Officer	02:30PM to 3:30PM
3.	PSY/HOD/2023/IMHANS/A TF/1074-86 Dated. 25-10- 2023	Establishment of Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF)	Counsellor	02:30PM to 3:30PM

The applicants are advised to visit official website of Government Medical College Srinagar i.e. www.gmcs. edu.in w.e.f. 28-01-2024 onwards to download their admit cards/roll no slips.

On the actual day of examination i.e. 31-01-2024 the candidates shall report at the venue of the examination one hour before the commencement of examination along with the identity proofs:

Photo ID card issued by the competent authority like Aadhaar Card, Driving License etc. No candidate shall be permitted to carry the Mobile Phone, Laptop or any other electronic device in the

No parking space for vehicles will be available on the day of examination and the candidates are advised not to bring their vehicles to the examination venue.

**DIPK-15367/23** Date: Jan 18 2024

examination hall.

Sd/-**HOD Psychiatry Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences** 

**EDITORIAL** 

**PREADLINES** 

# **Harmony in Chaos** -Rediscovering Islamic **Essence of Humanity**

In the tumultuous landscape of today's world, where chaos often overshadows compassion, the Islamic perspective offers a profound understanding of the purpose of humans and the significance of humanity and empathy. Islam, as a comprehensive way of life, emphasizes the intrinsic connection between purpose and empathy.

The purpose of humans, according to Islamic teachings, transcends individual pursuits and encompasses a collective responsibility towards the well-being of society. The chaos prevalent in the world underscores the urgency for humans to rediscover their purpose, grounded in empathy. Islam places great importance on cultivating compassion for others, fostering a sense of brotherhood and unity.

In a time where division and conflict seem to dominate, the Islamic perspective calls for a return to the core values of humanity. Empathy, in particular, stands as a beacon guiding individuals to look beyond differences and acknowledge the shared human experience. The Quran teaches that "the believers are but brothers," emphasizing a universal bond that transcends borders, cultures, and ideologies.

In navigating the chaos of today's world, Muslims are encouraged to embody empathy as a means to promote justice, peace, and social harmony. By understanding the significance of humanity through an Islamic lens, individuals can actively contribute to a more compassionate and interconnected global society, fostering a collective purpose that transcends the chaos of the moment.

# Parvaiz Hussain Khan: A Distinguished Figure in Martial Arts from Kashmir

Situated in the alleys of Mohalla Alamgari Bazaar Hawal in Srinagar City, the martial arts journey of Parvaiz Hussain Khan, an India International athlete, commenced. His narrative stands as a testament to dedication, resilience, and an unwavering pursuit of excellence, nurtured in this vibrant

Initiating his karate career at the age of 13 in 1994, Parvaiz ventured into both Taekwondo and Thangta Martial Art. His inaugural national appearance in 1996-97 marked the beginning of a transformative journey that saw him evolve into a coach of

Presently, Parvaiz presides over the Tiger Martial Art Academy, a symbol of his commitment to the art and his aspiration to disseminate knowledge. Offering classes not only in his hometown, Srinagar, but also in Thailand, where he imparts training, Parvaiz has ascended to a revered status in the global martial arts community.

Establishing his own classes in 1997, Parvaiz expanded his skills by delving into Goju ryu in 2000, augmenting his extensive repertoire. A notable milestone is the organization of the 2nd state Taekwondo championship in the indoor stadium of Srinagar in 2002, a demonstration of his dedication to the promotion and growth of martial arts in the region.

In 2017, Parvaiz's journey took an international turn with his embrace of Sqay martial arts, culminating in a master's degree earned in Thailand the same year. His proficiency in selfdefense and combat sports led to his appointment as the General Secretary of the Jammu and Kashmir branch by the Self Defense and Combat Sports

Continuing to broaden his horizons, Parvaiz ventured into Korean martial arts, Hangul Do, in 2018. His dedication did not go unnoticed, as the World Hangul Do Federation appointed him as the Secretary General of the Hangul Do Federation of India, solidifying his standing as a distinguished figure in

With a remarkable 26 years in martial arts, Parvaiz has amassed a wealth



of knowledge, spanning various disciplines such as Taekwondo, Sqay, Thangta, Karate, Muay Thai, and more. His international exposure includes representing India in countries like Thailand, Macau, Indonesia, Malaysia, Cambodia, and Vietnam.

Today, when the discussion turns to the present martial arts scenario in Jammu & Kashmir, Parvaiz Hussain Khan's name resonates among enthusiasts and practitioners. An admired figure, Parvaiz continues to leave an indelible mark on the martial arts landscape.

As he adds accolades to his already illustrious career, including participation in the Pencak Silat Nationals and the International Hero's Cup in Thailand, we extend our heartfelt wishes to Parvaiz Hussain Khan for his future endeavors. May his journey continue to inspire aspiring martial artists and contribute to the growth and recognition of martial arts in the region and

Parvaiz Hussain Khan: A Leader in Martial Arts Education and Advocacy In 2019, Parvaiz Hussain Khan,

already an esteemed figure in the realm of martial arts, expanded his repertoire by immersing himself in the worldrenowned Indonesian martial art, Pencak Silat. This significant endeavor marked a pivotal juncture in his illustrious career, culminating in participation across 3 districts, 3 states, 3 nationals, and the Federation Cup in Pencak Silat. Notably, he also embraced the discipline of Hogam, subsequently assuming the esteemed role of President within the Indian Hogam Fed-

Possessing an enviable tally of

approximately 55 medals achieved at district, state, national, and international levels, Parvaiz's journey is emblematic of unwavering dedication and unparalleled skill in the martial arts arena.

Parvaiz's martial arts odyssey commenced in Taekwondo, and over the course of time, his academy underwent transformative evolutions.

Originating as the Tiger Martial Arts Club, it progressed into the Tiger Martial Arts Academy before achieving affiliation with an esteemed international organization, ultimately rebranding as the International Tigers Martial Arts Organization. For a commendable 26 years, Parvaiz has spearheaded Team Tiger, etching an indelible mark in the annals of martial arts

Under his discerning guidance, the academy has successfully trained an impressive cadre of students, numbering more than 5000 individuals. Notably, several of these students have subsequently established their own academies, a source of immense pride for Parvaiz. Beyond individual training, he has also shared his expertise with approximately 15 schools, contributing significantly to the dissemination and enrichment of martial arts education.

The strategic shift towards an international organization underscores Parvaiz's unwavering commitment to aligning his academy, now bearing the  $appellation \, of the \, International \, Tigers \,$ Martial Arts Organization, with global standards. This deliberate move not only reinforces his dedication to excellence but positions his academy as a preeminent hub for martial arts enthusiasts seeking superlative training on a global scale.

As Parvaiz continues to guide Team Tiger into the future, his legacy extends beyond the tangible realm of medals and accolades. It permeates the countless students who have benefited from his tutelage, with many of them establishing their own academies—a testament to the enduring impact of Parvaiz Hussain Khan's visionary leadership and unwavering dedication to the advancement of martial arts education.

# The Shadow Side of Greatness



**Jaswinder Pal Sharma** 

Greatness, often revered and celebrated, carries a shadow side that is seldom discussed. Behind the achievements and accolades lie complexities and challenges that illuminate the nuanced nature of success. Exploring the shadow side of greatness reveals the struggles, sacrifices, and ethical dilemmas that individuals may grapple with on their journey to the top.

One aspect of the shadow side is the intense pressure and expectations that accompany greatness. High achievers often face relentless scrutiny, both from themselves and society. The fear of failure becomes a constant companion, driving individuals to push their limits while navigating the fine line between success and burnout. The weight of maintaining an exceptional performance can take a toll on mental and emotional well-being.

Another facet of the shadow side emerges in the sacrifices made in the pursuit of greatness. Long hours, missed family gatherings, and strained relationships are common themes. The commitment to one's craft can lead to personal and social sacrifices that are sometimes irreversible. As the pursuit of greatness consumes attention and energy, individuals may find themselves isolated or disconnected from the very support systems that once nurtured them.

Ethical dilemmas often cast shadows on the path to greatness. The pressure to succeed can tempt individuals to compromise their principles or make questionable decisions. The pursuit of power, fame, or wealth may lead to moral quandaries, leaving those in the limelight to grapple with the consequences of their choices. Balancing ambition with ethical considerations becomes a delicate dance that tests the character of those on the quest for greatness.

Furthermore, the shadow side includesthe isolation that can accompany success. Achieving greatness can create a sense of separation from others who may not share the same level of accomplishment. This isolation can breed loneliness and a lack of understanding, making it challenging for individuals to find genuine  $connections\,with\,peers\,who\,comprehend$ 

the unique challenges they face. In conclusion, the shadow side of greatness unveils the intricate tapestry that lies beneath the surface of achievement. It is a realm of pressure, sacrifice, ethical quandaries, and isolation that often remains hidden from the public eye. Recognizing and addressing these challenges is essential to fostering a more compassionate understanding of the individuals who attain greatness, reminding us that behind every triumph is a human experience fraught with complexities and dilemmas.

Jaswinder Pal Sharma, SS Master, GSSS HAKUWALA, Sri Muktsar Sahib

# DEAR AND NEAR TO HEART AND EYES-J&KBANK CALENDAR-2024



By MooL Raj

I am not a think tank but simply a common man who would like to express his views on the released of Jammu and Kashmir Bank Calander 2024 through the medium of your esteemed daily English newspaper for the people of Jammu and Kashmir and hope little space is given to my opinion on most humanitarian ground

I feel immense pleasure that this time once again our Chotta Kashmir/Minin Kashmir Bhaderwah"s Jia tourist destination place found space in Jammu and Kashmir Bank Calander 2024. This step of Jammu and Kashmir Bank boost the economy of Bhaderwah in general and people of

Jia Valley in particular. JK Bank calendar 2024 will give information about bank holidays. These holidays will be applicable for all banks & their branches in the Jammu Kashmir region. For managing 365 days and decorating the kitchen walls, Jammu and Kashmir alone consumes almost three million wall calendars a year. The calendars in the home are mounted diaries of accounts and important dates – cell phone numbers, peculiar sign numbering to record the milk supply, the encircling of dates when the LPG cylinder was refilled and double circling of dates suggesting when the new edible oil canister was opened. Nobody can understand the importance of a calendar in my life. I usually forget things like I mostly misplace papers and diaries but calendars have always proven helpful.

In the first week of every year, I says every person becomes restless until they gets the J&K Bank Calendar. You will always find a J&K Bank calendar in kitchen, bed room, office and dining hall.It seems that the bank also knows the significance of these wall calendars for the housewives so they give us the privilege of having space between the dates so that we use it to remember. Over the years the wall calendars have become a craze in Jammu and Kashmir, part of a routine life for every household. Even though Jammu and Kashmir people are major users of smart-phones but the little instrument has not replaced the importance of a wall calendar. This importance has sent almost all companies to ensure a calendar at the end of the year and it has emerged a huge business. With a theme of 'Timeless Treasures', the Bank has showcased the fast-emerging scenic spots on the tourist-maps of J&K and Ladakh UTs in its Wall Calendar - 2024. The J&K Bank Calendar continues to be the most sought-after thing in J&K and Ladakh during this time of the year, for, people consider it as a prized souvenir worth round the year presence in their homes and offices. The Calendar besides a great tool of brand promotion for the bank. This time Jammu-Kashmir Bank calendars have showcased Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh along with their diversity to exhibit the nature's charming beauty weaving different cultures and varied geographies together into a uniquely beautiful tapestry. I think that this Calendar has acknowledging the overwhelming public sentiment as validation of the love and trust for the bank in J&K and Ladakh I think that due to annual tourist arrival numbers burgeoning to over two crore, the theme of 'Timeless Treasure' for Calendar 2024 is also an attempt to further showcase and popularise some of the fast-emerging tourist destinations in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.The Jammu- Kashmir and Ladakh being significant stakeholders in the development of tourism and its allied industry, the idea also is to leverage the brand appeal of the bank to engage the larger public attention towards these fast emerging destinations so that these places also get important spots in the itinerary of major tour and travel companies beside e-Calendar has also been continued to mark the bank's presence on every digital platform and ensure that the people have access to J&K Bank calendar on the go.

Notably, the fast-emerging tourist spots on the scenic-map of J&K and Ladakh covered in the Calendar are Tulip Garden in Sanasar Jammu, Hanle Village in Ladakh, Bangus Valley in Kupwara Kashmir, Botapathri in Gulmarg Kashmir, Tso  $Moriri\,Lake\,in\,Ladakh\,and\,Jai\,Valley\,in\,Bhaderwah$ Jammu, Here I would like to express my deep concern Iai Vallev also.

Jai Valley is one of the most beautiful valleys of Doda, situated at a distance of about 35 km from Bhaderwah. The meadow extends over 6 km, and the 7,000 feet height makes the climate conducive for many sporting activities. Jai Valley offers nice "igloo huts" to the tourists visiting the Bhaderwah town making it an ideal holiday destination.

Many visitors also bring their gear and erect tents for days' altogether and enjoy the frequently changing weather. The tourists take pleasure in horse-riding and trekking alongside the blue streams pouring in from the mountains.

Visitors with religious bent can easily visit the Roshera Mata Temple, just 2 km away. Similarly the Subar Naag Temple is just 4 km away. Both the temples are easily accessible.

This Jai Valley also finds itself popular for the wild herbs it possesses such as Aconitum, Digitalis Purea and Podophyllum to name a few. The meadows present in the vicinity add beauty to the valley.Last but not least I would like to extend my thanks Managing Director Jammu-and Kashmir Bank from the core of my Heart.

> The author is a columnist and freelance writer

# **DDC Reasi finalises arrangements** for R-Day celebration

#### ■ HT News Network

REASI, JANUARY 18: District Administration Reasi today finalized the arrangements for the celebration of Republic Day 2024, here at a meeting chaired by District development Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan held in the Conference Hall of DC office complex.

The meeting decided that the main function will be held at the General Zorawar Singh Sports Stadium, where the chief guest will unfurl the National Flag, while similar functions would be held at sub-division and Tehsil levels also.

The celebration of the National Day event will start with the playing of 'Shehnai Vadan' at Mini Secretariat Complex by



District Information Centre

Reasi. The DC issued directions

with regard to the arrangements viz security, traffic management, cleanliness and sanitation, seating arrangement, drinking water, power supply, Medicare facilities, refreshment, arrangement of prizes, road clearance, arrangement of fire tenders, distribution of

invitation cards etc.

The Chief Education Officer was directed to ensure arrangements for the March Past, cultural programme for the Day.

Security agencies were instructed to ensure foolproof security arrangements at all the venues where functions in this regard will be held across the district.

Heads of departments were also instructed to organise march past / rally of their respective departments showcasing their schemes and allied activities for the general public.

It was also given out that the contingents of JKP, CRPF, NCC, students from educational institutions will participate in the march past parade. Besides various cultural programmes would also be part of the celebrations

The Municipal Committee was entrusted with cleanliness in and around the venue and in the town as well and Tricolour illuminating of key areas viz Main Market, prominent Chowks, Bhim Ghar Fort along with their official Building.

# DC Rajouri lays foundation stone for Jhulla Bridge at Argi in Dhangri Block

#### **■** HT News Network

RAJOURI, JANUARY 18: In a significant development for the region, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat, today laid foundation stone for the much-anticipated Jhulla Bridge at Argi, spanning over Dalhori Nallah. This vital infrastructure project, estimated at a cost of 9.5 lakh, aims to enhance connectivity and accessibility

in the area. Executive Engineer of the Rural Engineering Wing (REW), Zahir Khan, shared insightful details about the project. Notably, the construction is anticipated to be concluded by 31st March, marking a milestone towards the development of local infrastructure.



The significance of this initiative extends beyond the construction itself, as it is poised to bring about a transformative impact on the lives of residents in seven villages located in the vicinity. The completion of the bridge promises to facilitate smoother commutes and improved connectivity, fostering economic and social development in the adjoining areas. The Deputy Commissioner expressed optimism about the positive impact this development will have on the lives of the local population, ushering in a new era of connectivity and accessibility for the region. He highlighted the significance of the bridge in improving connectivity and accessibility for the local residents and stressed the commitment of the administration to meeting the infrastructural needs of the community for inclusive growth in the region.

**Deputy Commissioner** emphasized the importance of completing the Jhulla Bridge project well before the set deadlines. He directed the concerned officer to expedite the construction process in order to provide necessary benefits to the public as soon as possible.

As the wheels of progress set in motion, the Jhulla Bridge project stands as a testament to the dedication of the administration to foster inclusive growth and addressing the infrastructural needs of the community.Among others, the **Executive Engineer Rural** Engineering Wing, Zahir Khan; Block Development Officer Dhangri, Heena Kouser, concerned officers and locals were present on the occasion.

## **Deputy Commissioner** Rajouri inaugurates Medical Camp at Dalhori



#### **HT News Network**

RAJOURI, JANUARY 18: In a commendable initiative aimed at promoting community well-being, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat on Thursday inaugurated a Medical Camp organized by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) here at Dalhori.

As the chief guest, Deputy Commissioner underscored the significance of such health camps for fostering a culture of preventive healthcare within the community. He eloquently outlined the primary objectives of the camp, emphasizing the crucial role it plays in ensuring accessible healthcare services for the residents of Dalhori and its surrounding areas.

The Medical Camp served as a vital platform for the screening of individuals, enabling timely detection of health issues and provision of necessary medical services. The dedicated medical professionals and support staff worked tirelessly to cater to the diverse healthcare needs of the attendees.

# **National Road Safety Month: MVD** promotes responsible driving at Bhaderwah

**Deputy Commissioner delivers motivational lecture on traffic rules** 

#### **HT News Network**

DODA, JANUARY 18: In alignment with the ongoing 'Road Safety Month' themed 'Sadak Suraksha - Jeevan Raksha,' the Motor Vehicle Department (MVD) Doda has proactively taken steps to elevate road safety awareness, specifically addressing challenges related to driving on challenging hilly terrains. An awareness program unfolded at the new Bus stand in Bhadarwah, with a particular focus on enlightening new license seekers.

Under the guidance of ARTO, Rajesh Gupta, the initiative extended its impact to New Bus stand Kotli, where a tailored awareness program targeted new license seekers.

Chief Guest, Deputy Commissioner, Harvinder



Singh delivered a motivational lecture on safe driving, encouraging participants to pledge their commitment to adhere to traffic rules for their safety and the well-being of oth-

ARTO emphasized the critical issue of road accidents in the hilly Doda district, underlining the devastating impact on numerous families. He stressed the importance of obeying traffic rules and avoiding rash driving, particularly in consideration of the families eagerly waiting at home. The use of seat

belts and compliance with

vehicle fitness guidelines

were also highlighted for safer driving.

The celebration witnessed positive interactions between Deputy Commissioner, the newly licensed drivers and officials from MVD Doda. ADC Bhadewah Dilmir Choudhary along with other officials actively participated in the event, underscoring the significance of the National Road Safety Month.

In the broader context of the National Road Safety Month in India, the organizers urged citizens to prioritize precautions while driving. The initiative aimed not only to raise awareness but also to actively engage stakeholders in addressing road safety as a critical societal concern, with a focused approach on preventing accidents and ensuring responsible driving habits.

# **Reasi: Rent Assessment Committee settles 9 cases**

#### HT News Network



REASI, JANUARY 18: District Rent Assessment Committee (DRAC) today approved 9 rent cases pertaining to different departments here at a meeting chaired by District Development Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan.

The rent cases pertaining to FCS&CA, Health, and Social Welfare besides other departments were approved by the committee. The Committee discussed the fixation of rent of the structures in which various government offices are functioning across the district.

A total of 16 cases were taken up for discussion in the meeting, out of which 9 cases were approved.

The DDC directed the concerned authorities to prioritize Government buildings for official accommodation and opt for private rented buildings as the last resort.

The meeting was attended by ADC Abdul Star, ACR Anshumali Sharma, PO Poshan Mohd, Anwar Banday, SE PWD, CMO, XEN PWD, DIO (Info) besides other concerned officers of various departments.

# **DC Ramban finalizes R-Day** arrangements

#### ■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, JANUARY 18: Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary today finalized arrangements for the celebration of 75th Republic Day here at a meeting attended by the senior civil and Police officers. Senior Superintendent of Police, Mohita Sharma, ADDC,

Rajinder Sharma, PO, ICDS, Jahangir Hashmi, ADC, Harbans Lal Sharma. Sub Divisional Magistrates and other senior officers attended the meeting.

Reiterating the importance of the National Event, the Deputy Commissioner said that Republic Day will be celebrated at Sub Divisional. Tehsil. Panchavat. institution and school levels. He directed the district heads of all the departments to hoist National Flag and illuminate the building of their respective offices and other Government buildings, besides ensuring maximum public participation to make National function more attractive and joyful.

## **IIT Jammu conducts Entrance Exam for AVSAR Scheme in** Doda

#### **HT News Network**

DODA, JANUARY 18: In a significant development, the Institute of Science and Technology, IIT, recently organized an entrance examination for candidates aspiring to join the government-sponsored AVSAR scheme. The exam held at Government Higher Secondary School Boys Doda, was conducted under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh. The event also received guidance from Employment Officer Imtiyaz Ali of the district employment and counseling centre in Doda, as well as District Panchayat Officer Suraj Singh.

A total of 111 candidates, comprising 92 males and 19 females, actively participated in the examination. The AVSAR scheme, operating under the mission youth, aims to uplift and enhance the skills of the youth. This entrance exam, orchestrated by IIT Jammu, serves as a crucial selection step for students aspiring to be part of the AVSAR scheme. The initiative underscores a commitment to fostering skill development and providing opportunities for individuals in the region to showcase their talents.

# **Labour Commissioner interacts with** representatives of Trade Unions

#### **■** HT News Network

JAMMU, JANUARY 18: Labour Commissioner J&K, S. Charandeep Singh Thursday chaired an interactive meeting with the representatives of Trade Unions here to discuss issues related to workers' overall socioeconomic well-being.

The representatives of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh Jammu, Centre of Indian Trade Union, Jammu, ASCOMS



Employees Welfare Association, Jammu (J&K), Indian National Trade Union Congress and Jammu Marble Workers Union participated in the interaction.

Deputy Labour Com-

missioner, Jammu,

Deputy Labour Commissioner(Central), J&K, Deputy Director (Planning) and Assistant **Labour Commissioners** were also present.

The Trade Union representatives, while welcoming S Charandeep Singh on assuming charge of Labour Commissioner J&K, assured their support in raising awareness among the workers regarding the Government schemes being implemented for their welfare in the UT. They gave a brief about their working and union constitutional mandate.

Detailed deliberations were held on issues of common interest with Labour Commissioner J&K reiterating that welfare of labour.

## **Secretary Cooperative conducts surprise** inspection of Super Bazaar, Jammu

#### ■ Amir Iqbal Khan

JAMMU, JANUARY 18: Secretary, Cooperative Department, Babila Rakwal, today paid a surprise visit to Jammu Cooperative Wholesale Limited, Super Bazar  $and \, medical \, shops \, of \, Super \, Bazar$ at Government Medical College, Bakshi Nagar and SMGS Hospital, Shalamar, Jammu.

Registrar Cooperatives Societies, J&K, Mohammad Shafiq Chak besides other officers accompanied the Secretary.

During her visit to medical shops, she instructed the concerned officers to create awareness among the general public about fair price medical shops of



Super Bazar wherein medicines are available 24x7 at discounted rates. She also visited the Super Bazar outlet at Gole Market, Gandhi Nagar.

While visiting Super Bazar Jammu, the Secretary inspected all the sections and directed the staff to work out strategies to further increase the sales through expansive promotional activities on all platforms.

# Dheeraj Gupta spearheads Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, holds public darbar at MC Lakhanpur

#### HT News Network

KATHUA, JANUARY 18: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Forest, Ecology and Environment, Dheeraj Gupta, today spearheaded the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra besides conducting a mega public darbar at Municipal Committee Lakhanpur.

Chairman District Development Council Kathua, Retired Colonel Mahan Singh, Deputy Commissioner, Rakesh Minhas, Additional District Development Commissioner, Ankur Mahajan, Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Ranjeet Singh, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ranjeet Singh, ASP Paramanjeet Singh and various departmental heads and officials were present



on the occasion. Dheeraj Gupta participated in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra proceedings and inspected the departmental stalls exhibiting citizen-centric beneficiary schemes. He administered the VBSY pledge to the participants reaffirming committment towards nation building. In his address, ACS underscored the importance of collective efforts of people, youth, officers and PRIs towards materializing the vision of a transformed and developed India by 2047. He emphasized the crucial role of all stakeholders in achieving this goal, highlighting the need to focus on infrastructure revamping, human resource development and social unity as the pillars of national development.

The event featured screening of Prime Minister's message on Viksit Bharat besides  $distribution \, of \, In \overline{f}ormation, Education, and \,$ Communication (IEC) material through VBSY Van.

Dheeraj Gupta also shared the department's roadmap towards enhancing forest cover and outlined steps being taken up to augment the green cover across the region. He exhorted upon the executing agencies to obtain prior clearances from the forest department before commencing any work in protected areas.



**HT-NEWS** 

# DC/DEO Bandipora reviews preparations for upcoming LS elections

## Put in place all the necessary arrangements as per guidelines of ECI: Rather

#### **■** HT News Network

PUBLICATION THEADLINES

BANDIPORA, JANUARY 18: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel Ul Rehman Rather who is also District Election Officer (DEO) on Thursday convened a meeting of election nodal officers, EROs, and other officers to take stock of the preparation for upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

The meeting discussed threadbare various aspects of the District Election Management Plan to ensure proper and timely preparations for upcoming LS elections.

Various issues viz. availability of drinking water, ramp facilities, electricity, toilet facilities, and mobile network connectivity at various polling stations were also discussed in the meeting.

The DEO on the occasion took stock of manpower management plan, movement plan, material management plan, communication plan, SVEEP activities besides other election related activities and gave many necessary guidelines to all the concerned nodal officers.

He enjoined upon officers to be ready with all necessary arrangements to provide the best possible "electoral experience" to all stake-holders



He said district administration is committed to taking all necessary measures for successfully conducting "free, fair and participative elections" in the district.

The DEO enjoined upon officers to ensure effective SVEEP Campaign across the District to improve enrol-

ments. He emphasized upon participants to put in their best efforts through various means of awareness under the SVEEP programme to motivate all young eligible electors for registering their name in electoral rolls and ensure that no eligible voter remains un-regis-

tered.Rather also directed the concerned to conduct physical verification of each and every polling station/ locations to ensure the availability of all assured minimum facilities, so as to ensure that no voter or poll staff faces any kind of difficulty during elections.

He emphasised upon the concerned officers to put in place all the necessary arrangements as per guidelines of ECI.

In addition to the election preparations, the meeting also discussed preparations for the upcoming National Voters Day celebration.

The meeting was attended by ACRBandipora Shabir Ahmad Wani, Dy DEO Mohammad Rafeeq, SDM Sumbal Amir Choudhary, DIO Bandipora, Tehsildars and other concerned officers. He emphasised upon the concerned officers to put in place all the necessary arrangements as per guidelines of ECI.

In addition to the election preparations, the meeting also discussed preparations for the upcoming National Voters Day celebration.

The meeting was attended by ACRBandipora Shabir Ahmad Wani, Dy DEO Mohammad Rafeeq, SDM Sumbal Amir Choudhary, DIO Bandipora, Tehsildars and other concerned officers.

# DC B'la reviews modalities for Delimitation of Municipal Wards



#### ■ HT News Network

BARAMULLA, JANUARY 18: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) BARAMULLA, JANUARY 18: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa today convened a meeting of officers to discuss the impending delimitation process in the wards of two municipal councils and five municipal committees of the district.

The meeting held a comprehensive discussion covering a range of challenges, including population slabs, voter numbers, and geo-

graphical considerations.
A proposal for demarcation of municipal wards while taking natural boundaries into consideration was thoroughly dis-

cussed, with a primary objective to establish an equitable and representative governance structure for the municipalities.

During the meeting, it was deliberated that population distribution should be rationalized in every Municipal Committees/Councils (MC) ward in accordance with the established guidelines in the district. This strategic consideration aims to ensure a balanced and proportional allocation of population across MC wards, aligning with the prescribed norms and regula-

tions.
The DC underscored the paramount importance of atransparent and impartial delimitation process to ensure equitable represen-

tation in the Municipal Wards of Baramulla district.

The DC further directed the officers of Municipalities of Watergam, Kunzer, Pattan and Urito formulate a delimitation plan in a week's time while Baramulla and Sopore Municipal Councils were asked to finish the process in 2 weeks

time.
Additional District
Development Commissioner Baramulla, Aijaz
Abdullah Saraf; Deputy
District Election Officer,
Chief Executive Officer MC
Sopore, Tariq Ahmad Mir;
Naib Tehsildar Election,
Executive Officers of all
Municipal Councils, Committees and other concerned were present in the

# VBSY transcends boundaries, forges a path of Inclusive Progress across Pulwama

#### ■ HT News Network

PULWAMA, JANUARY 18: Undertaking an unprecedented odyssey through the heart of Pulwama District, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) has reached a transformative zenith, seamlessly encompassing all 190 Panchayats, 69 Municipal Wards, and continuing through villages.

Today, the Yatra advanced its impactful trajectory, delving into grassroots communities to disseminate vital information about Government schemes.

At its core, this groundbreaking Yatra exemplifies meticulous focus on saturating Government schemes, ensuring equitable distribution of benefits. The unwavering commitment to inclusivity radiates, ensuring that no individual remains uninformed about the catalytic initiatives designed to foster monumental change.

In a program spanning five villages, the Yatra showcased its unwavering dedication to micro-level



engagement. Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) vans, akin to mobile beacons of progress, played a pivotal role in delivering the Hon'ble Prime Minister's message effectively, enlightening the populace about the diverse spectrum of Government schemes.

A standout facet unfolded in the "Meri Kahani Meri Zubani" segment, where beneficiaries shared poignant accounts of their journeys, underlining the life-altering impact of Government interventions. This personalized touch served as a powerful testament to the positive transformations realized through these initiatives.

In a notable development, today's

tion as the Hon'ble Prime Minister ed engaged with the public across the Nation through virtual mode. The people wholeheartedly acknowledged and embraced the

acknowledged and embraced the Prime Minister's words, adding a significant layer to the resonance of the VBSY's mission. This virtual connection further solidified the nation-wide unity and commitment towards the transformative journey unfolding in the heart of Pulwama.

events included an impactful interac-

Beyond traversing the District, the Yatra actively architects positive transformations, leaving an indelible mark on the socio-economic land-scape.

# Director Agriculture inaugurates Awareness programme for fertilizer, pesticide companies of central Kashmir

#### ■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JANUARY 18: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today inaugurated an awareness programme for the fertilizer, pesticides companies of central Kashmir's Budgam, Ganderbal and Srinagar districts at Agriculture Complex Lalmandi Srinagar.

The programme was organised by the Law Enforcement Wing Srinagar and was attended by Deputy Director Law Enforcement Wing, Mujtaba Yahyah; Assistant Director Law Enforcement, Feroz Ahmad Shapoo; District Law Enforcement Officer South Kashmir, Sheikh Imran; District Law Enforcement Officer North Kashmir, Dr Amarjeet Singh, fertilizer/pesticides dealers/distributors of central Kashmir districts, representatives of fertilizer, pesticides companies operating in central Kashmir and other concerned officers.

In his address, Director Agriculture reiterated the department's commitment to uphold the farmers' interests.



(fertilizers, pesticides dealers) to ensure that only the genuine, quality inputs (fertilizers, pesticides) are provided to the farming community of the region. He said that any violation of fertilizer control order (1985) and insecticides act (1968) would not be tolerated and the action as per law will be initiated against the erring parties/ individuals.

Iqbal directed the officers of the enforcement wing of the department to accelerate the frequency of visits by marketing checking squads so that

only the quality fertilizers, pesticides reach the consumers. He marked the importance of a coordinated approach among the stakeholders, in order to safeguard the economic interests of the farming community.

He said the poor quality inputs (fertilizers, pesticides) is not only an economic burden to the farmers but is environmentally a disaster for the region. He concluded that all the stakeholders including department, fertilizer/ pesticides dealers must collaborate for the well being of the farming community.

# VBSY in full swing across Ramban, 92000 participate in ambitious Yatra so far

### ■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, JANUARY 18: The Vikshit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, spearheaded by Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, is making a significant impact in Ramban district. With 92,000 participants, including 35,000 women, the 51-day journey is a huge push for district administration ambition to saturate beneficiary oriented-schemes in the district by year-end.

Today, the Yatra reached the Panchayats of Trigam Lower A and B and Trigam Upper, and ward no-7 Mundas Mohalla in Batote town, emphasizing its commitment to inclusivity. Covering the entire district during the last 51 days, the Yatra has proven to be a powerful platform in informing the people about various Government schemes. Further substantial numbers of beneficiaries have been sharing stories under Meri Kahani Meri Zubani, an important component of Yatra narrat-



ing heart- touching stories of change in their lives after taking benefits under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

Under the guidance of the DC, all departments are actively engaged in promoting and extending the benefits of their respective schemes. This includes widely recognized initiatives such as PMAY-G, PMAY-U, PM-JAY Ayushman Card, Poshan ICDS, PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, MUDRA Yojana, KCC, and PM Kissan Nidhi. Special emphasis is placed on healthcare accessibility, with over 3360 PM-JAY Ayushman Cards issued and regular health check-ups, including TB monitoring.

Various attractive events including cultural programs celebrated Ramban District's diverse heritage,

enriching its cultural tapestry. The collective Viksit Bharat Sankalp Pledge-taking ceremony at the heart of the Yatra unified the community, symbolizing shared aspirations.

The event included awareness about government schemes and motivational speeches by the Prime Minister. The Yatra's success lies in its broad outreach, ensuring the message of the Hon'ble Prime Minister reaches every corner of the district. Under the guidance of the DC, all departments are actively engaged in promoting and extending the benefits of their respective schemes. This includes widely recognized initiatives such as PMAY-G, PMAY-U, PM-JAY Ayushman Card, Poshan ICDS, PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, MUDRA Yojana, KCC, and PM Kissan Nidhi. Special emphasis is placed on healthcare accessibility, with over 3360 PM-JAY Ayushman Cards issued and regular health check-ups, including TB monitoring.

# VBSY: IEC Van Traverses through panchayats of block Rajouri & Sunderbani in Rajouri District

ensure that the benefits of government

#### ■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, JANUARY 18: The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) traversed through the panchayats of Lower Bajwal-A, Upper-Bhajwal-A, Upper-Bhajwal-B, Talla Tanda, Muradpur-B, Mubarak Pura, Dassal and Meari Gujjran of block Rajouri and Sunderbani, here today. This strategic journey highlights the Yatra's commitment to reach every corner of the district and

initiatives are felt at the grassroots level. The Yatra has become a driving force in the implementation of various government schemes and ushering in comprehensive development throughout the district. This ambitious initiative is strategically crafted to transform Rajouri by extending its reach to underserved areas and ensuring the effective execution of government programs, ultimately enhancing the quality of life for 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.

#### Road Safety Awareness Campaign organized by MVD Kishtwar

#### ■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, JANUARY 18: The Motor Vehicle Department (MVD) Kishtwar organized a comprehensive awareness program at Helipad Kishtwar

The event, which witnessed the active participation of over 200 individuals including transport union Presidents and other stakeholders, aimed at promoting responsible road practices.

DTI Traffic Navneet and ARTO Mohammed Saleem Manhas played pivotal role in imparting valuable insights to the participants, emphasizing the importance of adhering to road



safety precautions.

MVI Azad Hussain, President All

Transport Association Kishtwar Bansi Lal Shan besides staff of MVD Kishtwar also remained present on the occasion.

The program was held as part of the month-long National Road Safety campaign- a national initiative to foster a culture of responsible road behavior.

The awareness campaign addressed various aspects of safe driving and highlighted the potential consequences of negligence or deliberate viola-

tions of traffic rules.

The District Administration, in collaboration with the Motor Vehicle Department, is committed to creating a safer road environment through continuous awareness and education.



# VBSY reaches Shatgund bala of Mawar Block

DG C&WDD chairs mega event, emphasizes for 100% saturation of beneficiary oriented schemes

#### **■** HT News Network

PUBLICATION HEADLINES

KUPWARA, JANUARY 18: In connection with Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY), a mega VBSY event was today organized at Government High School Shatgundbala of Block Mawar Qalamabad in Kupwara district.The Director General, Child & Women Development Department (DG C&WDD) J&K, Mir Tariq Ali, today visited Shatgundbala to chair the Mega event.

The event aimed to raise awareness about government-sponsored public-centric schemes; extending outreach to remote areas for community engagement and ensure 100% saturation of various beneficiary-oriented schemes, was attended by DDC Member Mawar, Khursheed Ahmad Dar; ADDC Kupwara, Altaf Ahmad Khan; ADC Handwara, Nazir Ahmad Mir; ACP Kupwara, Dr. Mudasir Ahmad, other Senior Officers besides a large gathering of people were present on the occasion.

The DG C&WDD while addressing the event said that the Yatra aims to bring together government officers, local leaders, and communities to ensure outreach and



last mile delivery of the developmental initiatives of the government to all the people. The DG stressed on achieving 100% saturation of all beneficiary-oriented schemes. He urged all departments and officials to work diligently and collaboratively to ensure that no one is left behind in the journey towards progress and prosperity.He congratulated different departments for reaching out to the unreached

and ensuring everyone gets benefited. While responding to the demands/grievances, Ali directed the concerned departments to examine these demands raised for prompt disposal.DDC Member, Mawar Qalamabad, Khurseed Ahmad Dar, while Congratulating the Officers and Field functionaries of different departments said that Public Representatives are fully Cooperating with all departments, as a result, no funds of this territorial constituency lapsed till date. On the occasion, he demanded NTPHC, a stadium and a J&K Bank Branch for the area. Earlier, the DG inspected the stalls set up by various departments to showcase their achievements and services. He interacted with the beneficiaries and scheme implementing agencies and appreciated their efforts. He also took part in plantation drive along with the other Officers and handed over sanction letters to various beneficiaries pertaining to welfare and income generation schemes.

The event witnessed screening of the Prime Minister's message and other videos played through the IEC van.

Ali along with the officers of District Administration and locals actively took part in the Viksit Bharat pledge, reaffirming their commitment towards development of the nation. The Yatra featured a segment called 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubaani', where the beneficiaries of various schemes and local successful entrepreneurs shared their success stories and experiences of how they have personally benefited from Government schemes.

# PM Award of Excellence: DC Bandipora discusses achievements under various schemes

#### **■** HT News Network

BANDIPORA, JANUARY 18: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel Ul Rehman Rather on Thursday chaired a meeting at Mini-Secretariat Bandipora to discuss registration on PM's Award web portal for PM Award for Excellence in Administration.

The scheme for Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration aims to recognize the contribution of civil servants/Districts under two categories viz. Holistic Development of Districts and Innovations.

The award is designed to acknowledge, recognize and reward exemplary work done in various fields.

The meeting discussed achievements under various schemes including Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), Mission Indradhanush, Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), PM SVA Nidhi, PM Vishvakarma Yojana, PM MUDRA Yojana and Kisan Credit Card Scheme for Farmers,



Animal Husbandry and Fisheries.

During the meeting It was given out that the district Bandipora has achieved 100 percent target under mission Mission Indradhanush and Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY). Speaking on the occasion, the DC stressed upon all District Officers to submit detailed achievements of their respective schemes so that proper evaluation is made for submission for PM Award. The officers were further directed to complete the process of evaluation and submission within given timelines in close coordination with CPO Bandipora.

# DC Kupwara reviews arrangements for celebration of National Voters Day

#### HT News Network

New Delhi: With the ED asking him to appear for questioning on Thursday after he skipped summons thrice in the Delhi excise policy case, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said here he will do whatever needs to be done as per law.

Sources in the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and the Delhi government, however, said on Wednesday that he is unlikely to appear before the agency as he is scheduled to leave for Goa on a three-day tour to take stock of party's preparations for the upcoming Lok

Sabha polls. Earlier, he was supposed to embark on a two-day tour of Goa from January 11 but had to postpone it due to preparations for the Republic Day programme in the national capital. Mr Keiriwal was issued the ED



summons last week for the fourth time and asked to appear before the agency on January 18.

At an event, where he interacted with elderly pilgrims leaving for Dwarkadheesh in Gujarat, the AAP national convener was asked about the Enforcement Directorate (ED) summons asking him to appear on Thursday in connection with the Delhi excise policy linked money laundering case.

"We will do whatever needs to be done according to the law," he told reporters, in response to the query.

Earlier in the day, Delhi cabinet minister Saurabh Bharadwai had echoed similar views.

"He is clear that whatever he will do he will do in accordance with the law and the advice of the legal counsel," he told news agency PTI.

# Jammu admin discusses activity plan for National Road Safety Month

#### ■ HT News Network

JAMMU, JANUARY 18: District Magistrate Sachin Kumar Vaishya presided over a meeting today to discuss and plan activities and awareness programs on traffic rules in light of the ongoing National Road Safety Month-2024, scheduled from January 15 to February 14.In attendance were SSPTraffic Faisal Qureshi, RTO Jammu, Chief Medical Officer Dr. Harbaksh Singh, Chief Education Officer Jagdeep Kumar Padha, representatives from GREF and other concerned officers.

The District Magistrate emphasised the pivotal role of youth participation for the successful execution of the awareness campaign while noting the role of volunteers in spreading awareness during the Road Safety



Month.Officers from the Public Works  $Department were \, directed \, to \, address$ road conditions by filling potholes and installing safety measures such as reflectors and mirrors to prevent accidents. The DM proposed workshops and awareness sessions targeting college students to enhance road safety awareness.Sub-Divisional Magistrates were encouraged to conduct special enforcement drives in their respective areas to ensure strict adherence to traffic rules. The DM underscored the importance of enforcing helmet and seat belt regulations in rural areas as well. Prioritising education and sensitisation over punitive actions, the District Magistrate expressed that a balanced approach is more practical.

# **Anantnag hosts Viksit** Bharat@2047 Voice of **Youth Program, 2024**

#### **■** HT News Network

ANANTNAG, JANUARY 18: The District Administration Anantnag in collaboration with Government Degree College (GDC) Kokernag today hosted the 'Viksit Bharat@2047 Voice of Youth' program, marking the inception of a transformative era focused on holistic development and progress. This collaborative initiative united students, faculty, and experts in a shared commitment to contribute to the visionary 'Viksit Bharat 2047' plan by the Government of India, aiming to shape the nation into a developed entity by its 100th independence anniversary. Prof. Imtiyaz Ahmad Lone set an inspiring tone for the event with a keynote address that resonated with the audience, instilling a sense of purpose and commitment. The primary objective of the program was to foster growth and awareness among the students of GDC Kokernag, emphasizing the pivotal role of education in contributing to the development of Bharat. A meticulously planned approach was executed, including strategic planning, outlining the purpose and goals, appointing a dedicated team, and launching a social media campaign to maximize engagement.

# Celebration of Republic Day- 2024

# Forest Department plans Massive Plantation Events across all Gram Panchayats

#### **■** HT News Network

JAMMU, JANUARY 18: The J&K Forest Department has chalked out an ambitious program to conduct massive plantation drives involving PRI representatives, local people, NGOs, school children, NCC & NSS cadets, Paryavaran/Van Mitras, Ecoguides, Paramilitary forces and other stakeholders, around all the Gram Panchayats/villages and Urban Local Bodies on the eve of Republic Day celebration-2024.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Roshan Jaggi convened a high level meeting at Forest Headquarter, FRMC Building Jammu in which the senior officers

of Forest & allied wings participated. The Conservator and DFO level officers from all districts were also present during the stock taking meeting.

It was decided that in all the 20 districts, the Forest Department shall organize programs of plantation drives, plastic free drives in forests, green marches, debates, symposiums and other awareness creation activities to mark the occasion. It was also decided that special ceremonial plantation and awareness programs shall be organized near Amrit Sarovars and other water bodies, river banks and other iconic places along with the flag hoisting at different establishments of the department. Awareness activities shall be organized involving educational institutions, Para-military forces and Government departments.

Special plant distribution drives shall be organized in the Urban Local Bodies and in Gram Panchayats under different flagship Programs like HarGaonHariyali, Ped Lagye in Beti Ke Naam, One Village One Beat Guard Program, Van Se Jal, Jal Se Jeevan etc. The main buildings of the department shall be illuminated in the evening. It is pertinent to mention here that the department has a target of planting 175 lakh plants & adoption of low cost greening interventions upto 90 lakh during 2023-24 under "Green JK Drive". The department has been laying emphasis on innovative schemes like Van Se Jal, Jal Se Jeevan to enhance ground water recharge

for enhancing productivity. The PCCF (HoFF) on this occasion reviewed the district-wise preparedness and issued directions for active participation of the field staff in different events shortlisted for the celebration of Republic Day, 2024 Special plant distribution drives shall be organized in the Urban Local Bodies and in Gram Panchayats under different flagship Programs like HarGaonHariyali, Ped Lagye in Beti Ke Naam, One Village One Beat Guard Program, Van Se Jal, Jal Se Jeevan etc. The main buildings of the department shall be illuminated in the evening. It is pertinent to mention here that the department.

## **ICICI Prudential Life Insur**ance launches ICICI Pru **Guaranteed Pension Plan** Flexi with Benefit Enhancer

#### ■ HT News Network

Srinagar, Ian 18.KNT: ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has launched ICICI Pru Guaranteed Pension Plan Flexi with Benefit Enhancer, industry's first annuity plan that provides customers with the option to receive a 100% refund of premiums paid at any time starting from the date of purchase. This product comes loaded with features which address all apprehensions customers may have around retirement planning. Customers can choose from an array of annuity

Retirement planning is a non-negotiable goal and unexpected financial emergencies have the potential to disrupt this goal. Amit Palta, Chief Distribution Officer, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance, said, "We are delighted to introduce ICICI Pru Guaranteed Pension Plan Flexi with Benefit Enhancer, a versatile annuity product designed to address the uncertainties that individuals may face when planning for their retire-

Given the increasing life expectancy, changing family structures and rising healthcare costs, individuals must plan for retirement with products that provide guaranteed income throughout their lives. ICICI Pru Guaranteed Pension Plan Flexi offers customers the certainty needed for a financially secure retired

## DC Rajouri finalises arrangements for JKSSB Exams

#### ■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, JANUARY 18: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat, chaired a meeting here today to finalize the arrangements for the JKSSB examination for the post of Accounts Assistant Finance scheduled for January 28, 2024.

The meeting focused on various crucial aspects to ensure a seamless and fair examination process.

The examination will take place at 22 examination centres and 10352 candidates are appearing in the examination. To maintain the integrity of the examination and provide a conducive environment for the candidates, several measures have been put in place.

The meeting emphasized the deployment of an adequate number of Superintendents, Deputy Superintendents and supervisory staff to oversee the examination. This step is crucial in upholding transparency and fairness throughout the examination process. Additionally, a strict invigilator-to-student ratio has been established to ensure close monitoring during the examination.

Magistrates will be appointed at all examination centers to guarantee a peaceful and orderly conduct of the examination. A comprehensive security plan has been devised to safeguard the examination venues, ensuring the safety of both the candidates and examination personnel.

In an effort to prevent any unfair means during the examination, it was decided that mobile phones and other electronic devices would be strictly prohibited within the examination centers.

Deputy Commissioner expressed his commitment to ensuring a smooth and fair conduct of the JKSSB examination on January 28, 2024. He urged all candidates to fully cooperate with the examination guidelines and adhere to the instructions provided by the examination authorities.

## DC B'pora chairs DRAC meeting; approves 12 cases, 02 cases sent for reassessment

#### HT News Network

BANDIPORA, JANUARY 18: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel Ul Rehman Rather on Thursday chaired a meeting of District Rent Assessment Committee (DRAC) at Mini-Secretariat, Bandipora.

The DRAC approved 12 rent cases pertaining to different departments, including Handicrafts, Industries, Social Welfare, Education, FCS&CA, Health, ISM, and revenue.

The Committee discussed the fixation of rent of various structures in which various government offices are functioning across the district.

In all, 14 cases were taken up for consideration in the meeting, out of which 12 cases were approved and 02 were sent for reassessment.

Addressing the meeting, the DC enjoined upon officers to pay rent to the concerned owners of land and structures on time and ensure the safety of the government/ rented accommodation.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Revenue Shabir Ahmad Wani, Chief Planning Officer Mohd Maqbool, Superintending Engineer R&B, and other concerned officers of various departments.

## **MVD Anantnag organizes** one day Seminar on Road Safety

ANANTNAG, JANUARY 18: Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) Anantnag in collaboration with Radiant Educational Trust Anantnag today organized a day long Seminar on Road Safety, here.

The seminar was attended by more than 200 students apart from officials of MVD, Traffic and district Police

The thrust of the seminar was to sensitize the students about the golden rules of Road Safety and the importance of obeying traffic rules and regulations while being on roads.



**PUBLICATION**HEADLINES



# 'BACK TO BASICS'

# Allen turns form and fortune around this summer

summer for Finn Allen. At the start of the season, he had a disappointing 2022 T20 World Cup by managing just 95 runs in five innings. He then lasted more than 20 balls only once in the remaining five T20Is that summer and his ODI form also lost sheen after a glittering start. A year later, he didn't get a ticket for the ODI World Cup in India.

to another summer, the one in England, Allen smashed 240 runs from nine outings in the Huna strike rate of nearly 145 that helped Southern Brave reach the playoffs. He stayed back for the T20Is against England and blasted 83 off 53 in the third game before returning for the home summer where his last six T20 scores (both domestic and international) have been 137, 74, 34, 78\*, 50 and 38.

The latest of those was 137 off 62 balls in the third T20I against Pakistan, studded with a This summer, though, has been remarkable record-breaking 16 sixes that made his score for him in T20s. Let's go back a few months the highest by a New Zealand player in T20Is.

he 2022-23 season was not a great dred, only behind Jos Buttler's tally of 391, with that I want to take a high-risk option," he said after the Pakistan game. "Maybe prior to this summer was a little bit all over the show and not so much control but I'm trying to have more control now and be a bit more decisive.

> "I'm working on just adapting to the scenario better, situations better, and I guess picking my moments to go. I'm basically trying to have a stable base and build off that and expand my game from there."

> The stable base was on show in Dunedin where he let his flourishing swings and hand-

■ I think I'm just evaluating risk and times that I vant to take a high-risk option," he said after the Pakistan game. "Maybe prior to this summer was a little bit all over the show and not so much control but I'm trying to have more control now and be a bit more decisive.

stood tall to either swing down the ground or put away the short balls with pulls whenever Pakistan erred with their lengths, even if they

came with a change of pace. That he could score at a very high strike rate was evident even before this season, but now a sequence of 6, 4 and 6 after the powerplay to

been working on since returning to his home team Auckland before this domestic season. His scores in the ongoing T20I series - 137, 74 and 34 - are a testimony to his consistency, which bodes well for both Allen and New Zealand in the build-up to the T20 World Cup in June.

Along the way, Allen has also been taking down some big names. After a 26 off 17 in the opening Super Smash game, he struck 50 off 24 against Wellington where he took down Ben Sears for 20 off just six balls. In his unbeaten 78 off 46 balls after that, he punished Ish Sodhi for "I think I'm just evaluating risk and times sixes in the arc from long-off to square leg. He he is also being consistent, something he has hit him for 22 runs off seven balls.

Jongwe

wallpaper

the death

icon Mathews

to down SL at

pastes

# Arshdeep Singh aims to improve his consistency

It's been a busy 12 months for Arshdeep Singh, the T20I bowler. Since January 2023, no other Indian bowler has played more T20Is than Arshdeep (23) or taken more wickets than him - 29 at an aver-



age of 24.00 with an economy of 9.07. He has, however, been inconsistent in his performances. He began 2023 by going for 37 runs in two overs in a T20I against Sri Lanka and ended the year by taking 2 for 13 in two overs in an ODI against South Africa.

"It's been a mixed bag, these last 12 months," Arshdeep said ahead of the third and final T20I against Afghanistan in Bengaluru. "There have been good performances, some average ones. I'd say that I have learned a lot and that experience is helping my game get a lot better.

"I am quite grateful that I am getting this experience, I have been getting a lot of backing from the support staff, from the team. I just want to reduce the ups and downs and be more consistent with my performances and get better results for my team."

The last time Arshdeep was in Bengaluru for a T20I he wondered whether he "would be the culprit of the game". As it turned out he was the hero, as he defended nine runs in the final over against Australia to help India clinch the five-match series 4-1.

It was a dead rubber then, and it is a dead rubber now, as India face Afghanistan having taken a 2-0 lead in the three-match series. But for Arshdeep and India, the scoreline is secondary, with this being their last T20I before the World Cup in June.

"Our mindset as a team isn't what the series scoreline is, or what has happened in the previous match," he said. "Our motive is to determine what the conditions will be like in the matches ahead of us and how quickly we can adapt to the pitch and get used to the grounds.

"It's not as if it's a 2-0 score or the series is done, that's not our aim. Our aim is to improve our game one-two percent after every game and develop new skills."

One of those skills is a new delivery he has been developing. "I have been working on a new ball, which will be beneficial on slower wickets," Arshdeep said. "I tried that ball in the last match against the lefties, the ball that moves away after pitching like a leg-cutter. I want to develop more confidence and use that ball more in matches."



the third tight finish of the tour, but Zimbabwe's first win. "Over the past few months I've been in situations

where I could have won games for my country, and even for my franchise back home, and I couldn't do it," Jongwe said after the game. "I got close, but couldn't cross the line. Doing it against Sri Lanka, considering Angelo was one of my role models growing up, is even better. That's special.

"He used to be my wallpaper when I was a kid. He was still using Gray-Nicolls gear at that time. I was still a youngster. On Facebook at one point he was my profile picture. There's too much happening for me today. There are a lot of emotions. I'm just grateful to God."

Jongwe had bided his time at the crease, awaiting that over from an allrounder that he knew Sri Lanka needed to deliver. He had come to the crease in the 17th over, and struck one four in his first seven balls. But with the frontline bowlers having only two overs left, he knew there would be easier runs on offer later.

"I knew they needed one over from someone, because Chameera was done and Madushanka was done. I told myself I wasn't going to take a risk against them, and wait until the last over, and give myself the best chance.

"I think 20 runs was a lot to be honest. The wicket got better to bat on - Sri Lanka had been 25 for 4, and we were looking to restrict them to 140. But when we bowled in the death - I bowled in the death as well - we talked afterwards and thought that something had changed in the wicket. The ball was starting to come on to the bat nicely. We knew we just need to keep wickets intact and build partnerships to try and get our team over the line."

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imbabwe allrounder Luke Jongwe had

Angelo Mathews wallpaper when he

was younger (whether this was a physi-

cal poster or the background screen

on a device wasn't clear). Mathews

was also Jongwe's social media profile picture for a

while.So what did Jongwe do to thank Mathews for

the years of inspiration? He smashed him for six,

four, six in the deciding over of a T20I in Mathews'

comeback series, of course. Those consecutive

boundaries transformed Zimbabwe's chances of

victory from exceedingly slim when there were 20

needed off the last over, to almost a sure thing, with

the requirement down to three off four (Jongwe's

Mathews before the match ended, with Zimbabwe

sealing victory off the penultimate ball. This was

Jongwe was also dropped off the bowling of

hero had also bowled him a no-ball).