



My Biggest Principle Has Been Minimum Government, Maximum Governance: PM Modi

■ HT News Network

DUBAI, FEB 14: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday emphasised that his biggest principle has been "minimum government, maximum governance" and noted that it is the government's job to ensure minimal government interference in people's lives.

Addressing the World Governments Summit 2024 in Dubai, PM Modi called for reform in the Global Governance Institutions and said there is a need to promote the concerns of the developing world and the participation of the Global South in global decision-making.

"My biggest principle has



been 'Minimum government, maximum governance'. I have always emphasised creating an environment in which a sense of enterprise and energy in citizens grows. I believe that it is the job of the government to ensure that government interference in people's lives is minimal," he said.

PM Modi also referred to challenges which were posed by COVID-19.

"We have been hearing a lot from the experts that, after COVID, people have been not trusting governments. However, in India, we have seen the complete opposite. In the past years, it has been seen that people's trust has strengthened

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

PM Modi Honors Fallen CRPF Personnel On Pulwama Attack Anniversary



■ HT News Network

NEW DELHI, FEB 14: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday paid homage to the 40 CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) personnel who lost their lives in the Pulwama terror attack in 2019.

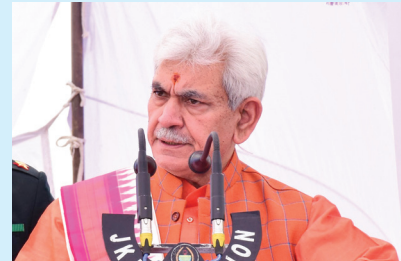
Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his post on X said "I pay homage to the brave heroes who were martyred in Pulwama. Their service and sacrifice for our nation will always be remembered," PM Modi

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

LG Pays Tributes To CRPF Personnel Killed In 2019 Pulwama Terror Attack

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on



Wednesday paid tributes to the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

NEWS BRIEF

ED Arrests Three In Connection With Money Laundering Case

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has arrested three Kashmir residents, including a separatist leader, in a money laundering case related to the MBBS admissions in Pakistan, officials said.

Hurriyat leader Mohammad Akbar Bhat alias Zaffar Akbar Bhat, Fatima Shah, both residents of Srinagar and Sabzar Ahmad Shaikh, Anantnag were formally arrested by ED under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in connection with money laundering case.

All the three are already in jail from the last over three years.

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

IIT Jammu Develops Anti-Drone System

JAMMU, FEB 14: Dr Karan Nathwani, professor in the Electrical Engineering department of IIT Jammu, has constructed an anti-drone system that works mainly on sound technology.

"It is the first of its kind, and we have developed an entirely new technology called sound-based detection. This system detects the sound emitted by drones, producing a unique signature that helps in their identification. We compare this signature with the system's database, and if a match is found, the drone is detected. The cost of this system is about Rs 4 lakh," he said.

"Not only is it cost-effective, but it is also user-friendly, making it accessible to the general public. It is easy to operate, and there are no issues with cameras or radar. The system

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Nine Unexploded Shells Found In Ladakh

LEH, FEB 14: Nine unexploded shells were found and subsequently destroyed in a controlled explosion in Ladakh, an official said on Wednesday. The information about the presence of shells at Chulitse Kulum in Kharu was conveyed by Councillor Sonam Thardos to the Sub-divisional Magistrate (SDM), an official spokesman said.

He said the SDM took up the matter with the Trishul Division of the Army and subsequently its engineers ensured the swift disposal of the shells in the presence of the local police.

Officials said the shells were destroyed in a controlled explosion by army experts.

Former PDP Leader Joins BJP In J&K

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEB 14: Former Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Democratic Party leader Arshid Mehmood Khan Wednesday joined the BJP along with a number of his supporters here.

Khan, a three-time sarpanch from Dandesar village of Nowshera, and his supporters were welcomed into the BJP by the



party's J&K president Ravinder Raina and other senior leaders, including former deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta and MP Jugal Kishore.

The former PDP leader had

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

MeT Forecasts Wet Spell for JK from February 17-21

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: A couple of moderate to intense Western Disturbances most likely to trigger rain and snow over the J&K and its adjoining areas from Saturday afternoon onwards, officials said.

Meteorological Centre Srinagar said under the influence of WD an extended wet spell from February 17 (night)



onwards till February 21 (Afternoon) most likely to

cause moderate rain and

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Dr Jitendra Meets Devotees Reaching Ayodhya By Special Train From Katra

■ HT News Network

AYODHYA, FEB 14 : As a very solemn gesture, Union minister Dr Jitendra Singh was personally present here today to meet and welcome the devotees travelling in Special "Aastha" Train from Katra-Vaishnodevi who reached the holy city this morning to pay obeisance at the newly constructed Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Mandir.

TURN ON.....PAGE 02



Shahida Turn Her Ancestral House Into Museum To Preserve Gujjar Cultural Heritage

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: A 25-year-old Shahida Khanum has turned her ancestral home into a museum to preserve

the cultural heritage of Gujar tribe.

A resident of Aragam village in Jammu and Kashmir's Bandipora district seeks to revive the traditional

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Over 18,900 Underprivileged Women in Kashmir Benefit from SMAS Since 2015

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: Mohammad Saleem, a daily wage for years, has been saving his hard-earned money for his daughter's marriage.

As per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), last year when the wedding date was fixed, he fell short of money.

Depressed, he thought of borrowing some amount from his relatives.

TURN ON.....PAGE 02



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CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

My Biggest.....

in the Indian government,” he said. The Prime Minister said people have trust in his government's intent and commitment.

“This happened because we have given priority to people's aspirations. We are sensitive to people's needs. We have focused on fulfilling people's needs and dreams. Along with the top-down and bottom-up approaches, we have also moved with the whole of society approach,” he said.

Noting that challenges of the previous century, including food, health, water and energy security, are increasing despite the progress in technology, he said that the world needs governments that are inclusive and take everyone along.

PM Modi arrived in UAE on Tuesday on the first leg of his two-day visit. Later in the day, he will inaugurate the BAPS temple in Abu Dhabi. (Agencies)

PM Modi.....

said in a post on ‘X’. I pay homage to the brave heroes who were martyred in Pulwama. Their service and sacrifice for our nation will always be remembered.

— Narendra Modi (@narendramodi) February 14, 2024

February 14, 2019 marks five years since the Pulwama terror attack, when 40 valiant Indian soldiers were killed after a suicide bomber rammed an IED-laden vehicle into the security convoy carrying them.

Days after the attack, the Indian Air Force carried out multiple aerial strikes on February 26, 2019, at JeM terror camps in Pakistan's Balakot, killing a “large number” of terrorists and destroying their infrastructure.

The air strike was launched in the early hours of February 26 and Pakistan's efforts to launch an offensive the next day to target Indian military installations in Jammu and Kashmir were thwarted by an alert IAF.

In the dogfight, Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman, flying a MiG-21 Bison fighter plane and chasing Pakistani jets, crossed over to PoJK, where his aircraft was shot down. He was taken into custody by Pakistan. India also shot down a Pakistani fighter jet.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also paid tributes to the brave soldiers “Pay homage to our brave jawans who laid down their lives this day in Pulwama in 2019. Their courage motivates us to keep up our vigil against cross-border terrorism.”

Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar recalled the valiant sacrifice of the soldiers “Today, we pause to remember and salute the brave CRPF soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the Pulwama Terrorist attack while in service to the nation. We stand united in solidarity with their families and loved ones, offering our deepest condolences and unwavering support. Their sacrifice will never be forgotten or forgiven.”

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju also paid his tributes to the fallen soldiers “Today, we honour the memory of the brave soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country in Pulwama. We pay tribute to their families, who have shown unwavering strength & resilience. We remain forever indebted to their service.”

Congress Leader Rahul Gandhi also saluted the braves “Salutes and humble tributes to the brave martyrs of Pulwama terrorist attack. The country will always be indebted to them for their supreme sacrifice dedicated to the defence of India.” (Agencies)

LG Pays.....

killed in a terror attack in Pulwama on this day in 2019.

“Humble tributes to the brave hearts who sacrificed their lives in 2019 Pulwama terror attack. The nation will forever remain indebted to their exemplary courage, supreme sacrifice, and selfless service to the motherland,” LG said in a post on X.

The Pulwama attack remains the deadliest terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir since the eruption of militancy in 1989.

On February 14, 2019 a local suicide bomber Adil Dar of Jaish-e-Mohammad rammed his explosive-laden car into CRPF bus at Lethpora Pulwama leaving 40 personnel of the force dead. The attack was followed by Balakote air strikes. A day later Pakistan retaliated and it triggered a brief dogfight. The Pulwama attack had brought India and Pakistan at the brink of war.

J&K Police chief R R Swain said the sacrifices of CRPF personnel will forever be etched in our hearts.

On behalf of Jammu and Kashmir Police Pariwar, the Director General of Police paid heartfelt homage to the courageous souls who made the ultimate sacrifice in the 2019 Pulwama terror attack.

“As we remember these heroes, let's renew our commitment to securing peace,” Swain said.

Inspector General of Police Kashmir, Vidhi Kumar Birdi said the bravery of those

killed in Pulwama echoes through time.

“Today, we solemnly remember the heroes who made ultimate sacrifice in 2019 Pulwama terror attack. Their bravery echoes through time, inspiring us to renew our commitment for establishing peace. Let's honor their valour & sacrifice by striving for violence free nation,” IGP Kashmir said.

On Wednesday morning, BJP leaders paid floral tributes to CRPF men killed at Lethpora Pulwama. Several tourists also joined to pay tributes.

BJP leader Altaf Bukahri said the after Pulwama attack the terrorism in Kashmir was eliminated.

CRPF also held a wreath laying ceremony at Martyr's Memorial Lethpora, Pulwama . The Ceremony was attended by senior officers of CRPF & representatives of all security forces. (UNI)

Former PDP....

unsuccessfully contested the 2008 assembly elections from the Nowshera constituency of Rajouri district

Addressing a press conference after the joining, Raina said the BJP was ready for elections in the Union territory.

“Announcing polls in Jammu and Kashmir is the prerogative of the Election Commission but we are ready for any election,” he said.

Raina said Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address a massive rally in Jammu during his visit to the Union territory on February 20.

“Modi opened the coffers for the development of J&K. The restoration of peace and brotherhood is his biggest gift to the people. He has ensured ‘sabka saath, sabka vikas, sabka vishwas’ and provided justice to all sections of society,” he added.

Asked about speculations around some senior political leaders joining the BJP in the presence of the Prime Minister, Raine said, “We will whole-heartedly welcome anyone who comes.” (Agencies)

MeT Forecasts.....

snow at many places over J&K and adjoining areas.

The weather will remain partly to generally cloudy with the possibility of light Snow at isolated higher reaches towards late night on February 17, while on February 18 it would be generally cloudy with possibility of light to moderate rain/Snow at many places.

During the February 19-20 there is a possibility of light to moderate rain/Snow at most places (Plains & Lower reaches) with the possibility of heavy snowfall over middle & higher reaches of Kupwara, Baramulla, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Badgam, Shopian and Kulgam districts during February 19 late afternoon/evening to February 20 late night in Kashmir valley, the MeT office said.

It said that there is a possibility of light to moderate Snow at many places till afternoon/late afternoon and gradual improvement thereafter on February 21.

MeT also predicted light rain snow at many places over Jammu division on February 18 while on February 19-20 intermittent light to moderate rain with thunder, lightning in plains with light to moderate snowfall over higher reaches with heavy snowfall over isolated higher reaches of Ramban, Poonch, Doda and Kishtwar, the MeT office said.

Light to moderate snow, rain, thunder and lightning over many places till late afternoon/evening and gradual improvement thereafter on February 21.

The weatherman has also issued an advisory stating that the weather system may lead to temporary closure of roads of higher reaches and important passes of Sinthan pass, Mughal Road, Sadhna & Razdan pass, Zojila etc.

Travellers are advised to Plan accordingly while the farmers are advised to withhold irrigation and fertilizer application & drain out excess water from Orchards and fields during the above period.

There is a possibility of significant drop in day temperature during the above period, it said.

The MeT office said the minimum temperature during the intervening night of Tuesday and Wednesday slipped down by a few notches as Srinagar recorded a low of -3.0°C against the -2.5°C against the previous night. It was 3.2°C below normal for the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir.

Qazigund on Srinagar-Jammu national had a low of -2.0°C against the -1.2°C while the picnic spot of Kokernag in south Kashmir recorded a low of -0.2°C against the -0.3°C the previous day.

Tourist hot spot of Pahalgam remained the coldest place in Kashmir valley, although there was a further improvement in minimum temperature by a few notches. Pahalgam recorded -5.2°C against the -5.4°C. It was 0.2°C below normal for the valley of shepherds in south Kashmir.

Kupwara recorded a low of -3.4°C against the -3.6°C and it was 2.2°C below normal for the frontier north Kashmir district. The minimum temperature at Gulmarg

settled at -4.2°C against the -4.5°C recorded on Tuesday and it was 2.0°C above normal for the famous ski resort of north Kashmir. (UNI)

Over 18,900....

It was then, one of his relatives informed him about the State Marriage Assistance Scheme (SMAS) being implemented in Jammu and Kashmir to financially help the underprivileged women.

“The amount disbursed by the social welfare department helped us a lot. My daughter got married last year and we managed to buy essential items required for the wedding rituals,” he said.

In Jammu and Kashmir, scores of the financially underprivileged families avail the benefits of the SMAS to get their daughters married.

As per the figures accessed by KNO, a total of 18976 underprivileged women from Kashmir have availed the benefits of the scheme since its inception in 2015.

Data reveals that 1220 beneficiaries have availed the benefits of the scheme in Srinagar. From Baramulla, the social welfare department sanctioned 3306 cases under the scheme.

In Bandipora and Kupwara, as many as 2456 and 1857 women, respectively, have availed benefits under the scheme.

Social welfare department has sanctioned 1118 cases in Ganderbal. In southern Kashmir's Pulwama, Anantnag, Shopian and Kulgam, 1593, 2370, 894 and 2084 women, respectively have availed benefits under the scheme.

SMAS is a Social Assistance Scheme implemented by the Social Welfare Department to financially assist un-married identified women in Jammu and Kashmir who belong to the below poverty line category.

Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Council headed by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha earlier in 2022 restructured the State Marriage Assistance Scheme to provide benefits to all AAY and PHH families.

As per the restructured scheme, any girl of legally marriageable age belonging to the families of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), or Priority Household (PHH) ration card holders, will be eligible for one-time financial assistance of Rs 50,000.

An official said the number of beneficiaries under the scheme has been increasing every year.

“Throughout Jammu and Kashmir, scores of underprivileged women apply for the scheme and their cases are being speedily approved. The department after official verifications disburse the amount to the beneficiaries,” he said.

Dr Jitendra....

The first Special Train of pilgrims from Katra reached Ayodhya this morning and carried devotees mostly from Udhampur and Reasi besides Jammu . This is the first of the special ‘Aastha’ trains originating from Katra station, operated by the Northern Railways to facilitate this sacred journey.

“Aastha Specials” trains, each comprising 22 coaches, have been announced by the Indian Railways connecting 66 locations across the country, to facilitate pilgrimage to Ayodhya following the inauguration of the Ram Temple on 22nd January 2024.

Devotees from Udhampur, Reasi and Jammu districts were pleased to have among them the Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, who also accompanied the pilgrims to offer prayers at the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Mandir.

“It is a divine coincidence under the leadership of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi that it has been possible to connect the holy cities of Katra-Vaisnodevi and Ayodhya because of Ram Lalla,” said Dr Jitendra Singh, the Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space.

While the whole world is lauding the consecration of the Ram Temple at Ayodhya, Dr Jitendra Singh recalled that Prime Minister Modi has a special bond with Mata Vaishno

Devi shrine.

Soon after being named as Prime Ministerial candidate for the 2014 general election, Shri Narendra Modi had kicked off his election campaign after paying obeisance at the Mata Vaishno Devi temple, revealed Dr Jitendra Singh.

And again, after being sworn in as the Prime Minister in May, 2014, one of the first major programmes attended by him was the inauguration of the Katra -Vaishno Devi Railway Station.

Soon after, on the directions of PM Modi, Katra Railway Station was converted to solar-power because of the rich sunshine that it receives, said Dr Jitendra Singh, adding that several other railway stations of the country also followed the same precedent.

Dr Jitendra Singh, who represents Udhampur constituency in the Lok Sabha, said, similarly, under Prime Minister Modi, Katra Vaishno Devi got Express road corridor from New Delhi, two instead of one Vande Bharat Express trains and Katra was included in the PRASHAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive) scheme.

While the devotees will have an opportunity to pay obeisance at Ayodhya, they will be also carrying the blessings of Mata Vaishno Devi all the way to the Ram Lalla Temple in Ayodhya, said Dr Jitendra Singh.

Shahida Turn.....

attire of his tribe. Aragam village in north Kashmir overlooks Asia's largest freshwater lake, Wular.

“My aim is that the Gujjar Bakarwal tribe should get a place to represent themselves in the nation and the world somewhere so that the community could also move forward with others”, Shahida told UNI.

A Bachelor of Arts (BA), Shahida did her initial studies from the Government Girls School Aragam and completed class XII from the higher secondary School of the village. She graduated from the Government women's college Srinagar in 2020.

When asked what made her turn the ancestral home in a museum, she said “I had been to Bhopal in 2016 to attend a function “Lok Rang” programme during my schooling days. It was very painful for me that I could not find the costume of my tribe anywhere there that hurts me”.

“From the day I made up my mind that whatever the cultural belongings of our tribe was will be preserved and I successfully did that by turning my ancestral home into a museum at Aragam”, she said.

Shahida has kept all belongings of her tribe in the museum including cultural dresses, traditional headgears, shawls, utensils and a charkha for the exhibition of the people.

She said local people often visit to see the museum but people from the far flung areas and tourists are yet to turn to see the tribe's cultural heritage.

“It may be due to less awareness and publicity, people are not yet turning to experience my museum,” she said.

Shahid wants to showcase the cultural heritage of Gujjar tribe at the national and the international level.

She said that the government should help us to take forward the people of Gujjar Bakarwal community alongwith other communities of Jammu and Kashmir. So far no help or appreciation came from the local administration, she added.

Shahida is also running a Noor tailoring cutting and stitching center for the past one year in which she is providing free training to the girls of her tribe and others of the village.

She said presently she is providing training to 25 Girls of the Aragam village and had trained 50 girls in the last batch.

“The tribe is very downtrodden and could not afford much so I decided to provide the training free of cost”, she said.

In reply to a question about why not try for a government job, Shahida said “I tried to get the government job but that could not happen and presently I am looking after my museum

to explore it in a big way”. (UNI)

ED Arrests....

Bhat was a top commander of militant outfit Hizbul Mujahideen when the group declared a ceasefire in July 2000, which was reciprocated by the Centre.

In May 2022, the court of Special Judge designated under NIA Act Srinagar framed charges against the separatist leader and seven others for allegedly procuring medical seats in Pakistan for Kashmiri students in lieu of money which was “partly used” to “support and fund terrorism and separatism in different ways”.

A spokesman of the ED on Wednesday said the three were arrested in connection with money laundering case wherein accused persons involved in terror financing were hand-in-glove with Pakistani handlers Manzoor Ahmad Shah and Altaf Ahmad Bhat, who arranged admissions in MBBS & other courses in the colleges of Pakistan for students from Jammu & Kashmir.

The trio have been remanded to ED custody till February 20.

The ED initiated money laundering investigation on the basis of FIR registered by J&K Police for offences under various sections of Unlawful Activity (Prevention) Act and IPC, 1860 against Mohammad Akbar Bhat, Fatima Shah, Altaf Ahmad Bhat, Qazi Yasir, Syed Khalid Geelani alias Khalid Andrabi & others involved in terrorist activity in Jammu & Kashmir.

The ED investigation revealed that the arrested accused persons were hand in glove with Pakistani handlers in the guise of admissions in MBBS & other courses in the colleges of Pakistan for students from Jammu & Kashmir.

“They had received money in their personal accounts and in the bank accounts of Al-Jabar Trust which was a charitable trust,” the ED said. “ But it was being used for the purpose of receiving funds from students, which were further being ploughed into the terrorist activity in India in various ways such as given money to stone pelters, providing money to the persons/terrorist based in Jammu & Kashmir as per instructions of Pakistan handlers such as Manzoor Ahmad Shah, Altaf Ahmad Bhat etc.”

Earlier, ED had provisionally attached properties worth Rs. 5 Crore under the provisions of PMLA, 2002 in the form of various bank accounts, immovable properties etc. (UNI)

IIT Jammu.....

was designed considering various challenges,” making it versatile, he added.

Sound-based drone detection systems will detect even drones and birds coming from Pakistan.

Along with dealing with terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, the biggest challenge for the security forces at present is drones. Arms, ammunition, cash and drugs are being sent from Pakistan through drones. In such a situation, different technologies are being developed for the security forces to deal with the increasing trend of drones. In this series, IIT Jammu has prepared a sound-based drone detection system.

When asked about the development time, it took between 6 months to 1 year to create this technology. The primary challenge we faced was related to data.

He further said that our security forces need a foolproof anti-drone Grid system on IB and LOC and many anti-drone technologies have already been installed and are being developed.

“We can provide this system to the army only when they provide us with data from similar environments, allowing our AI technology to incorporate and adapt,” Dr Nathwani said.

With the help of this sound-based drone detection system, this device will be able to easily detect drones, aircraft, multiple drones or birds flying up to 300 meters by their sound. The cost of making this drone ranges from Rs 25 to 40 thousand. (Agencies)

Action against recently appointed MTS staff possessing higher qualification

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: The Jammu and Kashmir government has sought details from its offices across the Union Territory about the reported higher qualification being possessed by the Multi Tasking Staff appointed in the year 2022. Reports inform that it has come to the notice of the LG administration that several complaints have been received wherein it has been alleged that a portion of selected/appointed candidates were in possession of qualification higher than the prescribed one as on the relevant cut-off date. The government has asked the Departments to initiate urgent appropriate action in all such cases and also act against the delinquent candidates under norms.

As per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the Minimum and Maximum qualification prescribed for appointment to Class-IV/MTS posts, as per the Jammu and Kashmir

Appointment to Class-IV (Special Recruitment) Rules, 2020 notified vide S.O 184 of 2020 dated 04.06.2020, is “Matric and 10+2” respectively. Pursuant to the indent placed by the General Administration Department on 22.06.2020, the J&K Service Selection Board (JKSSB) advertised 8575 Class-IV/MTS posts vide Notification No. 01 of 2020 dated 26.06.2020 and prescribed 28.08.2020 as the last date for applying in online mode for the posts advertised.

According to the JKSSB, candidates, while filling the application forms, submitted “Self-Declaration” that they are in possession of the prescribed qualification as per the advertisement/ notification issued by the Board and also submitted an “Affidavit” to the Board at the time of verification of documents, affirming therein, that they were not in possession of qualification higher than the one prescribed

for the post as on cut-off date of 28.08.2020 i.e. the last date for applying in online mode for the posts advertised by the Board.

The J&K SSB, while forwarding the recommendations of the selected candidates, also advised the concerned appointing authorities that they shall satisfy themselves about the fact that the candidates are in possession of the ‘prescribed minimum (10th) and maximum qualification (12th) as on the said cut-off date before issuing the appointment orders and in case it is found that any candidate is possessing qualification higher than the prescribed one as on the said cut-off date, the Board may be intimated so that criminal proceedings against such . candidate(s) can be initiated by the Board. However, reads an official communication in this regard, several complaints have been received wherein it has been alleged that a few selected/appointed candidates were in

possession of qualification higher than the prescribed one as on the relevant cut-off date.

“In view of the above, it is enjoined upon all the concerned Administrative Departments to immediately examine all such cases to ensure that the candidates appointed as Class-IV (MTS) on the recommendations of the J&K Service Selection Board (JKSSB) were not in possession of qualification higher than the one prescribed in the relevant rules as on the above cut-off date as prescribed by the Board while advertising the Class-IV(MTS) vacancies vide Notification No. 01 of 2020 dated 26.06.2020 and, if there are cases in which appointment orders have been issued in violation of the relevant rules, the Departments shall initiate urgent appropriate action in all such cases and also act against the delinquent candidates under norms,” reads an official order

Dr Singla holds Public Darbar at Banquet Hall, Srinagar

Emphasizes importance of immediate redressal of people's grievances through unique initiative of Public Darbar

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: Secretary School Education, Dr. Piyush Singla presided over a mega Public Darbar at Banquet Hall in Srinagar today, taking stock of the issues and demands of the people.

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Director School Education, Heads of Departments, and other senior officers from the District Administration of Srinagar were present at the occasion. Vice Chairman of DDC, Bilal Ahmad Bhat, along with other PRI representatives and various delegations, also participated in the Public Outreach programme.

The Public Darbar received an overwhelming response from the public, with people apprising the Secretary about

their developmental issues and demands, seeking his intervention for redressal.

Delegations expressed satisfaction with the outreach programme, stating that it provided them with an opportunity to voice their grievances and urged the government to expedite resolutions through appropriate channels.

The Secretary issued on-the-spot directions to concerned officers to address all issues raised by the delegations and individuals, initiating action for their early redressal.

People mainly appraised him with civic problems related to bad roads, intermittent power supply, inadequate health facilities, and infrastructure augmentation in public



health institutions.

A delegation led by DDC member Harwan raised concerns about power cuts in their areas, emphasizing the need for electricity availability as per schedule.

The Private Schools Parent Association delegation highlighted issues regarding fee fixation and transport fees in private schools, urging strict enforcement of Fee Fixation and Regulatory Committee orders.

Delegations from Eidgah and Ahmednagar raised issues related to roads, water treatment plants, power pipe leakages, and health infrastructure upgradation in their respective localities.

Similarly, a delegation from Habak Naseembagh emphasized

sized road widening due to frequent traffic jams, while another from Tengpora area demanded irrigation facilities, better healthcare services, and improved drainage systems.

Dr Singla assured all individuals and delegations that their issues and genuine demands would be redressed on a merit basis, giving on-the-spot directions to concerned officials for time-bound resolutions.

He emphasized the importance of immediate redressal of people's grievances through the unique initiative of Public Darbar.

Furthermore, he directed HoDs to promote government initiatives and schemes to ensure maximum benefit for the public.

NCPCR seeks ATR of alleged harassment of six-year-old child by a private school of Kashmir

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has sought an action taken report from the administration of Jammu and Kashmir pertaining to the matter of alleged harassment of a six-year-old child by a private school of Srinagar.

In this regard the commission has issued a show cause notice to Deputy Commissioner Srinagar—seeking the action taken report with regard to the matter.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), NCPCR in a show cause notice regarding alleged harassment of a 6 year old Child by Foundation World School, Humhama said that the commission had invited attention in 2021 from the concerned authorities and had even sent the reminder notices twice regarding the matter.

The commission said that the concerned authorities from Jammu and Kashmir were requested to send a detailed inquiry and investigation report to the Commission.



“The action taken report on the above matter has not been received by the Commission so far,” it reads. NCPCR accordingly requested the concerned authorities to share the ATR or the investigation report desired by the commission within seven days of receipt of this letter.

“In the event of non-receipt of the same, the commission in pursuance of its functions and powers u/s 13 & 14 of the CPC Act, 2005 shall require your appearance in person or through video conferencing in this matter along with the details of the redressal of complaint or reasons for non-redressal of the complaint,” reads the show cause notice.

CEO SSCL visits ICCC Zainakote HMT, reviews its functioning

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: CEO Srinagar Smart City Ltd. (SSCL), Dr. Owais Ahmed today visited the Integrated Command and Control Center (ICCC) at Zainakote HMT, Srinagar, to gain insights of cutting-edge urban technologies in Srinagar.

During the visit, the CEO engaged in productive discussions with officials of SSCL and all stakeholders, emphasizing the importance of leveraging technology to enhance urban living and address key challenges faced by the city. He expressed enthusiasm for the ongoing initiatives and expressed a commitment to support the vision of transforming Srinagar into a technologically advanced and sustainable city.

ICCC will act as a situation

room of integrated city civic operations and creating opportunities for data-driven decision making. Srinagar Smart City aims to secure and increase livability, sustainability, efficiency for all citizens. The Smart City will help to achieve five goals viz. smart mobility, smart economy, smart environment, smart living and smart governance.

Dr Owais emphasised on continuous evaluation of the functioning of the Integrated Command & Control Centre for analyzing the impact of citizen centric services viz. Water, Electricity, Mobility, Education, Healthcare, Environment, Security and Emergency Response Mechanism.

ICCC enables collation of information and collaborative



monitoring, thus helping in the analysis of data for quicker decision making. Intelligent operations capability ensures integrated data visualization, real time collaboration and deep analytics that will help different stakeholders to prepare for emergencies, coordinate and manage response efforts and enhance the ongoing efficiency of city operations.

In addition to the discussions, the CEO SSCL toured the facilities and witnessed firsthand demonstrations of the advanced technologies deployed at the ICCC. The visit provided an opportunity to exchange best practices and explore potential avenues for collaboration between Smart City initiatives and the local administration.

DLSA Srinagar conducts inspection of Central Jail, Srinagar; oversees progress of pan-India campaign

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar today conducted an inspection of the Central Jail, Srinagar, and also oversaw the progress of the pan-India campaign for identifying juveniles in prisons and providing them with legal assistance.

The inspection was held under the guidance of Chairman (PDJ) DLSA, Srinagar, Jawad Ahmed.

The inspection was led by Secretary DLSA Srinagar, Jahangir Ahmed Bakshi who was accompanied by officials, LADCs, female panel lawyer of DLSA Srinagar.

The aim of the inspection was to assess the status of the identification process, ensure that juveniles are provided with timely and effective legal assistance, and address any challenges faced by the jail authorities in implementing the campaign.

During the jail visit, the DLSA team along with superintendent and prison staff took round off all the barracks and interacted with jail inmates including female inmates, listened to their grievances and received feedback for services provided to them by DLSA Srinagar.

They also reviewed the existing



infrastructure and facilities available to the jail inmates in the central jail, including access to education, healthcare and counseling services, etc.

The DLSA team also provided guidance and support to the jail authorities for effective implementation of the PAN India campaign and ensure that the rights of juvenile inmates are protected. They emphasized the importance of providing juveniles with access to legal representation, counseling, and other support services to help them navigate the criminal justice system.

The inspection concluded with a discussion between the DLSA team and the jail superintendent, where they discussed the findings of the inspection and assured that their genuine grievances shall be redressed on priority basis.

DLSA Srinagar is committed to ensure that juveniles as well as other jail inmates in prisons have access to justice and that their rights are upheld. The pan-India campaign for identifying juveniles in prisons and providing them with legal assistance is a crucial step in achieving this goal.

Performance of MPs from Baramulla Lok Sabha segment

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: Three-time MLA and senior National Conference leader Muhammad Akbar Muhammad Lone may have been vocal in the assembly of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir from 2002 to 2018, but he has been a poor performer as a member of the Parliament.

According to PRS Legislative Research, a non-profit organization tracking performance of parliamentarians and legislators, Lone, who represents Baramulla Lok Sabha seat, has asked just five questions from 2019 to 2024 while the average number of questions asked by an MP during this period is 210 and from the erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir is 103.

Lone, who attended all sessions of the parliament till 2022 monsoon session, has just participated in six debates while the national average was 46.7 % debates and the state average was 49.4 % debates.

As per the data available with news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Lone's attendance



was 41 percent in the Parliament, while the national average is 79 percent and state average is 72 percent.

His predecessor Muzaffar Hussain Baig's performance as the member of Parliament from 2009 to 2014 was no different. Baig, who represented Baramulla segment in the Lok Sabha, had mere 11 percent attendance, while the national average was 80% and state average was 55%.

In his five-year stint, Baig asked mere 19 questions while the national average for questions was 293 and the state average was 94.

As MP, Baig took part only in three debates in the Parliament, while the national average was 67.1% and the state average was 30.8%.

SMART CITY'S E-BUS TRAVEL: PASSENGERS CAUGHT WITHOUT TICKET TO BE PENALIZED

SRINAGAR, FEB 14: Srinagar City's e-bus transportation system has announced measures to curb fare evasion and ensure a fair system for commuters, saying that those travelling without a ticket or pass will now incur a penalty ten times the legal fare or a flat fine of Rs 500, officials said on Wednesday.

The penalty clauses, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), outlined by the smart city authorities,

specify that under Penal Action 178, passengers found travelling without a valid ticket or pass can face fines up to Rs 500.

Additionally, penal action 178/1 addresses misbehaviour, obstruction to checking officers in the discharge of their duties, and refusal to provide information also carry fines up to Rs 500.

Emphasizing the importance of adherence to fare regulations, officials clarified that the legal fare would be calculated from the



originating point to the destination of the commuter's trip.

As per the Srinagar Smart City's intercity E-Bus fare matrix the fare structure has been established as Up to 0–3 Km: Rs 10,

03–05 Km: Rs 15, 05–10 Km: Rs 20, 10–15 Km: Rs 25, 15–20 Km: Rs 30, 20–25 Km: Rs 35 and 25–30 Km: Rs 40.

The official said that these measures aim to ensure fair payment for transportation services and discourage fare evasion. “Commuters are urged to comply with these regulations to avoid penalties and support the city's efforts toward a reliable and equitable transportation system”, said an official.

JK Judicial Academy conducts one-day training programme on 'eCourts' for advocates in Jammu Province

e-Courts Project aims at transforming Indian Judiciary by implementing ICT: Justice Javid Iqbal

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 14: The J&K Judicial Academy, in collaboration with the e-Committee of the Supreme Court of India, organized a One-Day Training Programme on "eCourts" for Advocates in Jammu Province at the J&K Judicial Academy, Janipur, Jammu.

The training programme was inaugurated by Justice Javed Iqbal Wani, Member of the Governing Committee for J&K Judicial Academy, in the presence of Anoop Sharma, Registrar Computers, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, and U.K. Jalali, Senior Advocate, High Court of J&K and Ladakh,

who served as resource persons in the training programme.

In his inaugural address, Justice Javed Iqbal Wani highlighted that the e-Courts Project is a Mission Mode Project of the Government of India aimed at transforming the Indian Judiciary by implementing Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in its functioning.

The eCourts project aims to provide a litigant-centric, affordable, accessible, efficient, cost-effective, transparent, and accountable justice delivery system in a time-bound manner. The services under the project cater to all key stakeholders, including the High Courts, the District and Subor-



ordinate Courts, and the citizens, litigants, lawyers, and advocates. The automation of Case Management has increased visibility and helps courts in the speedier disposal of cases.

Y.P. Bourney, Director of J&K Judicial Academy, presented the welcome address and gave an overview of the programme. He stated that technology has proven to be a significant accelerant in almost all aspects of human lives, including the dispensation of justice, and e-courts represent a more viable alternative to conventional courts, utilizing technology to facilitate legal proceedings.

He underlined that the primary benefit of e-courts is their accessibil-

ity from the remotest location, allowing individuals from far-flung areas or those unable to physically attend court to still avail legal remedies. He stated that e-Courts have the potential to revolutionize the administration of justice, particularly for underprivileged and marginalized communities facing barriers to traditional court systems, by reshaping access to justice and enhancing efficiency, transparency, and fairness.

The first technical session was chaired by Anoop Sharma, who introduced the e-Courts Project and educated advocates about e-initiatives and management tools under e-Courts for advocates.

DC Baramulla holds Block Diwas at Chijhama Rafiabab

Listens public issues; redresses several demands on-spot

■ HT News Network

BARAMULLA FEBRUARY 14: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa today presided over a Block Diwas programme organized by the District Administration Baramulla at Chijhama Rafiabab, to actively engage with the community, address their grievances, and listen to their demands first-hand.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Sopore, Shabir Ahmad Raina; officers from the concerned departments, public representatives and a large number of people from villages of Rohama and Dangiwa blocks participated in the Block Diwas. Throughout the programme, community members and their representatives voiced their grievances and demands concerning development and administrative matters, emphasizing the need for



immediate attention from the DC and district administration to facilitate necessary resolutions.

The primary demands included, establishment of a Kisan Ghar at Dangiwa, prompt filling of vacant positions for BDOs and Tehsildars, deployment of Hoppers for a comprehensive Swachhata Drive across villages within the blocks, and provision of science and other crucial streams at GDC Hadipora.

Additionally, the representatives called for the upgradation of the library facilities at Watergam,

addressed numerous issues raised during the Block Diwas, offering immediate solutions on-site while instructing officers from concerned departments to prioritize the remaining issues and ensure swift resolution.

The DC further emphasized the untapped potential of the upper belt of Rafiabab for adventure tourism, particularly trekking and skiing. He assured that the district administration would incorporate this into the Capex budget for the coming Financial Year, prioritizing the establishment of essential facilities such as washrooms, canteens, shelter sheds, and benches to enhance the overall tourist experience. Earlier, Minha Sherpa inspected multiple stalls set up by various departments, including Horticulture, Health, NRLM, Jal Shakti among others showcasing a range of government schemes, services.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR BIRTHS & DEATHS BLOCK WAGOORA Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate. PUBLIC NOTICE

This office is in receipt of representation from: NUZHAT BEGUM W/O FERDOUS AHMAD GANAIE R/O, NOWPORA Tehsil Kreeri District Baramulla for issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of her daughter namely :HAFSA FIRDOS D/O FIRDOS AHMAD GANAIE whose D.O.B as per documents is 27/11/2020 & event shown to be occurred at SDH Kreeri. In this connection if anyone have any objection in the registration of birth certificate shall present his/her claim to this office or Tehsildar Kreeri/Wagoora /BDO office Wagoora within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

REGISTRATION BIRTH & DEATH
(BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WAGOORA)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR BIRTHS & DEATHS BLOCK WAGOORA Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate. PUBLIC NOTICE

This office is in receipt of representation from: NUZHAT BEGUM W/O FERDOUS AHMAD GANAIE R/O, NOWPORA Tehsil Kreeri District Baramulla for issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of her daughter namely :MARIYA FIRDOS D/O FIRDOS AHMAD GANAIE whose D.O.B as per documents is 30/08/2015 & event shown to be occurred at SDH Kreeri. In this connection if anyone have any objection in the registration of birth certificate shall present his/her claim to this office or Tehsildar Kreeri/Wagoora /BDO office Wagoora within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

REGISTRATION BIRTH & DEATH
(BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WAGOORA)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR BIRTHS & DEATHS BLOCK WAGOORA Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate. PUBLIC NOTICE

This office is in receipt of representation from: FAMEEDA BEGUM W/O IRSHAD AHMAD RATHER R/O, DOLIPORA Tehsil Kreeri District Baramulla for issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of his son namely : AHMAD IRSHAD S/O IRSHAD AHMAD RATHER whose D.O.B as per documents is 19/01/2022 & event shown to be occurred at SDH Kreeri. In this connection if anyone have any objection in the registration of birth certificate shall present his/her claim to this office or Tehsildar Kreeri/Wagoora /BDO office Wagoora within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

REGISTRATION BIRTH & DEATH
(BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WAGOORA)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR BIRTHS & DEATHS BLOCK WAGOORA Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate. PUBLIC NOTICE

This office is in receipt of representation from: SHARIFA BEGUM W/O GH NABI DAR R/O, NAJIBHAT Tehsil Wagoora District Baramulla for issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of her daughter namely : YASMEENA NABI D/O GH NABI DAR whose D.O.B as per documents is 15/01/2001 & event shown to be occurred at home In this connection if anyone have any objection in the registration of birth certificate shall present his/her claim to this office or Tehsildar Kreeri/Wagoora /BDO office Wagoora within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

REGISTRATION BIRTH & DEATH
(BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WAGOORA)

PUBLIC NOTICE

I informed to general public that my father namely MOHAMMAD SULTAN PARRAY S/O ABDUL AHAD PARRAY R/O SALOOSA KREERI has died on 25/01/1979... Now I am applying for his death certificate. 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.....MYMOONA BEGUM
D/O...LATE MOHAMMAD SULTAN PARRAY
R/O..... SALOOSA KREERI
BLOCK ...WAGOORA
DISTTBARAMULLA

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR BIRTHS & DEATHS BLOCK WAGOORA Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate. PUBLIC NOTICE

This office is in receipt of representation from: RAJA BEGUM W/O ABDUL AHAD SHEIKH R/O, WALRAMAN Tehsil Kreeri District Baramulla for issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of his son namely : TARIQ AHMAD SHEIKH S/O ABDUL AHAD SHEIKH whose D.O.B as per documents is 04/06/1980 & event shown to be occurred at SDH Kreeri. In this connection if anyone have any objection in the registration of birth certificate shall present his/her claim to this office or Tehsildar Kreeri/Wagoora /BDO office Wagoora within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

REGISTRATION BIRTH & DEATH
(BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WAGOORA)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR BIRTHS & DEATHS BLOCK WAGOORA Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate. PUBLIC NOTICE

This office is in receipt of representation from: SHAFIQA BEGUM W/O MOHAMMAD KAMAL NAJAR R/O, KUAZI HAMAM BARAMULLA Tehsil Wagoora District Baramulla for issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of me namely : SHAFIQA BEGUM W/O LATE SHEIKH MOHD SYED MY D.O.B as per documents is 13/01/1975 & event shown to be occurred at home In this connection if anyone have any objection in the registration of birth certificate shall present his/her claim to this office or Tehsildar Kreeri/Wagoora /BDO office Wagoora within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

REGISTRATION BIRTH & DEATH
(BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WAGOORA)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR BIRTHS & DEATHS BLOCK WAGOORA Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate. PUBLIC NOTICE

This office is in receipt of representation from: IMTIYAZ AHMAD F/O TEHVEEM R/O, VIZER Tehsil Kreeri District Baramulla for issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of her daughter namely : TEHVEEM D/O IMTIYAZ AHMAD R/O VIZER whose D.O.B as per documents is 11/02/2015 & event shown to be occurred at home In this connection if anyone have any objection in the registration of birth certificate shall present his/her claim to this office or Tehsildar Kreeri/Wagoora /BDO office Wagoora within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

REGISTRATION BIRTHS & DEATHS
(BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WAGOORA)

اطلاع عام

مجھے ٹورایڈ ٹول نام the heaven tour and travel کی رجسٹریشن محکمہ ٹورازم پہنچا گیا میں کرانی مطلوب ہے اگر اس بارے میں کسی کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اسسٹنٹ ڈائریکٹر ٹورازم پہنچا گیا کے دفتر میں اگر یا اس نمبر پر فون کر کے 01936243224 پر رابطہ کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی بھی اعتراض قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

المشہر عثمان عطاء من عاق ولد عبدالعاق راقر تھرا سائن لاری پول پاپیلا ہلگام

اطلاع عام

مجھے ٹورایڈ ٹول نام Papillon homestay کی رجسٹریشن محکمہ ٹورازم پہنچا گیا میں کرانی مطلوب ہے اگر اس بارے میں کسی کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اسسٹنٹ ڈائریکٹر ٹورازم پہنچا گیا کے دفتر میں اگر یا اس نمبر پر فون کر کے 01936243224 پر رابطہ کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی بھی اعتراض قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

المشہر ثنار احمد لاوے ولد غلام رسول لاوے ساکن مائل پہنچا گیا

ازنیات پہنچا گیا

درخواست منتخب سراج احمد ملک و تہیل احمد ملک ساکن بد کوٹ پہنچا گیا ام بغرض حصول RBA شلیکٹ

اشتہار بمسرا آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

معاذ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل فخر ہذا میں زیر کا دانی ہے سائل RBA شلیکٹ حاصل کرنے کی خواہاں ہے سائل کا کنڈیورن ڈیل افرو پر مشتمل ہے

نمبر شمار	نام معبودیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
۱	محمد نقیوب ولد غلام محمد	51 سال	سرکاری ملازم	180000+Hpc
۲	سلیمہ بانو زوجہ غلام محمد	48 سال	گھریلو کام	
۳	سراج احمد پسر	31 سال	زیر تعلیم	
۴	سکیل احمد	23 سال	زیر تعلیم	
۵	نسرین بیجان دختر	29 سال	زیر تعلیم	
۶	زید احمد پسر	27 سال	زیر تعلیم	

یہذا اگر کسی شخص یا خاندان کو جو وجوہات مندرجہ بالا سائل کے حق میں شلیکٹ مندرجہ بالا ذکر کرنے میں کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہوا تو انہیں ایک ہفتہ بعد اس ہذا تاریخ پر ہی پیش کرے۔ بعد اس وقت معیاد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

تحریر المصنر

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR BIRTHS & DEATHS BLOCK WAGOORA Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate. PUBLIC NOTICE

This office is in receipt of representation from: NIGHAT MUSHTAQ W/O MOHAMMAD IQBAL BHAT R/O, TAKIYA WAGOORA Tehsil Kreeri District Baramulla for issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of her daughter namely :ZAMEER UL ISLAM BHAT S/O MOHAMMAD IQBAL BHAT whose D.O.B as per documents is 25/03/2022 & event shown to be occurred at SDH Kreeri. In this connection if anyone have any objection in the registration of birth certificate shall present his/her claim to this office or Tehsildar Kreeri/Wagoora /BDO office Wagoora within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

REGISTRAR BIRTHS & DEATHS
(BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WAGOORA)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR 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 ANABIYA SHAHZAD D/O SHAHZAD AHMAD KHAN R/O VIZER Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 16/03/2022 and event has been shown to be occurred at S.D.H Kreeri for issuance of delay order. In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE
1ST CLASS KREERI

DC Kathua reviews progress under District Capex Budget 2023-24

■ HT News Network

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 14: Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Dr. Rakesh Minhas, conducted a comprehensive review of the ongoing development projects under the District Capex Budget 2023-24 at a meeting held in the DC office complex, here today. The review aimed to assess the performance and status of the in-progress projects across different sectors.

Dr. Minhas meticulously examined the progress of each sector and solicited feedback on the current status of developmental works. During the department-wise review, he underscored the importance of expediting the completion of pending projects within the district, emphasizing the need for quality asset creation within stipulated timeframes.

While reviewing new projects initiated under this year's CAPEX, Dr. Minhas emphasized the imperative of timely execution across all depart-



ments. He urged concerned authorities to ensure the swift completion of ongoing projects while adhering to established timelines.

Recognizing the pivotal role of each department, Dr. Minhas emphasized the necessity of concerted efforts and close attention at the grassroots level to achieve project objectives

effectively. He further advised departments to prioritize critical initiatives such as school and hospital upgrades, community hall construction, and the establishment of block-level libraries. Among others, ADDC Kathua, CPO, Executive Engineers and other concerned officers from the district were present.

DDC Reasi chairs weekly Block Diwas meeting at Dharmari

■ HT News Network

REASI, FEBRUARY 14: District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan today chaired the weekly Block Diwas meeting to address the grievances of the local public here at Dharmari. The event was part of the administration's ongoing efforts to connect with the people at the grassroots level and to ensure the speedy redressal of their issues.

The residents of Dharmari, during the Block Diwas event, brought to light several pressing issues affecting their locality. They demanded construction of roads in unconnected areas, completion of PMGSY roads, meeting shortage of staff in health and educa-



tion departments, construction of the Hydro Power Project over the Hans River, renovation of the Dak Bungalow, installation of electric poles where needed, up-gradation of the Primary Health Centre (PHC), and a fresh survey for the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY).

Various stalls were set up by different departments to provide on-spot services to the public. These stalls included those of the Revenue, Health, Agriculture, Horticulture, Social Welfare department.

DDC Mahajan instructed the Chief Horticulture Officer to organize an awareness camp in Kanthi, Thil-

lu and adjoining areas to educate the residents about the departmental schemes and initiatives so that they can avail themselves of the benefits.

During the Block Diwas, General Manager District Industries Centre Reasi, Mohammad Anwar Bandy briefed residents about the Prime Minister Vishwakarma Scheme. He encouraged them to register themselves for the scheme to avail its benefits.

The DDC interacted with the residents of Dharmari and surrounding areas, listening to their grievances patiently. He assured them of prompt action on the issues raised and directed the concerned departments to take necessary steps to resolve the same at the earliest.

SMVDU, JKSTIC Udampur organises One-Day Awareness Program on Clean & Green Energy Technologies

■ HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, FEBRUARY 13: School of Energy Management, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Katra, organised one-day awareness program focused on clean and green energy technologies in collaboration with Department of Science & Technology, JKSTIC, Udampur.

The primary objective of this initiative is to educate individuals and communities about the latest advancements and innovations in clean energy technologies, with a specific emphasis on their role in mitigating climate change and promoting a more sustainable future.

Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor SMVDU, in his key address, highlighted the steps taken by SMVDU in organizing high quality awareness programmes, workshops and conferences. He stressed that such events help in broadening the knowledge base of the participants.

Prof. Pragati Kumar highlighted various aspects of Clean and Green Energy Technologies. He said that this awareness program will make all of us understand the need for clean energy, sustainable development and spread awareness and knowledge among the participants and society.

Shruti Khanna District Coordinator JKSTIC highlighted the major initiatives and activities undertaken by DST, J&K. She asserted that the event's objective is to encourage the young minds across and hoped they would be role models with a particular emphasis on promoting Green Energy for Sustainable Development. Dr. Ankit Tyagi, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT, Jammu laid emphasis on super capacitors for electric vehicles. He stressed on the new advancements

Road Safety Month: Awareness event near Khellani Tunnel- Doda marks culmination of thirty Day Campaign

■ HT News Network

DODA, FEBRUARY 14: The Month long activities orchestrated by Motor Vehicle Department month-long road safety campaign held under the auspices of Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh and under the supervision of ARTO Doda Rajesh Gupta culminated today with a highly impactful awareness event held here, Khellani Tunnel.

Throughout the month, a plethora of road safety activities and awareness camps were organized across different locations, spearheaded by the district administration and the MVD. The campaign sought to disseminate crucial information about road safety measures and encourage adherence to traffic regulations among the community.

One such event unfolded



near Khellani Tunnel, led by the Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) and officials from APCO Infratech Pvt Ltd. The gathering included members of the drivers' community and the general public. MVD officials delivered presentations on road safety measures, emphasizing the importance of seat belt usage, avoiding overloading, and adhering to traffic rules.

During the event, MVD officials conducted checks

to ensure compliance with road safety regulations. Drivers who demonstrated adherence to safety protocols were commended and rewarded with gifts as a gesture of appreciation. The primary objective was to assess adherence to road safety measures and reinforce the implementation of traffic rules among drivers.

Given the unique challenges posed by hilly terrain, special emphasis was placed on road safety mea-

sures tailored to such environments. Awareness campaigns addressed specific concerns such as navigating narrow roads, steep slopes, and adverse weather conditions, aiming to enhance safety standards in hilly regions.

In alignment with the broader National Road Safety Month objectives, the event near Khellani Tunnel underscored the pivotal role of community participation in fostering a culture of road safety, ultimately contributing to the reduction of road accidents and fatalities in Doda and beyond. Given the unique challenges posed by hilly terrain, special emphasis was placed on road safety measures tailored to such environments. Awareness campaigns addressed specific concerns such as navigating narrow roads, steep slopes, and adverse weather conditions, aiming to enhance safety standards.

SVEEP Programme spreads Electoral Awareness among students in Basohli

■ HT News Network

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 14: Government Model Higher Secondary School Basohli hosted a SVEEP programme today to enhance awareness about electoral processes among the students. The event, held within the school premises, was presided over by Additional Deputy Commissioner Basohli, Anil Kumar Thakur as the chief guest.

Alongside him, Naib Tehsildar Jagdish Singh, staff members of the higher secondary school and enthusiastic students added fervor to the occasion.

Students showcased their talent through cultural presentations that delved into the intricacies of electoral procedures. The cultural performances served not only as a means of expression but also as a platform for students to deepen their understanding of democratic principles.

Highlights of the event were the insightful speeches delivered by Priya Devi, Gungun, and Pallavi Pathania, students of 11th and 12th classes respectively. Their articulate discourse on electoral processes reflected a keen awareness of civic responsibilities and the significance of participation in democratic processes.

Speaking at the event, ADC Basohli Anil Kumar Thakur, applauded the students for their proactive engagement with electoral issues. He encouraged them to take an active role in the electoral process, stressing the importance of registering to vote and staying informed about electoral modifications through platforms like NVSP. He expressed optimism that Basohli would set new records in voter turnout in the upcoming elections. He reaffirmed the commitment of Basohli administration.

Empowering Electorates: Awareness on EVMs, VVPATs imparted to citizens at Doda

■ HT News Network

DODA, FEBRUARY 14: In consonance to the directives of District Election Officer, Harvinder Singh and under the supervision of Deputy District Election Officer Om Prakash, the District Election Office Doda orchestrated an impactful awareness camp, here today. The initiative, aligned with the guidelines stipulated by the Election Commission of India, aimed to familiarize citizens with the intricacies of casting votes using Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) system. The training camp unfolded at the District Election Office, nestled within the DC Office Complex. A multitude of local inhabitants, hailing from diverse corners of the district, congregated to partake in the daylong session. Their collective presence underscored a palpable eagerness to engage with and understand the electoral process more comprehensively. At the helm of the training session was Ashok Kumar, a distinguished master trainer from the District Election Office. Kumar provided invaluable expertise and guidance on navigating the intricacies of EVMs and VVPATs. Through meticulous instruction, attendees were equipped with the requisite knowledge to navigate the voting process effectively, thereby ensuring their active participation in upcoming elections.

Over Rs 8 lakh penalty imposed on perpetrators of illegal mining

■ HT News Network

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 14: The Geology and Mining Department Kathua has imposed Over Rs. 8 lakh penalty on an excavator and 04 vehicles for unauthorized mining and massive digging in Ujh River, here today.

On receiving complaint of illegal mining in Ujh River, District Mineral Officer Kathua along with officials of revenue department and police rushed to the spot and seized the machinery involved in illegal mining.

Meanwhile, the dugout area was measured by the officials of mining department and the perpetrators were subjected to penalty as per the MM (DR) Act of 1957 and SRO-105 of 2016. The DMO Kathua informed that the material was excavated from private land.

Weekly Block Diwas camp addresses public grievances at Marmat

■ HT News Network

DODA, FEBRUARY 14: The District Administration Doda, led by District Development Commissioner, Harvinder Singh organized the weekly Block Diwas public outreach program here today at Goha Marmat aiming to address public grievances.

District Development Council Chairman Doda Dhananter Singh Kotwal, along with DDC Vice Chairperson Sangeeta Rani and DDC Councillor Mushtaq Ahmed also graced the occasion. The dignitaries engaged with PRIs and



citizens to address their concerns directly. The officials actively listened to a plethora of demands ranging from infrastructure development like water supply, electricity, and healthcare facilities to educational and tourism initiatives. Additionally, demand for banking facilities, sports infra-

structure, and employment opportunities were also projected.

The DDC promptly addressed several grievances on-spot by instructing concerned officers. He conducted thorough inspection, starting with a visit to the Primary Health Center in Goha Marmat. This proactive approach demonstrates the administration's commitment to ensure the quality and efficiency of essential services. The DDC further inspected the progress of ongoing projects, underscoring the importance of infrastructure development in the region.

One-Week Workshop on Basic Office Tools concludes at GDCW Kathua

■ HT News Network

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 14: Department of Computer Applications of Government Degree College for Women, Kathua, organised a One-Week Workshop on "Basic Office Tools," under the patronage of IQAC (Internal Quality Assurance Cell). The workshop, which commenced on February 5, 2024, garnered significant enthusiasm from 40 students who actively participated in the program.

The inaugural ceremony, held on February 5, was graced by esteemed dignitaries, including College Principal Dr. Inderjeet Kour, Dr. Babita Mahajan, Dr. Ashwani Kumar Khajuria, Dr. Deep-

shikha Sharma, and other esteemed faculty members.

Over the span of 7 days, the workshop provided hands-on training to the participants on essential office tools such as MS Word, MS Excel, and MS PowerPoint. The meticulously designed schedule covered both fundamental and advanced features of each application, ensuring a thorough understanding. The credit for workshop's success goes to the invaluable contribution of resource persons Sachinjeet Singh (HoD), and Surbhi Gupta from the Department of Computer Science. Their expertise in delivering theoretical insights and practical knowledge greatly enriched the learning experience for the participants.

National Road Safety Month concludes with a grand Valedictory function at Warehouse Jammu

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 14: A Valedictory function of National Road Safety Month-2024 (15th January, 2024 to 14th February, 2024) was today organized by the Motor Vehicles Department in association with All J&K Transporters Welfare Association Jammu here at Warehouse.

Transport Commissioner, J&K Rajinder Singh Tara, Paramveer Singh, Additional Secretary, Road Safety Council, J&K, Pankaj Bhagotra, RTO Jammu, S. Ajit Singh, Chairman, All J&K Transport Welfare Association were present on the occasion.

Besides Rehana Tabassum, ARTO (Headquarters), Esha Chib, ARTO Board of Inspection (Goods), Kuldeep Singh, ARTO, Board of Inspection (Passengers), Neeraj Sharma, ARTO Flying Squad, Teams from Red Cross and Health



Department, Jammu and other heads of all Transport Associations (Truck/Bus/Mini Bus) were also present. Addressing the huge gathering, the Transport Commis-

sioner urged the participants/Drivers and conductors to adhere to the road safety rules. He said that the main objective behind observing countrywide National Road Safety Month by the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways was to generate mass awareness about safety and security of road users and to minimize the number of deaths and injuries caused due to the road accidents in the U.T of Jammu and Kashmir and the whole Country.

The Transport Commissioner also congratulated the whole team of Motor Vehicles Department and Transport Associations for their efforts for holding maximum awareness/events not only in the Road Safety Month but also during the entire year.

The RTO Jammu impressed upon all the transporters, Vehicle Owners, drivers, Conductors, travelers and road users to strictly follow road safety and traffic rules to minimise the number of road accidents.

EDITORIAL

Confronting the Epidemic of Sexual Assault on Minors

The recent conviction of a man for sexual assault in Handwara, with a sentence of 10 years imprisonment and a fine of fifty thousand rupees, casts a glaring spotlight on the escalating crisis of sexual violence against minors in Kashmir. This verdict serves as a stark reminder of the urgent need for comprehensive societal, legal, and educational reforms to safeguard the most vulnerable among us.

Sexual assault on minors is not just a crime, it is a heinous violation of trust, innocence, and basic human rights. Each reported case reflects countless others shrouded in silence, underscoring the pervasive nature of this grave issue. The trauma inflicted upon the victims resonates far beyond the confines of individual incidents, leaving lasting scars on their physical, emotional, and psychological well-being.

The Handwara verdict must catalyze proactive measures aimed at prevention, prosecution, and rehabilitation. Strengthening legal frameworks to ensure swift and stringent punishment for perpetrators is imperative. However, legal recourse alone is insufficient without parallel efforts to address root causes.

Prevention is equally crucial in combating this epidemic. Comprehensive sex education programs must be integrated into school curricula to empower children with knowledge about consent, boundaries, and safe practices. Parents, educators, and community leaders must engage in open dialogue to dismantle the culture of silence and stigma surrounding sexual violence, creating an environment where survivors feel empowered to speak out and seek help without fear of judgment or reprisal.

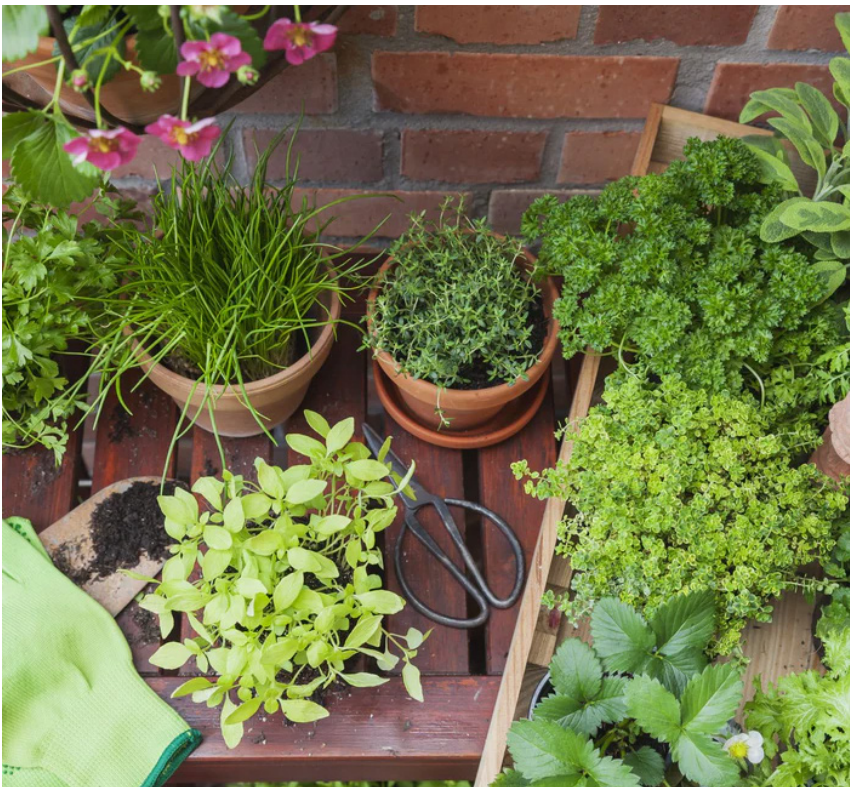
Moreover, it is incumbent upon every member of society to actively challenge and confront attitudes and behaviors that perpetuate gender-based violence and exploitation. By fostering a culture of respect, empathy, and accountability, we can create a safer and more equitable future for our children.

The conviction in Handwara serves as a stark reminder of the urgent need for collective action to combat the scourge of sexual assault on minors. Let us harness this moment as a catalyst for change, committing ourselves to building a society where every child can grow up free from the specter of violence and abuse.



■ By Mool Raj

The Himalayas are identified as one of the global biodiversity hotspots, with high species richness due to ecological, phytogeographic, and evolutionary factors. For populations living in mountainous locations, collecting and, more lately, marketing MAPs has offered a significant source of income. The long-term viability of such plants is inextricably linked to future Himalayan potential. Plants are still used for primary healthcare in many cultures around the world, and medicinal herbs have long been used in traditional healthcare systems. With recent developments in plant sciences, the usage of plant-based health products has increased dramatically in both developing and industrialized countries. Around the world, 70–80% of people use medicinal plants as their primary health care. Kashmir Himalayas has a diverse range of medicinal plants due to topographical diversity. Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), an Indian Himalayan state, is rich in biodiversity with a rich medicinal flora. The Kashmir valley referred to as Terrestrial Paradise has abundant biodiversity that adorns Kashmir's beauty. The region is endowed with a rich diversity of medicinal plants due to its phyto-geographical location within the North-Western Himalayas. The scientific documentation of medicinal flora diversity, distribution, and traditional usage could be crucial in the conservation and long-term utilization of these valuable plant resources in this Himalayan state. Some of the medicinal plants that are widely found in Jammu and Kashmir include Aconitum heterophyllum, Berberis aristata, Artemisia absinthium, Atropa acuminata, Trillium govanianum, Saussurea costus, Picrorhiza kurroa, Withania somnifera, Acorus calamus; among the most significant



aromatic herbs are Levandula officinalis, Rosmarinus officinalis, Organium vulgare, Podophyllum hexandrum, Hippophae rhamnoides, Dactylorhiza hatagirea, and Arnebia benthamii. Medicinal and aromatic plants (MAP) conservation and production are becoming increasingly important. In India, MAPs are collected/cultivated in a variety of climate and soil conditions, ranging from the seacoast to the high Himalayas. The preservation and development of medicinal and aromatic plants is a top priority in Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh, which represent temperate, alpine, and cold dry region zones. The medicinal plant market is still developing and is largely unregulated. Local residents in the region collect and trade medicinal herbs in order to meet their basic requirements for livelihood. According to local medicinal plant collectors and traders, demand for particular species such as Aconitum heterophyllum, Angelica glauca, Podophyllum hexandrum, Ephedra gerardiana, and Saussurea costus is quite high, but supply is low due to rare populations and lack of cultivation. Medicinal plants are rapidly becoming valuable bio-resource. Without a doubt, their effectiveness

in managing human ailments while causing no negative effects has earned a widespread reputation for these useful species. Given the high cost and side effects of modern medicine, traditional knowledge and practices of medicinal plants against various diseases, such as asthma, diarrhoea, throat infections, rheumatism, ulcer, poliomyelitis, abdominal pain, body swellings, cough, burns, wounds, allergies, general weakness, etc., are extremely important. Some of the medicinal plants, including Rheum species, Artemisia species, Ephedra species, and Salvia species, have been demonstrated in recent scientific studies to be useful in treating COVID-19. The growth of sustainable medicinal herbs offers a great chance to capitalize on the growing market while guaranteeing a consistent supply for local communities. Industry growth strategy for herbal medicine over 100 million hectares of wastelands are currently idle, depriving the income generating options while also posing a major threat to the ecosystem and environment. These kinds of lands can be used to grow medicinal herbs, which are in high demand. Establishing contact with bulk consumers can help to boost

commercial medical herb cultivation. The following actions are recommended for a successful promotion of the herbal medicine business in Jammu & Kashmir.

Plant species with therapeutic characteristics need to be identified and herbariums should be established.

Assessment of demand & supply status relating to medicinal plants.

Standardization of propagation and cultivation procedures in order to produce superior grade herbal materials.

Validation for the use of numerous medicinal herbs in the treatment of various ailments, as well as standardization of protocols and documentation.

Assisting collectors and growers to store, transport and market their herbal products.

Research to develop effective herbal medications to treat diverse ailments, particularly newly emerging diseases, should be strengthened.

Herbal medicine should be taught as a core subject in medical schools that deal with various systems.

Popularization of diverse herbal medications through workshops, training, social marketing, and public awareness. Establishing primary processing, grading, marketing, and other facilities in coordination with local stakeholders and organizations.

Traditional healers and Ayurveda practitioners should be supported through knowledge sharing, networking, the provision of superior quality germplasm, and connections with farmers for raw material supply.

The demand for medicinal herbs has risen dramatically in recent years on both national and international markets. Traditional medicines have seen a return in popularity in recent decades, both as alternative cures and in the pharmaceutical industry. There seems to be a lack of attention in current research to maintain the sustainable use of these valuable plant species. Plant species that only grow in the wild and are not cultivated, need to be conserved. The long-term protection and sustainable use of their source species must be prioritised if plant elements to promote human health are to be made available in the future.

The author is a columnist and freelance writer

HOW SCHOOL-GOING STUDENTS CAN SPEND THEIR TIME DURING THE WINTER

Students have ample time to improve what they are lacking

■ Sahil Manzoor

Children are the future of any nation. Children's are the future teachers, doctors, scientists, engineers, politicians, leaders, businesspeople, stars, and celebrities. Children's are so kind, so gentle, so smart, so intelligent, so cute, so loving, and so stubborn. Children's lives have no religious boundaries; they never care whether they are rich or poor. Children never care what they actually are. They think that everything is in their control, so everything is possible for them. They have their own world. They have their own rules, their own power, and their own lifestyle. Most of the children like to live in their own world. I too miss my childhood because I know it will never come again. If it is possible, then I will start my journey seriously. But fate is in the hands of our creator. Never regret what you have not achieved or what you have lost so far. Our presence is enough; what remains is happening, and nothing is in our control.

Childhood is the crucial period that no one can forget till last breath. Childhood memories are always funny, and whenever you recapitulate, you feel shy and excited, and sometimes it hurts when we think the past cannot be caught again. So every single bit we have done in the past remains in our minds and pricks us always. The fact is, time passes, and it will pass; no one has control over it. So smart and intelligent are those who care for the time and use every bit of it in a very useful manner. We have 24 hours

in a single day, but it is not possible that we earn our livelihood, study, play, and sleep for the whole day. Every activity we use has its own time, which means we are sharing time for our day-to-day activities. When we feel exhausted, we rest, we sleep, and when we feel fresh, we start focusing on studies or keeping our concentration on what we are related to.

Today in this article, I am going to share with you how our school-going children can spend their time without getting bored and how they can learn more things in a very effective and useful way.

As we know, the term second, or, I can say, final examination session, has been shifted from the October-November session to the March session as per the new education policy 2020 (NEP-2020). A new classification starts after the completion of exams. The school administration should start the process of learning in the schools as soon as possible. Students complete their syllabus before winter's vacation in school. So they have no need to go here and there for tuition because they have already completed their tasks as per the syllabus. They can revise at home in case they face difficulties and feel any problems, contact their subject-related teachers through WhatsApp groups, take classes in online mode, or follow the ways already discussed on how to fill the learning gap. By going for tuition, they will waste their precious time from home to the tuition center and back to home.

Students can make a timetable if they



don't go as per the timetable, then share their time and perform all the activities within the stipulated time.

Give more time to what you are lacking. Develop your level of concern for the things that have great scope. Learn drawing, art, etc.

Offering Salah (nimaz) five times a day is mandatory and keeps you mentally fit and satisfied.

Learning Quran during the winter can develop your picking power and make you confident in front of others. If you are well-versed in Quranic knowledge, you will never go astray, you will always keep away from drugs, and you will respect your elders, your parents, and your teachers because moral knowledge is very vital for any indi-

vidual.

Students can learn and develop their vocabulary during the winter.

As our school goes on, students can learn and read books. These can develop their vocabulary and make them habitual readers of books. Books like short stories and interesting books. General knowledge books can boost their knowledge and level of confidence. Every day, learn new things, learn new words, learn new thoughts, develop new thoughts, and learn to respect yourself and your friends.

Encourage your children if they show interest in any sports.

I have seen that there are parents who think that keeping their children in touch with books 24 hours a day makes them

intelligent. This perception is quite wrong, and we need to think about it. Those who are academically strong can perform any task in their lives. Taking part in sports activities can improve health and keep our children mentally and physically fit and happy.

What to do during inclement and bad weather

Today, the world is laced with advanced technology. Every day we are experiencing new and great inventions, so we are supposed to engage our children in electronic gadgets for a very limited time so they will not get used to them. Watching news channels can improve and develop a number of things in your mind, like keeping you updated on current affairs.

Students in higher grades can join gyms and play indoor games during the winter. Gym centers if they don't have any serious health issues or go after doctor consultations, where they can gain interest and take care of their health. Gym centers are available in bulk. Gym centers are an effective and best alternative to keeping your children away from drugs because, when your children gain interest in building their bodies, they remain away from unnecessary food items like cold drinks, junk food, etc. Develop your overall personality from the very beginning, say sorry, and say bye to stress and anxiety.

RAIYAR-ICH, KHANSAHIB, BUDGAM, sahilmanzoor0401@gmail.com

Professor Bashir Ahmad Nahvi

The Quintessential Iqbalian Scholar



■ Dr Basharat Khan

In the year 1957, amid the serene tranquility of Bijbehara, Professor Bashir Ahmad Nahvi entered the world, greeted by the wonders it held in store. His odyssey toward enlightenment began humbly within the modest confines of a local government school, where the fertile seeds of knowledge were first planted. However, beneath his unassuming guise lay treasure trove of literary excellence, an ancestral legacy passed down through generations of forebears.

His father, Maulana Ghulam Hassan Nahvi, was a distinguished poet and orator of his era, cast a radiant glow upon their lineage, his words resonating like melodic symphonies in the heart of listeners. The ink of his pen birthed the poetic collection known as "Armugani

Professor Nahvi's literary legacy is rich and diverse, encompassing both authorship and editorial roles. As an author, he has contributed significant works such as Iqbal: Afkar-o-Ahwal, Mehsoosat

(Muntakhib Mazameen), Masa'il Tasawwuf aur Iqbal, Iqbal: Urfan ki Awaz, Iqbal: Eik Tajziyah, Tareekh al-Ambiya (in three parts), Gulshan-e-Ma'safa, and Armaghan-e-Nahvi. These publications digs deeply into various aspects of Iqbal's philosophical and literary endeavors, reflecting Professor Nahvi's profound understanding and scholarly insight

Nahvi," a testament to his mastery of verse and the art of rhetoric.

Adding to this illustrious lineage was Professor Nahvi's grandfather, Maulana Ghulam Mustafa, whose literary opus, the voluminous "Tareekh Ul Anbiya," unfolded like a timeless epic, spanning the vast expanse of Kashmiri language with near forty thousand couplets spread across eight volumes, a saga of unparalleled depth and resonance.

Steeped in the serene ambience of GDC Boys Anantnag, Professor Nahvi found himself under the tutelage of luminaries like Professor Laeeq Ahmad Quraishi and Shoreeda Kashmiri, their wisdom shaping his intellect and guiding his path.

Embarking on a journey of higher learning, he pursued his Masters in Urdu language at the prestigious University of Kashmir before finding solace and enlightenment at the revered Iqbal Institute of Culture and Philosophy University of Kashmir.

Under the discerning mentorship of Professor Ale Ahmad Suroor, a luminary in the realm of Urdu literature, Professor Nahvi dug deeper into the labyrinthine depths of academia, emerging with the degrees of MPhil and Phd adorn-

ing his brow. His professional odyssey led him to the illustrious halls of Door-darshan Kendra Srinagar, where he collaborated with luminaries like Mazhar Imam and Farooq Nazki, crafting narratives that resonated with the soul of the nation.

In the year 1989, the corridors of Kashmir University welcomed him as a lecturer in the Department of Urdu, where he nurtured the minds of future scholars with his boundless wisdom and passion for knowledge. A decade later, he returned to the embrace of the Iqbal Institute of Culture and Philosophy, this time as a reader, ascending to the esteemed position of Director, a mantle he wore with grace for fifteen illustrious years.

Under his stewardship, the Institute blossomed into a bastion of intellectual discourse, where seminars echoed with the symphony of enlightened debate and conferences served as crucibles of innovation. Countless books and research projects bore witness to his unwavering commitment to the pursuit of knowledge, while his presence graced national and international seminars with the brilliance of his insights.

With "Iqbaliyat" and its allied subjects as his guiding lights, Professor Nahvi's tenure as the Dean of the School of Arts and Director of the South Campus illuminated the path for countless souls seeking enlightenment.

Since 1950, the promotion of "Iqbaliyat" in Jammu and Kashmir has brought recognition to key figures in knowledge and art, who embrace historical reality with scholarly and literary credibility. Allama Iqbal's ideas are cherished as a rich source of intellectual, artistic, scientific, and literary endeavors within Iqbaliyat. Professors Ale Ahmad Saroor, Jagannath Azad, Muhammad Amin Andrabi, and Professor Bashir Ahmad Nahvi are praised for their significant contributions in this field. Their academic and literary influence in the realm of Iqbaliyat is widely acknowledged globally. Notably, the efforts of Professors Ale Ahmad Saroor and Jagannath Azad have played a crucial role in promoting Iqbaliyat and fostering a unified understanding of Iqbal's philosophy in Jammu and Kashmir. Dr. Muhammad Asadullah Wani's article, "A Review of Iqbaliyat in Jammu and Kashmir," underscores how their expertise has sparked a renewed interest in Iqbal among the educated class, igniting a new wave of consciousness and enthusiasm.

Professor Bashir Ahmad Nahvi known as Hafiz-e-Iqbal exemplifies the ideals, principles, and depth of thought associated with Dr. Allama Iqbal. He not only possesses a profound understanding of Allama Iqbal's philosophy and vision but also actively engages in promoting his work. He embodies the essence of Iqbal's teachings and contributes significantly to the study, interpretation, and dissemination of his works, thereby inspiring others to hunt deeper into Allama Iqbal's intellectual legacy.

Professor Nahvi's literary legacy is rich and diverse, encompassing both authorship and editorial roles. As an author, he has contributed significant works such as Iqbal: Afkar-o-Ahwal, Mehsoosat (Muntakhib Mazameen), Masa'il Tasawwuf aur Iqbal, Iqbal: Urfan ki Awaz, Iqbal: Eik Tajziyah, Tareekh al-Ambiya (in three parts), Gulshan-e-Ma'safa, and Armaghan-e-Nahvi. These publications digs deeply into various aspects of Iqbal's philosophical and literary endeavors, reflecting Professor Nahvi's profound understanding and scholarly insight.

Professor Bashir Ahmad Nahvi's literary oeuvre stands as a tribute to his deep engagement with the mystical philosophy of Iqbal. In works such as Wahdat-ul-Wajood aur Iqbal, and Masail-e-Tasawwuf aur Iqbal," Professor Nahvi echoes Allama Iqbal's mystical voice, unraveling complex themes with profound insight. Complementing his books are numerous scholarly articles, including Iqbal Shanasai Aur Jagan Nath Azad Ka Karnama, Iqbal Aur Tauheed Wujoodi, and Allama Iqbal Apne Bayanat Aur Taqareer Ki Roshni Mein, published in reputable journals. Each piece offers readers a deeper understanding of Allama Iqbal's philosophy, shedding light on his enduring relevance in con-



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wisdom and passion for knowledge. A decade later, he returned to the embrace of the Iqbal Institute of Culture and Philosophy, this time as a reader, ascending to the esteemed position of Director, a mantle he wore with grace for fifteen illustrious years

porary discourse.

Besides his authored works, Professor Nahvi has also played a crucial role

as an editor, overseeing publications such as, Iqbal, Ek Tajziyah, Nafhat-e-Iqbal, Fikr Azad, Ehsas-o-Adrak, Beyade Shoreeda Kashmiri, Beyade Khawaja Muhammad Amin, Iqbal's Multiformity, Iqbal's Idea on Self. Through these edited volumes, Professor Nahvi has curated and refined the writings of esteemed scholars, preserving and disseminating their invaluable contributions to the understanding of Allama Iqbal's philosophy and legacy.

Dr. Bashir Nahvi's book "Masail Tasawwuf Aur Iqbal" thoroughly explores the connection between Sufism and Allama Iqbal's journey, a topic extensively examined by scholars and Sufis globally. This subject, both captivating and intricate, significantly influences Iqbal's intellectual and poetic endeavors. Allama Iqbal intricately investigates various aspects of Sufism through his poetry and prose, providing detailed insights steeped in tradition. Professor Nahvi's work expands on diverse theoretical aspects of Sufism, particularly focusing on theories of existence and observation, while also presenting the profound perspectives of scholars and Sufis. Moreover, it critically assesses Allama Iqbal's occasional reactions to Sufism, shedding light on his preferences and motivations. Consequently, the book offers valuable insights into the specific Sufi groups or branches revered by Iqbal, along with the reasons behind his admiration.

Throughout the text, Professor Nahvi aims to clarify the factors guiding Iqbal's passionate responses to Sufism, ensuring a thorough exploration of the subject.

"Armugaan-e-Nahvi" is a compilation

Dr. Reyaz Ahmad Tawheedi Kashmiri highlights "Masail Tasawwuf Aur Iqbal" by Professor Bashir Ahmad Nahvi as a significant contribution to Iqbaliyat and Islamic mysticism.

Written in a clear style, the book explores essential aspects of Sufism and debunks misconceptions using scholarly research and insights from esteemed Sufi figures. Professor Nahvi also underscores Allama Iqbal's deep investigation of universal Sufi principles, showcasing his lifelong commitment to interpreting them through his art and intellect

of succinct poetic verses of his father Gh Hassan Nahvi comprising couplets and diverse poetic compositions. It features insights from scholars, intellectuals, and religious leaders, illuminating various facets of poetry and personality.

Dr. Reyaz Ahmad Tawheedi Kashmiri highlights "Masail Tasawwuf Aur Iqbal" by Professor Bashir Ahmad Nahvi as a significant contribution to Iqbaliyat and Islamic mysticism. Written in a clear style, the book explores essential aspects of Sufism and debunks misconceptions using scholarly research and insights from esteemed Sufi figures. Professor Nahvi also underscores Allama Iqbal's deep investigation of universal Sufi principles, showcasing his lifelong commitment to interpreting them through his art and intellect.

Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Ganai lauds Professor Bashir Ahmad Nahvi as a beacon of scholarly excellence and intellectual prowess, highlighting his unwavering dedication to preserving the legacy of Allama Iqbal. Professor Nahvi's influence extends widely across academic circles. His tenure as the Director of South Campus and Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Kashmir University reflects his commitment to advancing education and literature. Through mentoring numerous Ph.D. scholars, including a notable number of female researchers, Professor Nahvi has made a significant impact in research on Iqbaliyat nationwide. Under his guidance, a new generation of scholars is actively exploring various dimensions of Iqbal's philosophical legacy, ensuring its enduring relevance for generations to come.

Professor Bashir Ahmad Nahvi's profound influence is marked by his unwavering dedication to mentorship, academic excellence, interdisciplinary collaboration, global outreach, and ethical reflection. Through his visionary leadership and profound commitment, he leaves an indelible imprint on the scholarly community, ensuring the perpetual relevance and resonance of Allama Iqbal's ideas for future generations of scholars. His legacy serves as a testament to the transformative power of mentorship and scholarship, shaping the trajectory of intellectual inquiry and contributing to the profound advancement of knowledge across diverse domains.

The author is a writer, translator, columnist and critic. He can be reached at chogalwriter76@gmail.com

Saurabh Bhagat presides over public darbar at Kupwara

Says public darbars are paving way for enhanced growth and development in districts

■ HT News Network

KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 14: Commissioner Secretary Science & Technology, Saurabh Bhagat, today chaired a public darbar at Town Hall Kupwara.

During the public darbar, the Commissioner Secretary had extensive interaction with the participants who apprised him of their issues relating their respective areas. He also sought feedback from them on implementation of government schemes in their areas while enquiring about the impact of these initiatives on their lives.

The Secretary, while responding to the issues raised by the public during the public darbar, assured them that all the issues will be taken up with the concerned authorities for an early redressal. Assuring swift action, Saurabh Bhagat assured to take up all public demands to the relevant authorities for redressal.

While highlighting the importance of public darbar, he said that these public outreach programs act as a bridge between the administration and the people, paving the way for enhanced growth and develop-



ment in the district. Commissioner Secretary said that Kupwara is witnessing development and progress at a fast speed and expressed his hope that it will also become top performing district not only in UT of J&K but in entire country.

While elaborating on e-governance, he said that 1200 online government services are playing a significant role in digital transformation, improving citizen engagement, enhancing accessibility, efficiency, and convenience for citizens. These services allow citi-

zens to access government services anytime, anywhere without the need to visit physical offices.

Similarly, LG'S Grievance cell plays a crucial role in resolving issues of people by providing a dedicated platform for addressing their complaints and concerns within a month's time in a responsive and effective manner. Transparent administration has promoted trust, accountability and effective governance" he said.

DDC Chairman, Kupwara, Irfan Sultan Panditpori on the occasion,

also put forth various issues before the visiting officer for redressal.

Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, Ms. Ayushi Sudan on the occasion, presented a brief picture of development and other initiatives in the district.

DC affirmed that all public inputs from the darbar would be recorded and integrated into actionable plans.

Earlier, the Commissioner Secretary also inspected stalls set up by various departments, showcasing their achievements and schemes and participated in plantation drive by planting deodar saplings in the lawns of Town hall Kupwara.

On the occasion, three projects including Construction of Food store Kargam, project cost 7 lakh executed by RDD, construction of Community Hall at Kuligam A, executed under ADF with a project cost of Rs 16 lakh (RDD), Construction of tile path at Bunpora Magam project cost 9.30 executed by RDD, were e-inaugurated by the Commissioner Secretary in presence of other dignitaries. Among others the public darbar was attended by VC DDC, DDC Drugmulla, Chairman Traders federation, Chairman Transport association Kupwara.

Weekly Block Diwas: DC Rajouri addresses public issues at border block Doongi

■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, FEBRUARY 14: As part of the weekly Block Diwas initiative, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat today chaired a public outreach camp at border block Doongi to redress the people's issues at their doorsteps.

During the event, local residents raised various of concerns which encompassed the inclusion of eligible beneficiaries under the BPL category, upgrading the transformer at Kallar, initiating work on the road from Kallar Sawani to HS Kallar, addressing water scarcity, resolving forest clearance issue on the Kallar Chowk to Jabbran road, enrolling eligible beneficiaries under PMAY-G, allocating funds for the road from the main road to the Shamshan Ghat at Sasal Kote, blacktopping the road leading to GDC Doongi, repairing and renovating the Panchayat Ghar in Sasal Kote, upgrading the Kallar to Veer Vadeshwar road, addressing the dilapidated condition of the Sasal Kote to Challas road, and constructing the main road to



Prat.

Some more pressing issues in the area included improving the main road from Doongi Nalla ward No.02 to Ward No. 05, ensuring additional handpumps, establishing a JK Bank Branch, repairing old handpumps, expediting JJM schemes, addressing the fund shortage for the bridge at Tandwal, fixing the dilapidated Pathan Mohra to Gai road and Nagoon to Keri road, providing land passbooks, addressing staff shortages at PS Dhara Sawanla, constructing a road from Shahpur to Khanka Dhara, constructing building for KV

school at Doongi block, and rationalization of staff in educational institutions.

Additional issues included addressing the scarcity of electricity poles, constructing roads from Chitti Bakri to Namban and from Thathayali to Bai, resolving pending payments for border bunkers, addressing the shortage of electricity poles in Ward No. 04 Sasal Kote, and initiating work on a borewell at Dherian.

The event also provided an opportunity to the government officers to inform the public about various schemes and programs being implemented by their respective departments.

DC Ramban inspects landslide site on Gandhri Road, asks to intensify restoration work

■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, FEBRUARY 14: Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary today inspected the site of a massive landslide on the Kanga-Bathni road. As the area lacks vehicular access, the Deputy Commissioner traveled on foot to assess the extent of the damage. Accompanied by a team of senior officers, including ADC Harbans Sharam, ACR S. Harpal Singh, ACD Shreenath

Suman, Executive Engineer Abhishek Gupta, Executive Engineer PMGSY Arvind Kumar, DFO Batote Abinav Romitra, Tehsildar Deep Kumar and other officials, the Deputy Commissioner conducted a comprehensive inspection of the affected area. Discussions were held during the inspection with senior officers, public representatives, including DDC Councillor Shamim Akther and prominent citizens, to evaluate the situation and strategize immediate

restoration of road connectivity. The Deputy Commissioner was briefed about the deployment of adequate manpower and machinery, including 4 excavators and other equipment, as per his directive, to clear the landslides. Following the deliberations, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Executive Engineer of PMGSY to commence round-the-clock efforts to ensure the road's traffic-worthiness at the earliest. Emphasizing the importance,

DC Kathua presides over Block Diwas programme at Loundi- Hiranagar

■ HT News Network

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 14: Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Rakesh Minhas, today presided over a Public Outreach programme as part of weekly Block Diwas here at Loundi Panchayat of Hiranagar to redress the grievances of local populace.

On the occasion, ex-PRLs, Social activists, individuals projected the issues the issues of public importance and sought immediate redress of the same.

The major issues highlighted during the proceedings of block diwas included desilting of irrigation Canals and Kuhls, early completion of PMGSY and JJM projects, repair of Community bunkers, repair of GMS Chhan Khatrian and Chhan Morian, refurbishing of Health Sub-Centre



Sura and Sub-Centre Saad etc.

After giving a patient hearing, the DC Kathua assured people that all of their genuine issues will be redressed with the active intervention of the concerned departments.

Responding to the demand of desilting of irrigation assets, the DC directed the Irrigation department to complete the task at the earliest. On the issue

of repair of community bunkers, the DC directed concerned Tehsildar and BDO to inspect the bunkers so as to ascertain the reason of the damages. The DC also directed Chief Education Officer and Chief Medical Officer to start necessary repair work of the projected buildings of the School Education and Health Departments on priority basis. The DC called for optimum utilization of avail-

able funds in line with popular aspirations viz a viz the civil amenities like lanes, roads, schools, hospitals, public library and community halls etc while formulating CAPEX plan for next fiscal.

Among others present were Chief Planning Officer, Assistant Commissioner Development, SDM Hiranagar and other district and sectoral officers.

Later, the DC convened a meeting of PRLs and officers of different departments to finalise the identified villages in the border belt of Kathua district to be upgraded the same as Model Villages on Pilot Basis.

After detailed deliberations, the meeting unanimously finalised Loundi, Kattal Brahamana, Kanthal, Shuba Chack and Jandi Villages to be elevated as Model Border Villages.

Weekly Block Diwas Public Grievances Redressal Camp held at Chatroo

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, FEBRUARY 14: To address the public issues at their doorsteps, Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Ghulam Rasool today presided over a Public Grievances Redressal Camp here at Chatroo as part of weekly Block Diwas Program.

The camp witnessed the active participation of district and sectoral officers, including ACD Phulail Singh, SDM Chatroo Nayeem Ur Rehman, BDO Inderwal Hitesh Singh, CDPO Inderwal Dr Kuldeep Kumar, CAO Kishtwar Amjad Hussain Malik, CAO Sajjid Mustafa, EXENs among others.

Local residents and delegations projected a wide range of demands including upgrading of local infra-



structure and the streamlining of the public delivery system in the area.

Key grievances revolved around the replacement of wooden poles, timely payments under RDD, and expediting the developmental projects in the region.

ADDC Kishtwar, after patiently hearing, assured the community that their grievances would be addressed in a time-bound manner. Notably, a significant number of issues were

resolved on the spot through consultations with the concerned officers, including ACD, BDO, and relevant Executive Engineers.

In his address, ADDC Kishtwar emphasized the core objective of Block Diwas - to redress people's grievances at their doorstep. He urged district officers to act stringently against dereliction of duty by officials, executing agencies, and contractors.

This proactive engagement signifies the administration's commitment to ensuring effective governance and addressing the needs of the people directly. The success of the Public Grievance Redressal Camp reflects the collaborative efforts of the community and administration in building a responsive and accountable governance structure.

DLSA Budgam committed to safeguard Rights of Juveniles; organizes Awareness programme

■ HT News Network

BUDGAM, FEBRUARY 14: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Budgam, under the Aegis of JKLSA today organized a day long programme in collaboration with District Child Protection Office Budgam, on 'Children in Conflict With Law & Children in Need of Care and Protection' at conference hall of Juvenile Justice Board Budgam.

The programme was organized under the guidance of Khalil Ahmad Choudhary, Chairman DLSA, Budgam and under the supervision of Jehangir Ahmad Bakshi, Secretary DLSA Budgam and Ubaid-ul-Khazir, District Child Protection Officer Budgam.

The programme witnessed the presence and active participation of Staff of DSWO/DCPU office Budgam, members of Juvenile Justice Board Budgam, staff of One Stop Centre, Child Welfare Committee, District Hub for Empowerment of Women, Child Help Line Budgam, Staff members of Juvenile Justice Board Budgam, representatives from Education department, Teachers, Ashas from medical and health department and dedicated Para legal Volunteers (PLVs) of DLSA and Tehsils of Budgam.



Speaking on the occasion, Adv. Feroz Ahmad Khan briefed the audience about the benefits and importance of Juvenile Justice Care and Protection Act. He dealt on the role of PLVs before the Juvenile Justice Board, when a child in conflict with law is produced before the board. He also highlighted the role of DLSA, especially Panel Lawyers and LADCs and Para Legal Volunteers. Furthermore he also briefed the audience about the services and schemes of NALSA viza a-viz DLSA likewise free legal Aid, ADR Mechanism, Victim Compensation Scheme. In his speech he also apprised the audience about role

and responsibilities of Child Welfare Committee and constitutional safeguards meant for women and child etc. Other speakers including Rukaya Tasleem, Sandeep Kour, Muneer Ahmed also spoke on the occasion. He dealt on the role of PLVs before the Juvenile Justice Board, when a child in conflict with law is produced before the board. He also highlighted the role of DLSA, especially Panel Lawyers and LADCs and Para Legal Volunteers. Furthermore he also briefed the audience about the services and schemes of NALSA viza a-viz DLSA likewise free legal Aid, ADR Mechanism.

03 Weeks Entrepreneurship Development Programme concludes at Ganderbal

■ HT News Network

GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 14: National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India, in collaboration with Jammu and Kashmir Bank concluded three weeks entrepreneurship development programme in Ganderbal J&K. Commenting on the purpose of collaborating with NIESBUD for conducting these programmes, official spokesperson of the Bank said, "As a socially conscious corporate, the J&K Bank as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility, always tries to be part of such interventions that aim to encourage the culture of entrepreneurship in the UTs of J&K and



Ladakh" "We understand the power and potential of our youth and through such training programmes our endeavor is to provide them with the basic idea about the business, market dynamics and customer relationship so that they can take informed decisions while pursuing

their dreams," he added. The training programme was part of the initiative started by NIESBUD in collaboration with J&K Bank to aware the youth about life skills, employability and entrepreneurship opportunities available in the market and how to avail those opportunities.

Mission Vatsalya organises Capacity Building Programme at Bandipora

Chairman DDC Bandipora presides over the programme

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 14: The District Protection Unit, Mission Vatsalya Bandipora today organized Training cum Capacity Building programme on Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015, POCSO Act 2012, Adoption Regulations, and child rights at HSS Kaloosa Bandipora.

The program presided over by Chairman District Development Council Ab. Gani Bhat was attended by Vice Chairperson DDC Kousar Shafeeq, DDC Arin Gh. Mohi Ud Din, DDC Hajin Gh. Mustafa, Assistant Labour Commissioner, Members from CWC, JJB and DCPU officials, General Secretary J&K Specially-abled Persons Welfare Society, Nazir Ahmad, representatives from DLSA, NGO, Civil Society Members, Traders, Transporters, Asha Workers and Anganwadi workers.

The programme was conducted under the overall supervision of District Child Protection Officer Bandipora,



ra, Mir Hidaytullah and facilitated by Chairperson Child Welfare Committee Aasima Hassan.

During the program, various speakers highlighted the crucial role and responsibilities of stakeholders in ensuring the effective implementation of these Acts and encour-

aged active participation.

Rasik Ramzan delivered the introductory speech on the structure of Mission Vatsalya besides explaining the importance of the programme and gave a detailed description of the topic and its working mechanism at the district level. Detailed discussions were held on topics such as the rescue and rehabilitation operations for vulnerable child labourers, and the process of age determination.

The facilitators employed case studies, group work and role playing to make the program engaging and enriching for the participants.

Speaking on the occasion, Sofi Gowhar Mehmood, Protection Officer NIC highlighted working of DPU- Mission Vatsalya and role of various line Departments.

On the occasion, Chief Functionary HWVO (NGO) Feroz Ahmad as Resource person highlighted Family Based Alternative Care.

The certificates of participation were also distributed to acknowledge the active involvement of the participants in the programme.

DC Bandipora inaugurates first batch of training under PM Vishwakarma at ITI Bandipora

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 14: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel Ul Rehman on Wednesday inaugurated the first batch of training sessions under the transformative PM Vishwakarma initiative at Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Bandipora.

The inaugural function was attended by ACR Bandipora Shabir Ahmad Wani, Superintendent ITI Sahil Rashid and artisans and crafts persons registered under PM Vishwakarma besides others concerned.

During the program, the DC was apprised that in the first batch of cutting and tailoring, 45 candidates are taken up for basic training of 05 days under PM Vishwakarma. It was informed



that the scheme envisages 05 days basic training and 15 days advanced training with a stipend of Rs. 500 per day and certificate after completion of training.

The DC, in his address, appreciated the female eligible artisans for their interest in capacity building programmes of the Government. He said the PM Vishwakarma scheme is meant to provide a common platform to the artisans and crafts persons. Highlighting

the benefits of PM Vishwakarma, the DC said that the scheme provides an opportunity to enhance working conditions and economic conditions of artisans and crafts persons besides providing recognition to artisans and crafts persons through PM Vishwakarma certificate. He said the training programmes under the scheme are designed to empower individuals with practical skills and knowledge and equip.

ADDC Bandipora chairs DDRC meeting; approves 08 relief cases

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 14: The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Bandipora, Mohammad Ashraf Bhatt today chaired a meeting of District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC) in his office chamber, here.

The meeting reviewed the status of relief cases and approved eight cases for compensation.

The meeting was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Umar Shafi Pandit; Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR), Shabir Ahmad Wani; Chief Animal Husbandry Officer (CAHO), Gh. Ahmad Lone, Executive Engineers of R&B Sumbal and Bandipora, and the concerned Tehsildars.

The ADC directed the concerned officers to expedite the process of relief and



rehabilitation of the affected people and ensure timely disbursement of compensation.

He also asked them to ensure coordination and submit the progress reports regularly.

The meeting also discussed various develop-

mental issues and schemes related to the district and sought feedback from the officers.

The ADC stressed on the need to improve the quality of public services and address the grievances of the people on priority.

AHD organises Training/ Exposure Tour of Dairy Entrepreneurs to MLRI, Manasbal

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA FEBRUARY 14: Animal Husbandry Department (AHD) Bandipora today organised training cum Exposure tour for Dairy Entrepreneurs of district Bandipora under ATMA scheme 2023-2024 (Agricultural Technology Management Agency) at Mountain Livestock Research Institute (MLRI) Manasbal.

The training was presided over by Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Bandipora, Dr Ghulam Ahmad Lone and was attended by Block Veterinary Officer Bandipora, Dr Khalid



Hamid and other officers of the department from Block Sumbal and Bandipora besides progressive dairy farmers and members of FPOs.

The dairy entrepreneurs were provided training about modern dairy tech-

nology and a live demonstration about functioning of Feed Mill, Vermi compost and other latest milking equipment was also held.

The Head MLRI Manasbal, Dr Riyaz Ahmad Shah extended his full support to the department and

Senior Scientist Dr Gowhar provided practical demonstrations of different units available in the institute like Mini Milk Processing Plant, Feed Mill, Vermi compost and Silage making (Silo pits).

The dairy farmers were acquainted with the modern concept of dairy, silage making and imparted beneficial knowledge which would help them to run dairy on scientific lines.

Participants which included progressive dairy farmers and members of FPOs expressed gratitude to the department about the training program and thanked the department for this endeavour.

GDC Vijaypur hosts lecture on Voting Rights

■ HT News Network

SAMBA, FEBRUARY 14: Department of Political Science in collaboration with NSS Unit (KHIDMAT) of Government Degree College Vijaypur, under the banner of Voting Awareness Campaign, on Wednesday organised a lecture on 'Voting Rights' to create awareness among the young college students/citizens about the importance of their participation in the upcoming elections.

The lecture was delivered by Prof. Anita Jamwal, Head Department of Political Science to impart knowledge to students regarding voting rights and its importance for electing a healthy and competent government. She also elaborated upon the initiatives of the government like launching of a new portal for registration of citizens so that they can prepare their voter cards online and also briefed them regarding the process of voting, electoral process, including the role of the Election Commission of India, the process of voter registration, the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), and the importance of ethical voting. She also interacted with students and also answered the questions raised by them. The program was attended by faculty members, college students and NSS volunteers of the college.

Awareness Rally to save Girl Child flagged-off in Kangan

■ HT News Network

GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 14: A mega awareness rally was today organized to champion the cause of gender equality and saving the girl child through the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme from Girls Higher Secondary School Kangan which passed through its adjacent areas.

The rally, organized by the District Social Welfare Officer Ganderbal, Sahir Majeed in collaboration with DHEW Mission Shakti Ganderbal and the School Education Department Ganderbal, witnessed enthusiastic participation of almost 150 students from different schools, teachers, social activist Bilal Bhat, project coordinator of Women Helpline, and the team of DHEW Mission Shakti.

The BBBP scheme, which translates to 'Save the girl child, educate the girl child,' underscores the commitment of the Government to address gender discrimination and advance women's empowerment across the nation.

The rally sought to raise awareness about the challenges faced by the girl child and highlight the significance of education in fostering a more equitable society.

During the rally, the team emphasized the multifaceted objectives of the BBBP scheme, which extend beyond education to challenge ingrained gender biases.

The initiative aims to catalyze a societal shift by fostering awareness about the inherent value of the girl child and promoting gender-neutral opportunities for growth and development.

Furthermore, the team drew attention to the comprehensive approach of the BBBP scheme in improving the efficacy of welfare services for girls.

By creating a supportive environment and dismantling systemic barriers, the initiative strives to ensure that every girl has access to education, healthcare, and opportunities for a brighter future.

GDC Marh celebrates Basant Panchmi

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 14: Government Degree College Marh celebrated Basant Panchmi, an occasion that marks the advent of the spring season.

The celebration was marked by worship of Goddess Saraswati with great fervor and enthusiasm to make the day.

The whole college worshipped the Goddess of Knowledge and wisdom and sought blessings. The celebration commenced with the lighting of traditional lamp of learning and offering yellow flowers to Goddess Saraswati amid enchanting of Mantras and shlokas which created a pious aura in the college premises.

The Principal of the college, Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul appraised the students about the importance of the festival.

76th CRPF Battalion pays tributes to Pulwama Martyrs

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 14: The 76th Bn, CRPF today organised Shradhanjali Programme" to pay Tributes to soldiers who attained martyrdom in Pulwama Bomb Blast on this day, five years back.

Under the guidance of T H Khan, Commandant, the Officers and Jawans paid rich tributes on the Fifth death anniversary of the Martyrs of Pulwama,

On 14th February 2019, 40 Brave soldiers laid down their lives at the altar of Duty when a Vehicle borne suicide bomber hit the CRPF vehicle carrying CRPF personnel in convoy on the Jammu-Srinagar National highway near Lethapora in Pulwama.

During this cowardly incident, the bus that was blasted was of 76th Bn CRPF Jammu. The martyrs included five brave soldiers of 76th battalion namely Shaheed HC/GD Naseer Ahmed, Shaheed, HC/DVR Jaimal Singh, Shaheed CT/GD Rohtash Lamba, Shaheed CT/GD Sukhjinder and Shaheed CT/BUG Tilak Raj.

During this programme, Mahinder Singh, Second in Command, Rajesh Kumar Yadav, Second in Command, Girish Chandra Singh Sontiyal, Parveen Kumar, Asst Commandant and other Subordinate Officers / personnel of 76 Bn were present.

SVEEP Programme spreads Electoral Awareness among students in Basohli

■ HT News Network

SHOPIAN, FEBRUARY 13: Social Welfare Department (SWD) Shopian today conducted a one day training cum awareness programme under National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) at Govt. Degree College Zainpora.

Officials from Health, ICDS, Police, Numberdars, members of youth club were imparted training on various aspects related to the action plan and the role of different departments in combating and tackling the menace of drug abuse.

The chief guest, Sub-divisional Magistrate (SDM) Zainpora, Mushtaq Ahmed Lone addressed the role of Civil Society and Administration in dealing with drug related issues and the need of such programmes in sub-division which is worst-hit.

The programme was attended by SDPO Zainpora,

DLSA Srinagar conducts inspection of Central Jail, Srinagar; oversees progress of pan-India campaign

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 14: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar today conducted an inspection of the Central Jail, Srinagar, and also oversaw the progress of the pan-India campaign for identifying juveniles in prisons and providing them with legal assistance. The inspection was held under the guidance of Chairman (PDJ) DLSA, Srinagar, Jawad Ahmed. The inspection was led by Secretary DLSA Srinagar, Jahangir Ahmed Bakshi who was accompanied by officials, LADCs, female panel lawyer of DLSA Srinagar. The aim of the inspection was to assess the status of the identification process, ensure that juveniles are provided with timely and effective



legal assistance, and address any challenges faced by the jail authorities in implementing the campaign. During the jail visit, the DLSA team along with superintendent and prison staff took round off all the barracks and interacted with jail inmates including female inmates, listened to their grievances and received feedback for services provided to them by DLSA Srinagar. They also reviewed the existing infrastructure and facilities available to the jail inmates in the central jail, including access to education, healthcare and counseling services, etc. The DLSA team also provided guidance and support to the jail authorities for effective implementation of the PAN India campaign and ensure that the rights of juvenile inmates are protected. They emphasized the importance of providing juveniles with access to legal representation.

DC Ganderbal chairs mega Block Diwas at Zazna

■ HT News Network

GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 14: In a proactive move to address the concerns of the local population at their door steps, the District Administration Ganderbal Wednesday organized a mega Block Diwas at Zazna. The event, presided over by District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shyambir and Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simmani, aimed at fostering direct communication with



the citizens and ensuring swift redressal of their grievances. The event witnessed active participation from civil

society members and prominent citizens of block Wakura, who voiced various issues, including the need for inner road main-

tenance, de-silting of Dub canal, repair of defunct bore wells, upgradation of Middle School Zazna, improved medical facilities, additional playgrounds, installation of solar lights and others. DDC, responding to the concerns raised, instructed officers to expedite the resolution of genuine issues. On the matter of repairing the Dub canal, he directed the Irrigation and Flood Control Department to prioritize urgent repair spots and initiate work promptly, including de-silting.

DC Pulwama convenes HADP meeting; 170 cases approved

■ HT News Network

PULWAMA, FEBRUARY 14: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr Basharat Qayoom Wednesday convened a pivotal meeting to advance the district's holistic agriculture development program (HADP), approving 170 crucial cases aimed at promoting sustainable agricultural practices and boosting the rural economy. The meeting brought together key stakeholders including representatives from the agriculture department, local farmers, and



experts in the field. It underscored the district's commitment to fostering agricultural innovation and empowering farmers with the resources necessary to thrive in the evolving landscape of modern agricul-

ture. During the meeting, the assembled panel comprehensively reviewed 170 cases encompassing an array of initiatives designed to harness the potential of agriculture as a driver of economic growth. These

initiatives spanned diverse areas such as modern irrigation techniques, crop diversification, livestock management, and technology adoption, with a focus on empowering farmers to achieve sustainable and profitable agricultural practices. Dr Basharat emphasized the significance of advancing a holistic approach to agriculture, emphasizing that the program's initiatives are tailored to address the multifaceted needs of the farming community. By championing sustainable agriculture, the district aims.

Block Diwas: DC Kulgam holds public grievance redressal camp at Yaripora

Listens to public concerns; several issues of immediate nature redressed on spot

■ Farooq Rather

KULGAM, FEBRUARY 14: To listen to the public at their door steps, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today visited Yaripora area and presided over a mega public grievance redressal camp as part of weekly Block Diwas.

The programme witnessed overwhelming participation of people from Home Shalibug, Yaripora, Nunmai, Yamrach, Dasen, Kokergund Munadguffan and other adjoining areas.

ACD Mohammad Imran, Tehsildar, BDO, Ex. Engineers from various executing agencies, CEO, CMO and other



officers were also present in the grievances redressal camp.

On the occasion, public delegations and scores of individuals projected various developmental issues before DC and demanded fencing of graveyard at Home Shalibug, repairs of street lights in Yaripora, establishment of girls degree college, establishment of public library at Yaripora, augmentation of staff at SDH, establishment of ATM near hospital, repairs of Dasen-Nunmai road, installation of street lights at Nunmai, etc.

The other demands including augmentation of drinking water supply, desilting of irrigation canals, repairs and macadamization of roads and other demands of the area were also flagged-off by the people.

Road Safety Month: Blood Donation Camp organized at DPL Sopore

■ HT News Network

SOPORE, FEBRUARY 14: In a collaborative effort aimed at fostering road safety awareness and community engagement, the Motor Vehicle Department (MVD) Baramulla, in collaboration with the Police and Health departments, orchestrated a blood donation camp at the District Police Lines (DPL) in Sopore.

The event witnessed the participation of various dignitaries including Superintendent of Police Sopore, Divya Dev; Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Muazzam Ali; Dy SP Sopore, officers from the Health Department, police personnel, and members of the driver community.

The primary objective of the blood donation camp was to raise awareness about traffic rules, particularly among the driver community. By bringing together stakeholders from different sectors, the event aimed to underscore the importance of responsible driving practices for ensuring road safety. During her address, SP Sopore emphasized the crucial role of the driver community in upholding traffic rules and ensuring road safety. She urged drivers to adhere strictly to traffic regulations and to exercise caution on the roads, thereby contributing to the overall safety of the community. The Assistant Regional Transport Officer also addressed the gathering, highlighting the collective responsibility of drivers to prioritize safety and adhere to traffic rules for the well-being of the entire community. The blood donation camp received overwhelming support and participation from the community, reflecting a shared commitment to both road safety and humanitarian causes.

Mega Block Diwas at Imamsahib Shopian

Effective service delivery key component of Block Diwas: ADDC

■ HT News Network

SHOPIAN, FEBRUARY 14: To ensure effective service delivery to the public by different departments, and evolving a vibrant mechanism for on spot redress of public grievances, the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone today presided over a mega Block Diwas programme at block Imam Sahib, here.

On the occasion, locals of Hendew, Wadipora, Kadigam, Aada-kharan, Wasohalan, DK Pora and Losedenow apprised the ADDC of their issues which include road connectivity, cleanliness of irrigation Khuls, portable drinking water facility, uninterrupted power supply, repairs of lanes, drains and dumping site for waste-



age, etc.

The ADDC patiently listened to all the issues and demands put forth by the locals and directed the concerned officers to redress the genuine grievances in a time bound manner.

Earlier, the ADDC sought feedback from the line departments to check

their performance vis a vis developmental scenarios to benefit the general masses.

While interacting with the people and other representatives, ADDC said that the block diwas is being organised with the sole objective to provide more transparent, accountable, public-friendly and respon-

sive administration to the people. This initiative of the Government is contributing immensely to good governance, he said.

Dr Nasir said that the purpose of organising such programmes is to reach out to the unreached habitations, listen to their genuine issues and resolve them on the spot at their doorsteps. He further added that no stone shall be left unturned in meeting the expectations of the public and fulfilling their genuine issues within a time bound manner. He stated that the officers should be accessible to the public so that they can fully avail the benefits of schemes.

Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Tehsildar Barbugh, Block Development Officer Imamsahib and officers and officials were present on the occasion.

Awareness camp on PMFME scheme held at Baarji Harwan

■ HT News Network



SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 14: A one-day awareness program on centrally sponsored 'Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises' (PMFME) scheme was today held at Baarji Harwan, Srinagar.

The camp, organized by Area Marketing Officer, District Nodal Officer PMFME scheme district Srinagar, was attended by PRIs, Bakery Unit Holders of the area, educated unemployed youth, progressive farmers entrepreneurs interested in upgrading their existing units/setting up of new units etc.

Members of (DLSC) of the PMFME Scheme also attended the awareness camp. The experts from different allied departments deliberated upon the schemes pertaining to the Horticulture Sector in detail.

Area Marketing Officer Srinagar, Satya Bhushan apprised the participants about the departmental activities.

Marketing Inspector, Shabir Mufti raised awareness among the audience about Micro-food Processing Sector in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir and need to integrate the existing unorganized Micro-food Processing Units of the district in order to accomplish the objective of Self-Reliant India (AatmaNirbar Bharat).

He apprised that the Ministry of Food Processing Industries launched the PMFME scheme to provide financial, technical and marketing support to upgrade the existing micro-food processing units/ establish new units thereby integrating around 2 lac micro-food processing enterprises in the unorganized sector with formal supply chain.

The different requirements/formalities of the project under the said scheme like financial assistance, technical knowledge and preparation of DPRS were discussed threadbare with the participants. The educated unemployed youth were urged to set up their own micro-food processing units and avail credit linked subsidy of 35% of the eligible project cost with a maximum ceiling of Rs 10 lac per unit and interest subvention of 3% available under the scheme.

The District Resource Person PMFME Scheme Srinagar requested the interested applicants to contact him for assistance in the submission of application, DPR preparation, follow up of cases at bank level etc.

In the end on spot assistance was provided to the beneficiaries to register them under the scheme.

One-day Sensitisation/ Training programme on Implementation of JJ Act 2015 & Mission Vatsalya held at Srinagar

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 14: A one day Sensitisation/ Training programme on 'Implementation of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act 2015 and Mission Vatsalya Scheme' was today held at Institute of Hotel Management Rajbagh, here.

The programme, organized by the Department of Social Welfare, Mission Vatsalya Srinagar, witnessed the participation of an important target group viz. Anganwadi Workers (Front line workers) of Mission Poshan Srinagar, functionaries of Child line and other field functionaries of the Social Welfare Department.

The target group were sensitized that they are very crucial to uphold child rights vis-a-vis development in their jurisdiction. Speaking on the occasion, Tehsil Social Welfare Officer Srinagar Hafiz Abdul Bari explained the importance of the programme and gave a detailed description of the topic and its working mechanism at the government level.

The speakers shared their expertise and

professional knowledge with the participants. Among them, Misba - Member Child Welfare Committee discussed and explained that if any Frontline worker needs to share details of a child who seems to be in need of any welfare schemes, for that purpose the concerned worker can directly contact the Child Welfare Committee members through various means viz. Child line number (1098), Social Media Sites or through phone calls.

She well explained the role of the Child Welfare Committee and Children in need of Care and Protection.

Advocate Zulfikar Khan - Member Juvenile Justice Board, explained Role and responsibilities of Juvenile Justice Board regarding Child in Conflict with Law. He added the importance of incorporation of new skills and exploring the participatory nature of these Children for incorporating them in the mainstream society, and urged the target audience to take an active role in this regard for the welfare of the societies in general and child in particular.

Mansha, Project Coordinator Child line gave a detailed presentation on Mental

BARAMULLA, FEBRUARY 14: As part of Road Safety Month, 2024 and the ongoing efforts to enhance road safety and prioritize driver well-being, Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) Baramulla today organized an eye checkup and first aid training session for the driver community at the Sumo Stand, Baramulla.

Recognizing the importance of ensuring drivers are both physically fit and equipped with essential skills to handle emergencies on the road, MVD Baramulla collaborated with the health department to conduct the eye checkup and first aid training session. The event aimed to address two critical aspects of driver safety: visual health and



emergency response.

The eye checkup provided driv-

ers with the opportunity to assess their vision and address any poten-

tial issues that could impact their ability to operate vehicles safely. Additionally, the first aid training equipped drivers with essential knowledge and skills to respond effectively to emergencies, thereby enhancing overall road safety.

On the occasion, Assistant Regional Transport officer (ARTO) Muazzam Ali said that promoting driver safety is a top priority for us, and initiatives like the eye checkup and first aid training are integral to achieving this goal. By addressing both physical health and emergency preparedness, our aim is to create safer roads and reduce the risk of accidents, he added.

The event received positive feedback from the driver community, with participants expressing appreciation for the opportunity to prioritize their health and safety.

BJP Renominates Only 4 of 28 Outgoing Rajya Sabha MPs

■ HT News Network

New Delhi: Many senior BJP leaders and outgoing Rajya Sabha MPs, including seven Union ministers such as Dharmendra Pradhan and Bhupendra Yadav, have not been renominated by the party for the biennial Rajya Sabha polls amid strong indications that several of them may contest the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

With the ruling party naming 28 candidates for the elections to 56 seats, their profiles underscore the BJP's determination to recognise its grassroots organisation workers, who might not be much known in outside political circles, while factoring in social equations as well.

Three of the new names - Dharmshila Gupta of Bihar, Medha Kulkarni of Maharashtra and Maya Naroliya of Madhya Pradesh - are associated with the party's 'Mahila Morcha' (women's wing), in keeping with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's repeated emphasis



on the higher approval the BJP enjoys among women voters.

Among the 28 outgoing MPs, the BJP has renominated only four - its president JP Nadda, two Union ministers and an articulate national spokesperson in Sudhanshu Trivedi - sending a strong signal that its Rajya Sabha members cannot take their high-profile perch for granted and are expected to use the platform to connect with the masses and cultivate constitu-

encies of their own.

Ashwini Vaishnaw and L Murugan are the ministers who have been renominated.

No outgoing Rajya Sabha member of the BJP who has served two or more terms has been repeated, except Mr Nadda, who is set for a third term.

Notably, none of the party's national office-bearers figure among the 28 soon-to-be Rajya Sabha MPs, even though many of

their lower-profile state organisation leaders have made the cut.

"I will call it decentralisation and democratisation of the selection process. The visibility that comes with moving around in political circles in Delhi or comments to the media makes no difference to the current national leadership," a senior party leader said.

Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Man-sukh Mandaviya, Parshottam Rupala, Narayan Rane and V Murala-leedharan are five other ministers whose term is ending in the Upper House and who have not been renominated by the BJP.

Other senior leaders who have not been repeated are the party's chief spokesperson and its media head Anil Baluni, former Union minister Prakash Javadekar and former Bihar deputy chief minister Sushil Kumar Modi.

Several of them are being talked about within the party's circles as probable candidates for the Lok Sabha elections expected to be held in April-May.

Public grievances redressal camp held at Block Majalta

DC Udhampur assures locals of time bound remedy of projected issues

■ HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, FEBRUARY 14: As part of Weekly Block Diwas, Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai today chaired a public outreach program in Block Majalta, addressing numerous issues and demands raised by the local community.

Local DDC Councillor Amit Sharma, along with District Officers from across line departments, ex-PRIs members and general public participated in the event. Additional District Development Commissioner Ghan Sham Singh, CEO MDA, Assistant Commissioner Development Dr. Ranjeet Singh Kotwal, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Umesh Shan, and other senior officers attended the pro-



gram. The locals projected a range of demands and problems seeking provision of electric poles, installation of hand pumps, road maintenance, black-topping, addressing low voltage issues, installation of transformers, meeting water scarcity, tree plantation, housing schemes, speedy completion of projects etc. Responding to the demands, the DC issued on-the-spot directives to the concerned depart-

ments to address the grievances raised by ex-PRIs members and the general public, emphasizing their resolution on priority. The DC assured the public of further outreach programs to tackle genuine issues directly. The DC instructed officers to conduct awareness campaigns on government schemes and stressed the importance of inter-departmental coordination for effective.

NRSM: MVD Organises Bike Rally to

Promote Road Safety Awareness in Rajouri

■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, FEBRUARY 14: To promote road safety awareness and foster a culture of responsible biking/driving, Motor Vehicle Department Rajouri organized a bike rally on the final day of National Road Safety Month 2024.

The event, which started from PWD Dak-Bungalow and culminated at the New Bus Stand Salani, saw the enthusiastic participation of about 100 bikers from the region.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Rajeev Khajuria flagged off the rally as the chief guest. Addressing the event, the ADC said that road safety is among the top priorities to ensure an efficient and safe traffic management in the district. He called upon one and all to play key role in

road safety awareness by sensitizing people, particularly youth about road safety ethics and strictly adhering to the traffic rules to save precious lives.

One of the highlights of the rally was the distribution of helmets among the participants, emphasizing the importance of wearing protective gears while riding. Furthermore, bikers were enlightened about various road safety measures, reinforcing the significance of adhering to traffic rules and regulations. The event not only served as a platform for promoting road safety but also fostered camaraderie among biking enthusiasts. Refreshments were distributed to all participants, ensuring an enjoyable and memorable experience for everyone involved.

After holding this rally, the message of road safety

is expected to resonate strongly within the community, inspiring a collective commitment towards safer roads and responsible biking practices.

Among the others who were present on the occasion were ARTO, Pawan Kumar; DySP Traffic Nawaz Chouhan, DTI Ajaz Parvez and MVD Inspectors. The event not only served as a platform for promoting road safety but also fostered camaraderie among biking enthusiasts. Refreshments were distributed to all participants, ensuring an enjoyable and memorable experience for everyone involved.

After holding this rally, the message of road safety is expected to resonate strongly within the community, inspiring a collective commitment towards safer roads and responsible biking practices.

Sonia Gandhi Shifts To Rajya Sabha. End Of Era, Big Change For Congress

■ HT News Network

New Delhi: Congress matriarch Sonia Gandhi will stand down from the Lok Sabha this year - 25 years after her first term - leaving behind an impeccable electoral record that is all the more remarkable given her non-Indian origin and the circumstances of her entry to the country's volatile political landscape.

Ms Gandhi, 77, will not, however, withdraw from public life just yet; this is not a retirement but a repositioning, of sorts. She will move to the Rajya Sabha.

She filed her nomination papers from Jaipur in Rajasthan today and will take over - the Congress has the numbers to guarantee her election - the seat now held by former Prime Minister and party stalwart Manmohan Singh, who may retire



after a celebrated five-decade career.

Sonia Gandhi contested her first election from the party stronghold of Amethi in Uttar Pradesh and from Karnataka's Bellary. She won

both. That was in 1999, eight years after her husband and former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated, and she was persuaded to help rescue the party.

In 2004 she shifted to the Con-

gress' second UP stronghold - Rae-bareilly.

The Congress leader has been ever-present since 1999, serving as a steadying and guiding force for her party, particularly through the political and parliamentary turbulence of the past decade.

In parliament and outside she often let her colleagues take centre-stage, but the normally soft-spoken Ms Gandhi was capable of sharp attacks, including in September and December last year, when she took the BJP head-on over the Women's Reservation Bill, and the mass suspension of opposition MPs.

READ | On Women's Bill, Sonia Gandhi, Kanimozhi Lead Charge

In 2018 she ripped into the government, declaring, "... PM is very good at lectures... but lectures cannot fill stomachs. You need dal chawal. Lectures don't heal the sick... you need health centres."

Modi Govt trying to suppress voice of farmers: Rattan Lal Gupta

■ HT News Network

JAMMU Feb, 14th : Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President, Jammu & Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), today launched a scathing attack on the Narendra Modi-led government at the Centre, accusing it of attempting to stifle the voices of the farmers amidst ongoing protests. He denounced the government's actions, alleging a betrayal of promises made to farmers over the past decade.

In a hard hitting statement issued here today, the senior NC leader vigorously condemned the use of tear gas and the detention

of farmers instead of addressing their legitimate grievances, particularly regarding the Minimum Support Price (MSP). He criticized the deployment of barbed wires and iron nails at protest sites, equating it to an authoritarian attempt to suppress dissenting voices.

Gupta emphasized that instead of engaging in meaningful dialogue and addressing the concerns raised by the agricultural community, the government has resorted to repression and coercion. "The actions taken by the BJP-led Central government against farmers exercising their democratic right to protest are

reprehensible and unacceptable. Using tear gas and incarcerating peaceful demonstrators is a clear violation of their fundamental rights and undermines the democratic fabric of our nation," he added. The Provincial President anguished that more than 700 farmers lost their lives, yet despite this harrowing toll, the government remains unwilling to provide Minimum Support Price (MSP) to the farmers. He asserted that this stark reality underscores the deep-seated injustices and neglect faced by the agricultural community, whose livelihoods are at stake. Highlighting broken promises, Rattan Lal Gupta cited

the government's failure to fulfill commitments such as doubling farmers' income by 2022 and granting legal status to the Minimum Support Price. He lamented the lack of dialogue between the government and farmers, stressing the need for the Central Government to engage with farmers and address their concerns earnestly. "The Modi government's decade-long tenure will be remembered as a period of relentless hardship inflicted upon farmers. The transformation of Delhi into a fortress to silence the voices of our food providers reflects the cruelty of the BJP government," he said.

Road Safety Month campaign concludes at Kishtwar with Felicitation, Awareness Program

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, FEBRUARY 14: The month-long awareness activities dedicated to month long Road Safety campaign reached a successful conclusion today under the close guidance of ARTO, Mohammad Saleem Manhas, and the overall supervision of Chairman District Road Safety Committee, Dr. Devansh Yadav (Deputy Commissioner).

To mark the culmination of the Road Safety Awareness Month, a Felicitation

and Awareness Program was organized by the Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) in collaboration with Government Degree College Kishtwar.

Principal GDC Kishtwar, Dr Jyoti Parihar, staff and students of GDC Kishtwar besides MVD officials remained present on the occasion.

The highlight of the event was the Road Safety pledge ceremony, followed by a spirited rally led by students of Degree College Kishtwar. The rally commenced from GDC Kishtwar and traversed

to Dak Banglow Kishtwar, symbolizing the commitment to fostering a culture of road safety.

The ARTO expressed satisfaction over the active participation and enthusiasm displayed by the community throughout the month. He emphasized the importance of continued efforts to promote road safety awareness for the well-being of all road users.

He commended the collaborative efforts of all the stakeholders besides the officials of Government Degree College Kishtwar in

Arvind Kejriwal Summoned By Probe Agency For 6th Time In Liquor Policy Case

■ HT News Network

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has received a sixth summons from the Enforcement Directorate, sources told NDTV Wednesday evening. Mr Kejriwal has been asked to appear on Monday for questioning in connection with the liquor excise policy case in the national capital. Mr Kejriwal has skipped the five earlier summons, setting up a court battle with the probe agency and raising the prospect of the Aam Aadmi Party boss being the first sitting chief minister to be arrested. The sixth summons by the ED - investigating money laundering charges - comes a week after a Delhi court



directed Mr Kejriwal to appear on Saturday, and explain why he has skipped summons so far. The AAP, which claims Mr Kejriwal is being targeted by the BJP ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election - welcomed the order; party sources told NDTV "we will tell the

court how the summons are illegal". Mr Kejriwal snubbed the fifth summons on February 2. He skipped another on January 31, and three others - on January 19, December 21, and November 2. The AAP leader cited various reasons, apart from the illegality of the ED's notices, including campaigning for the Madhya Pradesh election. Mr Kejriwal has been questioned by the Central Bureau of Investigation; this was in April. He is not an accused so far. "CBI asked 56 questions (but) everything is fake. Am convinced they don't have a single piece of evidence," he had said. However, two senior AAP members, including ex-Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, have been arrested. Mr Sisodia was arrested in February last year and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh .



Ramban: Horticulture Department organises farmers' training tour to ACHR Jammu

■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, FEBRUARY 14: As part of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) and the Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA), a significant initiative has been undertaken to enhance the agricultural landscape in Ramban district.

Under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Ramban Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, Chief Horticulture Officer, Anil Gorka, today flagged off a group of fifteen orchardists for a day long exposure tour to the Advanced Centre for Horticulture Research (ACHR) in Udaivala, Jammu.

The objective of this initiative is to empower farmers with the knowledge and skills necessary to enhance fruit production and subsequently augment their income levels.

Speaking on the occasion, the CHO emphasized the significance of equipping farmers with contemporary agricultural practices, stating that this training program will play a crucial role in catalyzing the socio-economic growth of the farming community in Ramban. He expressed confidence that the acquired knowledge and expertise will enable farmers to significantly improve their yield and financial well-being.



ROHIT SHARMA TO CAPTAIN INDIA IN THIS YEAR'S T20 WORLD CUP

RAJKOT: India will be playing the T20 World Cup 2024, to be organised in the Caribbean and the USA, under the captaincy of Rohit Sharma, said BCCI secretary Jay Shah at an event here on Wednesday.

India have had Hardik Pandya as their full-time skipper in the shortest format but the heartbreaking loss in the final of the 2023 World Cup to Australia have reignited the murmurs of senior batters Virat Kohli and Rohit returning for the

T20 showpiece in June.

"In 2023 (final) at Ahmedabad, even though we did not win the World Cup after 10 straight wins, we won hearts. I want to promise you that in 2024 (T20 World Cup) in Barbados (venue for the final), under Rohit Sharma's captaincy, ham Bharat ka jhanda gaadenge (we will hoist the Indian flag)," Shah said at the end of his speech.

Shah was present at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium in Khandari,

which was renamed after veteran cricket administrator Niranjan Shah, as the chief guest.

Shah made a speech in front of a gathering of several dignitaries including former India captains Sunil Gavaskar and Anil Kumble and IPL chairman Arun Dharmal.

The event also featured current chief selector Ajit Agarkar, incumbent head coach Rahul Dravid, Rohit, Mohammed Siraj, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel and a

few members of the Indian team support staff.

Rohit Sharma is the third-highest run-getter among Test openers since he started on the job against South Africa five years ago. He has 2242 runs in 49 innings just below Dimuth Karunaratne (2358 in 48 innings) and David Warner (2328 in 58). His average, 48.73, is third among openers with more than 2000 runs in the period.

Rohit has been among the consistent

run-getters since becoming an opener. At home, he averages a tinge above 52 and has five centuries, the last one being against Australia in Nagpur. Which is why, there have been questions about his on-field tactics against England in the first two Tests and red-ball captaincy in general, but not about the fact that Rohit has not crossed the 40-run mark in eight innings (13, 14, 39, 24, 16*, 39, 0, 5). Or about how he hasn't scored a fifty in the last five Tests he played.

Apple Town Cup 2024 Season 1st

Sopore Cricket Association Presents
Cricket Festival Of Sopore
Apple Town Cup Sopore 2024

Chief Organiser
Irfan Kaloo

■ Lone Musaib

SOPORE: Apple Town Cup 2024 will feature 32 teams competing for the ultimate Apple Town Cup Sopore Trophy. The much anticipated first season of Apple Town Cup Sopore 2024 is scheduled to kick start as the weather will be improved offering fans a month long Spectacle. The maximum number of exhilarating T20 matches on Apple Town Cup 2024 is set to entertain cricket fans of the Sopore area. The Apple Town Cup 2024 will Kick-start and will reach its climax with an electrifying Apple Town Cup

Prizes

- Winning Prize 50,000/= with Trophy
- Runner Up 25000/= Trophy
- Player of the Tournament 5000/=
- Player of the match in Final 2000/=
- Player of the match trophy will be given in every match.
- Promote Kashmiri Apple for good health.

2024 final at the Subhana Stadium College ground Sopore. Fans all over the UT J&K can catch all the thrilling Apple Town Cup Sopore first season matches on their smart phones through the well known Sports Pages on the fb. The complete schedule with timing of the Apple Town Cup Sopore 2024 will be issued after the complete registration of the 32 teams. The tournament is organised by Irfan Ahmad Kuloo and will be played under the banner of Sopore Cricket Association. The fee of the tournament is 7000/= Rs. only included with balls.

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