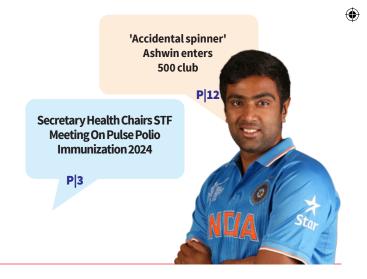
Volume: 14

www.dailyheadlinestoday.com 14TH HEADLINES Pages: 12 **Voice To The Voiceless** Price: Rs 02/-



India Failed to Thrive Under Congress Rule, Their Corrupt Practices: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, FEB 16: In a sharp attack on the Congress, Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated that India failed to deliver under the "corrupt" rule of the grand old party while asserting that the "country is moving forward with confidence."

"Congress is corrupt; it can't think of a future; India failed to thrive under Congress," the PM said ahead of the Lok Sabha elections due in April-May this year.

PM Modi was addressing a 'ViksitBharatViksitRajasthan' programme via video conferencing.

Lashing out at Congress, the PM further said, "After independence, today this golden period has come. India has this opportunity to leave behind all the disappointments from 10 years ago.
TURN ON.....PAGE 02



Congress People Used To Call Lord Ram Imaginary, Are Chanting 'Jai Siya Ram' Now: PM Modi

■ HT News Network

HARYANA, FEB 16: Prime Minister Narendra Modi flayed the Congress on Friday over its stand on the Ram temple in Ayodhya, saying those who used to call Lord Ram imaginary and did not want a temple to be constructed are also chanting 'Jai Siya Ram' now.

Addressing a public gathering after he laid the foundation of an All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and inaugurated several projects in Rewari in Haryana, he said India has touched new heights in the world today and that it has been possible because of people's blessings.

Referring to his visit to the UAE and Qatar this week, he said the respect that India now gets from every corner is not of Modi alone, but of every Indian.

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

LG Pays Obeisance At Shri Martand Surya Temple, Paloura, Jammu

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEB 16: On the holy occasion of Surya Saptami, Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha paid obeisance to Lord Shri Martand at Shri Martand Surya Temple, Paloura, Jammu, today.

He participated in the Mahayagya organised by Shri



Martand Tirath Trust and prayed for the peace, progress and prosperity of one and all.

The Lt Governor interacted with the people and TURN ON.....PAGE 02

NEWS BRIEF

'Education sector sees promising developments post 2019'

SRINAGAR, FEB 16: Authorities have claimed that from the year 2010 to 2019 only 819 civil works in schools under the Capex budget were completed in the erstwhile state while after 2019 to 2023; at least 2339 works under the UT Capex budget were completed.

The official documents accessed by the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) wherein the authorities have made comparison of major works and initiatives taken before and after 2019 reveal that prior to 2019,

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Sinthan Top witnesses surge in tourist footfall in Jan-Feb this year

ANANTNAG, FEB 16: The scenic spots in the Kokernag area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district witnessed an increase in tourist arrivals during January and February this year, officials said.

According to reports obtained by the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the delayed snowfall in prominent tourist destinations like Sinthan Top in Kokernag attracted a considerable number of tourists.

In January 2022, only 440 visitors explored Sinthan Top and Dakusm, whereas in January 2023, the number rose to 1,364. However, this year, the TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Over Dozen Structures Develop Cracks In Doda

JAMMU, FEB 16: Over a dozen residential houses and a mosque have developed cracks in a village in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district, forcing the inhabitants to move in temporary shelters, officials said.

Doda Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh said that a team of officials visited the affected Gatsu hamlet to take stock of the situation and provided a few tents to the affected families.

"We are there for the villagers of Gatsu and monitoring the situation. If required, the families will be TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Power Availability To Mark Substantial Improvement In **Kishtwar: Official**

HT News Network

JAMMU, FEB 16: Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district is set to witness significant improvement in power availability following the successful charging of 132KV Ramban-Khellani-Kishtwar transmission line and the concurrent availability of an additional 10-12 MW through 132-KV Dul Hasti line.

The Urban areas are set to receive more than 20 hours of power supply, while the rural areas will benefit with 18 hours of supply, Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar Devansh Yadav has said.

He said the twin districts of Doda and Kishtwar had been relying on the 132KV DPS line constructed in 1987 for power supply.

Initiated in 2007, the construction of the 132KV Double-Circuit Ramban-Khellani-Kishtwar line faced various challenges, leading to delays and non-commissioning. TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Ahead Of Wet Weather Forecast, Summer Like Weather Prevails In Kashmir

HT News Network

SRINAGAR.FEB16: Ahead of wet weather forecast summer like weather conditions prevailed on Friday.

There was a significant improvement in night temperature, but stayed below freezing point, at most of the stations of Kashmir valley.

Bright sun appeared with clear sky in Srinagar and other parts of the Kashmir TURN ON.....PAGE 02



J&K Has Opportunity To Be Torchbearer Of 'Viksit Bharat': Dr Jitendra

HT News Network

JAMMU, FEB 16: Jammu and Kashmir has an opportunity to be the torchbearer of Viksit Bharat", said Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh here on Friday while delivering the inaugural address at the first-ever 3-day International Conference on Traditional Medicine and Phytopharmaceuticals, and the 11th International Congress of the Society for Ethnopharmacology

Dr Jitendra Singh said, it is for the first time since independence that J&K's unexplored TURN ON.....PAGE 02

₹18 Lakhs **Penalty Imposed On Stone Crusher For Illegal Mining In Ravi River**

■ HT News Network

KATHUA, FEB 16: A total of ₹18 lakhs penalty was imposed on Vasudev stone crusher for massive digging and mining by using two heavy excavators at Taraf Tajwal areas of Ravi River here today.

During surprise checking in Ravi
TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Warm Send-off to DDI (PR) Bilal Mukhtar, Warm Welcome to Ehsan-ul-Haq Cheste as New DDI (PR)



SRINAGAR, FEB 16: The

Joint Directorate of Information Kashmir today accorded farewell to outgo-

ing Deputy Director Information (PR) Kashmir, TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Div Com Reviews Preparation Of Departments In View Of Expected Change In Weather

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEB 16: In view of the change in weather & forecast of heavy snowfall in the Valley in coming days, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri today convened a meeting of Deputy Commissioners & Head of Civil Departments wherein he directed all the departments to keep men, material and machinery ready to tackle any exigency that TURN ON.....PAGE 02



SANAM

Tour & Travels

Fixed Departure: 14-03-2024

Few **Seats Left**

Address KREERI, BARAMULLA 193108



HAJJ &

UMRAH

6006339231

CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

"Congress Is.....

LATHERADLINES

India is moving forward now with confidence. Before 2014, there used to be only discussions of scams and bombings. People in India used to wonder what would happen to them and to the country. During the Congress regime, this was the atmosphere..."

"Congress has only one agenda, anti-Modi, extreme anti-Modi. They spread such things against Modi, which divide the society. When a party gets trapped in the vicious circle of nepotism and dynasty politics, the same thing happens to it. Today everyone is leaving Congress, only one family is seen there" PM Modi added.

He also expressed gratitude to the people of Rajasthan for giving a grand welcome to the President of France, Emmanuel Macron, who was the chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations on January 26.

Hitting at the previous Congress government in Rajasthan, the PM said, "During the regime of the previous government in Rajasthan, there used to be frequent paper leaks, and youth used to get affected by this. To investigate this, an Special Investigation Team was formed as soon as the BJP came to power. The Central Government has formed a stringent law against those who indulge in paper leaks..."

"Several people from every Assembly of Rajasthan have joined this important program, I congratulate all of you... A few days ago, the grand welcome you gave to the President of France in Jaipur echoed throughout India and France...," PM said.

During the programme, Prime Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth over Rs 17,000

The projects cater to several important sectors including Roads, Railways, Solar Energy, Power Transmission, Drinking water and Petroleum and Natural Gas, as per a statement from Prime Minister's Office.

The programme was organised at about 200 places across all districts of Rajasthan, with the main programme held at Jaipur. The state-wide programme witnessed the participation of lakhs of beneficiaries of various government schemes. The programme was also be joined by Chief Minister Rajasthan, other Ministers of Rajasthan Government, MPs, MLAs and local-level representatives. (Agencies)

Congress People.....

Targeting the opposition Congress, Modi said those who used to call Lord Ram imaginary and did not want a temple to be built in Ayodhya are also chanting 'Jai Siya Ram' now.

For decades, the Congress had created obstacles in the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution, which accorded special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. He said he had given a guarantee and fulfilled it by scrapping Article 370.

The Congress' track record is to keep the interest of one family above that of the country and its people, he charged.

The Congress' track record is of biggest scams in history, he said.

Modi said his first event after the BJP declared him as its prime ministerial candidate in the run-up to the 2014 general elections was in Rewari in September 2013.

"As prime ministerial candidate, I had given some guarantees." The country wanted a grand Ram temple in Ayodhya and it has been fulfilled, he

The consecration of the Ram Lalla idol at the temple in Ayodhya was conducted last month in the presence of the prime minister. Top Congress leaders had stayed away from the consecration ceremony, accusing the BJP of making it into a "political project" for electoral gains and asserting that religion is a "personal

matter". Modi said people are now saying that since he has come to Rewari again, the BJP-led NDA will win more than 400 seats this time – 'Abki Baar NDA Sarkar 400 Paar' — with people's blessings. The Lok Sabha polls are due in April-May.

Seats are important in a democracy, "but for me people's blessings are the biggest asset", he added.

India could successfully host the G-20 summit last year because of people's blessings, he told the gather-

In the 10 years of his government, India rose from the eleventh spot to become the fifth largest economy in the world and it was due to people's blessings, he further said.

"I need your blessings to make India the third largest economy in my third term, in coming years," he said.

Nowadays, there is a lot of talk in the country and across the world about "Modi's guarantee", he said, adding "Rewari was the first witness to Modi's guarantee."

During his visit, Modi inaugurated, dedicated to the nation and laid the foundation of multiple development projects worth more than Rs 9,770 crore related to urban transport, health, rail and tourism.

To be built at a cost of about Rs 1,650 crore, the AIIMS-Rewari will be developed on 203 acres of land in Majra Bhalkhi village.

The AIIMS-Rewari will have a hospital complex with 720 beds, a medical college with 100 seats, a nursing college with 60 seats, an AYUSH block with 30 beds, residential accommodation for the faculty and staff members, hostel accommodation for undergraduate and postgraduate students, a night shelter, a guesthouse,

Established under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), the AIIMS-Rewari will provide comprehensive, quality and holistic tertiary-care health services to the people of Haryana and some of the neighbouring states.

The prime minister also laid the foundation stone of Gurugram Metro Rail project, which will be developed at a cost of about Rs 5,450 crore.

The project, with a total length of 28.5 km, will connect Millennium City Centre to Udyog Vihar Phase-5 and merge in the existing network of Rapid Metro Rail Gurugram at Moulsari Avenue station near Cyber City.

On the occasion, the prime minister also inaugurated a newly built Anubhav Kendra Jyotisar, Kurukshetra. This experiential museum has been built at a cost of around Rs 240 crore.

Jyotisar, Kurukshetra is the sacred site where Lord Krishna imparted the eternal wisdom of the Bhagavad Gita to Arjuna.

He laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation multiple railway projects. The projects whose foundation stone was laid include doubling of Rewari-Kathuwas rail line (27.73 km); doubling of Kathuwas-Narnaul rail line (24.12 km); doubling of Bhiwani-Dobh Bhali rail line (42.30 km); and doubling of Manheru-Bawani Khera rail line (31.50 km).

He also dedicated to the nation the Rohtak-Meham-Hansi rail line (68 km), which will reduce the travel time

between Rohtak and Hisar. He also flagged off a train service in the Rohtak-Meham-Hansi section.

(Agencies) LG Pays.....

extended his hearty greetings on the auspicious occasion.

Since time immemorial Jammu Kashmir is known as the land of spirituality and one of the main centres of learning and knowledge in the country. It has always promoted inclusive cultural ecosystem and kept alive time-tested traditional wisdom, the Lt Governor said.

He said, under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, the vision of 'Vikas Bhi Virasat Bhi' has been transformed into a peoples' movement.

He called upon the people to rededicate themselves to promote social harmony and collectively work for the upliftment of the weaker sections of the society.

Sh AK Sidha, President, Shri Martand Tirath Trust; Sh Avtar Krishan, Chairman; Sh TK Tickoo, General Secretary, other members of Shri Martand Tirath Trust and people from different walks of life were

present. Dr. Arvind Karwani, Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants) I&K and senior officials of UT Administration were also present.

Power Availability.....

However, with persistent efforts and budgetary support from the administration, the line was successfully made functional up to Khellani on January 31, after a hiatus of over 17 years, the deputy commissioner said.

He said it was followed by the successful charging of the 132KV Ramban-Khellani-Kishtwar transmission line up to Khellani and the concurrent availability of an additional 10-12MW to the district through the 132KV Dul Hasti line.

"This significant development promises substantial improvements in power supply for the residents of Kishtwar district. Urban areas are set to receive more than 20 hours of

power supply, while rural areas will benefit from 18 hours, a remarkable increase from the previous allocation of 33MW to a total of 45MW for the district," Yadav said.

The Deputy Commissioner expressed gratitude for the collaborative efforts of Power Grid Corporation of India (PGCIL) and Jammu and Kashmir Power Transmission corporation Limited (JKPTCL), emphasizing that this achievement marks a crucial milestone in meeting the energy needs of the region.

The completion of a long pending power transmission project is in line with emphasis laid by Lt Governor to provide quality power supply to remotest areas, the deputy commissioner said.

Ahead Of Wet.....

valley as people and the tourists were seen basking under it at Lal Chowk, Partab Park and on the banks of Dal Lake.

The maximum temperature in Srinagar was recorded 7.8°C above normal of 9.9°C on the previous day.

Meteorological centre Srinagar has predicted moderate to heavy rain and snowfall over the J&K from Sunday onwards.

An intense Western Disturbances are most likely to affect J&K and adjoining areas from Sunday onwards.

The main activity of the WD is likely to occur during February 19-20

During this period there is a possibility of light to moderate rain or snow at most places including plains and lower reaches with the possibility of heavy snowfall over middle and higher reaches of Kupwara, Baramulla, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Badgam, Shopian and Kulgam districts, the MeT office said

Meanwhile, the MeT office said the minimum temperature during the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday in Srinagar settled at -1.6 °C against the-3.0°C recorded the previous night. It was 2.6°C below normal for the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir.

Qazigund on Srinagar-Jammu national had a low of -1.2°C against the-2.0°C, while the picnic spot of Kokernag in south Kashmir recorded a low of 04°C against the -0.2°C recorded on Thursday.

Pahalgam remained the coldest place even though the night temperature significantly improved by several notches and recorded at -4.2°C against the -5.4°C. It was 0.2°C above normal for the tourist hot spot of south Kashmir.

Kupwara settled at -2.4°C against the -3.3°C and it was 2.2°C below normal for the frontier north Kashmir district.

Gulmarg had a low of =3.4°C against the -3,2°C recorded the previous day and it was 3.4°C above normal for the famous ski resort of north Kashmir. (UNI)

J&K Has Opportunity.....

resources like Aroma and lithium are being tapped to boost India's economy.

It is evidenced in the Aroma Mission and Purple Revolution which were born in J&K, with the cultivation of lavender in the townships of Bhaderwah in Doda and Gulmarg in the Kashmir Valley. He said bio Himalayan resources like these will add hugely to the country's economy in the

next two decades. Dr Jitendra Singh recalled that Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi had spoken extensively on the significance of lavender farming in Bhaderwah in his Mann Ki Baat programme to encourage its cultivation.

The Union Minister said following the Prime Minister's call, States such as Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Nagaland have also adopted the model of lavender cultivation, which shows that J&K is proving to be an example whose innovations and best practices are being emulated by other States of the country.

In the same way, India has made a name for itself the world over, with its success stories in the form of the indigenously developed COVID vaccine and much-talked about Chandrayaan Mission, Dr Singh

When the whole world was calamity-hit by the pandemic, Dr Jitendra Singh explained that it provided India an opportunity to emerge as a messiah for the global community as India-made vaccines saved lakhs of lives across the world. He said India is no more a country to be led by others, rather, it is a nation which has taken the mantle to lead the world.

Dr Singh said, India has earned recognition as a propagator and a brand ambassador, with its traditional medicines and practices like Yoga becoming a panacea, adding that oriental methods of disease management and prevention are no more the only way for cure.

The Union Minister said, at the recent G20 Summit held in India, Prime Minister Modi proposed establishing a Global bio alliance to promote collaboration and sharing of best practices among the

PM Modi is India's brand ambassador who has popularised Yoga, millets and traditional Indian remedies across the world, he said.

Dr Singh underlined that it was the initiative of the Prime Minister to have the UN declare the International Day of Yoga and the International Year of Millets.

HT - NEWS

He said India has shed the tag of a fragile economy, and has now emerged as a fertile economy, adding that it is on its course to become a third largest economy in the world.

Calling for collaboration among the emerging agri-start-ups and the industry, Dr Jitendra Singh said now is the time for greater integration, adding that the era of He reasoned that India success stories,

including Covid vaccine, Chandrayaan Mission and Aroma Mission, are the by-products of collaborative efforts between the StartUps and the industry, producers and the market.

The Union Minister said the government has created an enabling ecosystem which must be optimised, he suggested. (UNI)

₹18 Lakhs.....

River during night hours, team of mining department led by District Mineral Officer (DMO) Kathua Rajinder Singh seized both excavators along with loaded and unloaded dumpers from the mining site.

Whole machinery of stone crusher comprised of two heavy chain machines and two dumpers brought to police post Bhagtali for safe custody but drivers of other four dumpers and one JCB fled from the mining site.

DMO informed that after seizing the vehicles including excavators, the mineral raised on the site and dug pits were also measured and accordingly penalty was imposed as per the MM(DR) Act of 1957 and SRO-105 of 2016 and also in the light of NGT and other orders of courts.

It is pertinent to mention here that one lease has already been sanctioned in private land on the bank of Ravi but the stone crusher was excavating mineral one km away from the lease out areas besides dispatching dumpers towards Punjab side without e-challans.

Meanwhile, a notice has also been served upon the owner of stone crusher to show cause for brining massive mineral as well as environmental degradation in the Ravi River where replenishment of mineral is not possible during rainy season.

Deputy Commissioner Kathua Dr. Rakesh Minhas has already instructed the mining department for taking stringent measures to curb the menace of illegal mining and illegal digging any where in the River beds or other areas of government as well as private land.

Jt. Directorate.....

Bilal Mukhtar on his transfer from department and welcomed new DDI (PR)

The Joint Director Information Kashmir. Mohammad Aslam in his address praised the integrity, sense of responsibility and dedication of Bilal Mukhtar. He prayed for the health and wellbeing of the transferred

He also welcomed the incoming Deputy

Director. Bilal Mukhtar also shared his experience and memories and thanked the Joint Director Information Kashmir and other Officers/ Officials for their active support and cooperation during his tenure

Cultural Officer Kashmir, Burhan Hussain also spoke on the occasion and shared his experience with the officer and extended good wishes for him. He also welcomed the new officer in the depart-

At the conclusion of the event, the felicitation function was held during which the outgoing officer was presented with bouquets, memento and Shawl symbolizing appreciation for his dedicated service and leadership.

The new Officer was also presented with a bouquet as a token of welcome on joining the department.

Div Com Reviews.....

may emerge out of the expected snowfall.

He also directed officers to mobilize their field staff for effective & timely response to any emergency.

The meeting was attended by all Deputy Commissioners; Commissioner SMC; Director ULB and officers of line departments including PWD, PHE, KPDCL, KPTCL, PMGSY and Telecommunication Service providers.

He instructed Mechanical Engineering Department, PWD (R&B) and PMGSY for simultaneous snow clearance to ensure all roads remain open for connectivity and transportation.

Similarly, Div Com enjoined on KPDCL for making workshops functional to repair damaged transformers within stipulated time besides instructed to ensure restoration of power supply lines in case snow causes any disruption.

While addressing the meeting, Div Com enjoined all the officers to remain available in the field to ensure timely restoration of services for the convenience of general

public.

He also directed them to keep citizens informed through social media regarding the maintenance works being executed to restore services.

For smooth execution of plans, Div Com asked all the concerned departments to work in close coordination and synergy with District Administrations.

'Education.....

at least 819 civil works in schools were completed. However, after 2019 at least 2339 civil works were completed.

The documents further reveal that under the erstwhile centrally sponsored schemes including SSA, RMSA and Samagra Shiksha, at least 9635 civil works in schools were completed from 2004-2019 and post 2019, at least 12,600 such works were completed. "342 Spill over works also got completed.'

Earlier, this week KNO has reported a series of stories wherein the concerned authorities had compared the works and developments in Schools before and after 2019.

Earlier, we reported that the government had claimed that prior to 2019, schools in Jammu and Kashmir were witnessing a deficit of average number of working academic days due to 'unrest' here.

However, in the past five years, the academic days in schools of Jammu and Kashmir have increased by over 30 percent. "Prior to 2019, due to unrest, the average number of working days for which Schools remain functional was 128-150."

"After 2019, the schools remain functional for more than 210 days, which has improved the school education system to a large extent," it reads.

The School Education Department had further claimed that in the past five year's student enrolment in government-runschools have increased by over 17 percent.

It said that till the academic year 2023-24, the enrolment increased by 17.7 percent.

Sinthan Top.....

influx surged significantly to 14,877 tourists in January alone.

Of these visitors, 13,328 were domestic tourists, 1,519 were locals, and 30 were foreign tourists.

The increasing tourist activity at Daksum and Sinthantop was due to the presence of snow, which was absent in other popular tourist spots. Due to the absence of snowfall in

December and January in Kokernag's main town, there was no increase in tourist flow in that area, officials said. In January 2023, 7,310 tourists visited

Kokernag, while in January 2024, the number decreased to 6,514. Overall, in 2022, 150,713 tourists explored Kokernag, compared to 146,830 visitors in 2023. Approximately 800,000 tourists visited Daksum and Sinthan Top in 2023 alone. As

of this month, around 3,000 tourists have visited Kokernag, with approximately 1,000 visitors exploring Daksum and Sinthantop. While tourist footfall at Daksum and Sinthan Top has begun to decline with the waning of snowfall, residents said the area has untapped tourism potential. They

employment opportunities if developed properly. Although the government has initiated some measures for the development of tourist spots in the area, locals say more

mentioned Breng hamlet, which they said

could contribute to revenue generation and

efforts are needed. Officials said all tourist destinations are undergoing development, with necessary arrangements in place to facilitate tourists. They said they are anticipating a further

increase in tourism flow in the region. Over Dozen....

rehabilitated to safer places,' he said. Located on Doda-Kishtwar stretch of National Highway-244, 10 km from Doda town, the affected residents of Gatsu blamed the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) for their plight.

They claimed that large cracks appeared in the structures after the ground started sinking due to road widening work.

The district magistrate said that he would take up issue of compensation for the affected families with the NHIDCL in

the next review meeting. "We left our houses after cracks started widening due to recent rains. We have been pleading before the NHIDCL authorities and the district administration, but no one came to our rescue till date," Haleema

Begum (65) said. Mohd Aarif (35) said they have left their unsafe homes and are now living under polyethylene sheets.

"We are living in constant fear of attacks by wild animals like leopards and bears which keep on roaming in this area," he said, demanding their proper rehabilitation at the earliest. (Agencies)





Secretary Health Chairs STF Meeting On Pulse Polio Immunization 2024

"Every child under 5 years of age must get Polio vaccine"

SRINAGAR, FEB 16: Secretary Health and Medical Education, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah today underscored that every child under 5 years of age must be administered Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) on National Immunization Day (Pulse Polio) on

He said that India maintains polio free status since 2011 and to ensure that the country stays free of polio, all stakeholders must redouble their efforts. He called upon all stakeholders, including the general public to wholeheartedly participate in the National Immunization Day (NID) to ensure maintenance of polio free status of the country and Jammu & Kashmir.

He made these remarks during the State Task Force meeting regarding National Immunization Day to discuss the planning & implementation of activities for Pulse Polio scheduled on the 3rd of March 2024 across Jammu & Kashmir. The health department will administer OPV to all children in the age group of 0-5 in the arranged booths throughout the UT on 3rd March followed by house to house activity on 4th and 5th March while transit sites and special areas will be covered throughout the three days of immunization programme. In Jammu and Kashmir, around 19 lakh children will be inoculated during the three days from March 3 - 5.

The meeting was attended by Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K, District **Development Commissioners** of J&K, Director School Education Kashmir, Director School Education Jammu, Director AYUSH J&K, Director Health Services, Jammu, Director Health Services, Kashmir, Chief Medical Officers, State Immunization Officer, J&K, Deputy CMO's of J&K, District ImmunizationOfficers(DIOs)ofJ&K.All outstation officers attended the meeting via video conference.

Dr Abid Rasheed took a detailed review from every district about the preparations made and the steps taken by them for the NID activities among the target population, including the details of number



of booths, vaccine availability in far-off places.

While chairing the meeting, Secretary Health & Medical Education said that maintaining polio free status is a prime responsibility for all stakeholders. He said that effective implementation of pulse polio immunization programme is necessary to safeguard our future generations from this

He called upon all the con-

cerned departments to ensure active indulgence and take leadership roles in making this immunization programme successful so that no eligible child is left behind without vaccination.

He said that some districts have peculiar geographical challenges and they should put in place a meticulous and indepth plan in this regard. He said that slum areas brick kilns, construction sites, hard to reach areas and other vulnerable areas

should be given utmost attention during the immunization day and proper surveillance must be maintained in such

Secretary Health also directed the DIOs to maintain adequate supply of vaccine at all locations while emphasising the criticality of cold chain maintenance.

He said that Chief Medical Officers/DistrictImmunization Officers Shall ensure all vaccina-

tors and supervisors have undergone orientation as and when required. He said that they should make supervisory visits to sub district levels to review preparedness and monitor implementation.

He called upon the health department to continue to maintain a highly sensitive surveillance system for polio and any case of Acute Flaccid Paralysis in children are picked up by the polio surveillance network and properly investigated.

Secretary Health also highlighted the role of DCs in setting up transit booths at airport, bus stands, railway stations and other required locations in their respective districts. He asked DCs to conduct District Task Force meetings to ensure effective implementation of Polio round in the districts. They should also provide support of all departments in identifying and providing manpower at their disposal who can be trained as vaccinators, he said.

Secretary Health said that Intensive IEC and IPC regarding the campaign would be needed

to create awareness and acceptance in the community for Polio round and posters, banners, pamphlets should be displayed at prominent places prior to pulse polio day. He said that there should be a massive social media buzz and playing of FM jingles regarding the immunization programme. He also said that involvement of religious leaders will provide a value addition to our efforts and will go a long way in sending

messages to masses. He also asked the Municipal Commissioners of both the divisions to providing space of hoardings for display of IEC at prominent locations in the twin cities and playing of jingles on all routes covered by municipal vans well in advance of the round describing the importance of polio vaccination to generate awareness amongst

He further said that health care workers who put in their efforts especially hilly terrain or hard to reach areas during $the \, immunization \, programme$

Lok Sabha Elections 2024

J&K Election Deptt holds one day workshop for political parties

SRINAGAR, FEB 16: The Jammu and Kashmir Election Department, in preparation for the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections 2024, today organized a one day workshop for political parties at the office of Chief Electoral Officer, Darul-Intikhab, Srinagar.

The training programme, which was attended by representatives of major political parties of Jammu and Kashmir, covered all important aspects of the election process including nomination, qualification and disqualification of candidature, EVM preparedness, Election Expenditure Monitoring, Model Code of Conduct besides media certification and monitoring committees. The representatives were also apprised of poll day related Standard Operating Procedures to be observed by them as well as the contesting candidates.

Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu and Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole, who inaugurated the session, stressed upon the central role of political parties in a vibrant democracy like India.

He apprised the representatives of various election related aspects highlighting the need for a closer liaison between political parties and administrative machinery in ensuring a free, fair and civil discourse both during and after the election processes. He also emphasized on the importance of maintaining good practices and transparency to ensure peaceful and fair elections. He appealed the political party leaders, who got training on election related matters, to be trainers for further imparting training to other leaders of their parties and play important role in increasing participation of voters in the total process.

Earlier, the National Level Master trainers, Chand Kishore Sharma and Riaz Ahmed Buttimparted training on several topics including EVM preparedness, issues pertaining to Model Code of Conduct, Election Expenditure monitoring, MCMC and Social Media.

DC Srinagar Reviews Functioning Of Revenue Department

Asks Tehsildars to pay special thrust on efficient and prompt delivery of public services as envisaged under PSGA

SRINAGAR. FEB 16: In order missioner took a detailed review to review the functioning of Revenue Department and take Tehsil wise appraisal about Revenue related public services delivery system in the District, a meeting was held today under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner(DC), Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office

Besides, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, Dr. Khalid Hussain, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Syed Ahmad Kataria, the meeting was attend-Assistant Commissioner(Revenue), Assistant Commissioner Nazool, SDM East, SDM West and all Tehsildars of the District.

At the outset, the Deputy Com-

about the working and functioning of the Revenue Department at grass root level and coordination of Tehsildars with the field Revenue staff.

The DC also reviewed the progress of all Tehsils of the District on various Revenue matters including progress on digitization of Jamabandis/Girdawari, Reconstruction of damaged Massavies, Status of Migrant offline/online grievances and Online public services delivery system.

The Deputy Commissioner instructed all the Tehsildars to pay focused attention to the complaints registered on the portal/ offline to ensure quality redressal to the best satisfaction of the complainants. He further asked the officers to work with added



zeal and dedication while redressing the grievances to ensure their time bound, prompt and quality disposal. The DC also reviewed the process of online public services delivery mechanism. He said not a single application should be beyond the stipulated period under PSGA.

The DC also asked the Revenue Officers to monitor the process of revenue related activities in respective jurisdiction on a daily basis so that people do not face any inconvenience while availing revenue related services.

The DC stressed all the Tehsildars to pay special thrust on ensuring efficient and prompt delivery of public services to their best satisfaction as envisaged under Public Services Guarantee Act(PSGA).

School Edu Deptt directs to replace physical tasks in workplaces with electronic ones by switching over to e-office

has ordered to replace physical tasks with electronic ones by switching over to e-office mode by March-31 at directorate level to CEO level and April 30 at zonal and cluster head level respectively.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Administrative Secretary School Education DepartmentPiyush Singla had ordered all the subordinate offices of the School Education Department to switch over to e-office mode with immediate effect.

Singla in a circular issued on Thurs-

SRINAGAR, FEB 16: School Education day directed that the process of switching over to e-office at directorate level to CEO level shall be completed before March-31 and upto zonal level, cluster head level by or before April-30 respec-

"Accordingly, with a view to ensuring a complete switch over to e-office mode, from physical files and Daks, it is enjoined upon all the subordinate offices of School Education Department to switch over to e-office mode with immediate effect and complete the whole process as per the

Singla further said that wherever necessary, Directors shall also identify the areas and assignments where the record needs to be routed through both physical and online modes.

The circular said that the government and General Administration Department previously had directed all the department to switch over to e-office mode of working with the assistance and handholding from the IT department by way offacilitating them with VPN connections, creation of jk.gov.in email IDs and training of the local admins etc.

Houseboat owners demand rehabilitation to safer places in Jhelum

SRINAGAR, FEB 16: The Houseboat Association of Kashmir on Friday welcomed the revival of water transport but demanded rehabilitation of houseboats in Jhelum to safer places.

The President of the Houseboat Association of Kashmir (HBOA), Manzoor Pakhtoon, speaking to the news agencv-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said the revival of water transport in Jhelum is a welcoming step but they are demanding the rehabilitation of already deployed houseboats in Jhelum river to other safer places.

Pakhtoon added that the houseboats in Jhelum from Rajbagh to Lal Mandi stretch are not in the condition to handle the high and continuous tide which will be generated by the motor-operated boats, which is going to ply on Jhelum.

Pakhtoon said they have requested the officials many times to relocate their houseboats in Jhelum to safer places. In this regard, an order was also issued but the file is pending with Srinagar Development Authority (SDA) since March, they said, adding that they are requesting the government to relocate their houseboats in Jhelum before the inauguration of water transport, and clear the file.

After a gap of over three decades, Jammu & Kashmir's summer capital, Srinagar, is all set to witness a revival of water transport within the next month.

Meanwhile, a houseboat owner said, "We're hopeful that the revival of water transport in Jhelum will bring new opportunities, but it's crucial that the safety of our houseboats is ensured."

"Relocating us to safer places is necessary to protect our livelihoods and preserve the beauty of our heritage, as our Houseboats are not in the condition to handle such high tide and disturbance in the water," he added.

RTO Jammu discloses revenue figures, vehicle registrations from Aug 2019-Aug 2022

JAMMU, FEB 16: The Regional Transport Office (RTO) Jammu has disclosed its revenue figures from August 2019 to August 2022, in response to an RTI filed by a person M.M. Shuja. During this period, the RTO generated a total revenue of Rs 747,394,266 from various fees, including registration, driving license, fitness, route permit, fines/ challans, and miscellaneous charges, it reveals.

The breakdown of revenue generation is as: Registration fee: Rs 379,062,516; Driving License fee: Rs 217,650,392; Fitness fee: Rs 383,262,607; Route permit fee: Rs 41,597,601; Fine/Challan: Rs 68,646,290; and Misc.: Rs 2,074,860.

The RTO collected Rs 4,324,633,844 from token tax, Rs 83,351,600 from passenger tax, and Rs 1,714,400 from accidental welfare funds during the same period.

The data also reveals the number of new vehicle registrations and route permits issued by the RTO. From August 2019 to March 2020, the Region Transport Office Jammu registered 35,633 new vehicles. From April 2020 to March 2021, over 39,174 new vehicles were registered by the Regional Transport Office Jammu. From April 2021

to March 2022, over 46,221 new vehicles were registered by the Regional Transport Office Jammu. From April 2022 to August 2022, as many as 20,026 new vehicles were registered by the Regional Transport Office Jammu.

From August 2019 to March 2020, the Region Transport Office Jammu issued 42 new route permits, which included 12 State Carriages, 26 Goods Carriages, and 4 PSV (School Vehicles). From April 2020 to March 2021, 92 new permit routes were issued, which included 3 State Carriages and 89 Goods Carriages. From April 2021 to March

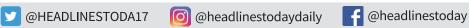
2023, the Region Transport Office Jammu issued 473 new route permits, which included 116 State Carriages, 345 Goods Carriages, and 12 PSV (School Vehicles). From April 2022 to August 2022, 381 new permit routes were issued, which included 2 State Carriages, 314 Goods Carriages, and 65 PSV (School Vehicles). Five trucks were transferred to Ladakh after the creation of a separate Union Territory.

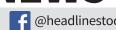
Additionally, from 2020-21, the Regional Transport Office Jammu purchased 185 ordinary buses with a seating capacity of 43. In the fiscal year 2021-22, 41 AC buses with

a seating capacity of 19 were purchased, and from 2022-23, 56 Deluxe buses with a seating capacity of 34 were acquired by the Regional Transport Office Jammu.

The RTO Jammu currently has a fleet of 1,160 JKSRTC vehicles, including both old and new. According to the RTI, there are over 282 new and 329 SRTC buses under the RTO Jammu. Additionally, the RTO Jammu possesses a fleet of 373 old vehicles and 176 trucks/trollers. Furthermore, it is revealed that the revenue generated by newly purchased passenger vehicles amounts to Rs 5423.51 lakh.







@headlinestodaynews

Secy RDD advocates enhanced convergence for amplified impact in Udhampur's development

■ HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, FEBRUARY 16: In a concerted effort to assess and accelerate rural development initiatives, Secretary Rural Development Department (RDD) and Panchayati Raj, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary on Friday made a comprehensive tour of Udhampur, signalling a robust push towards accelerating rural development initiatives in the district.

Dr Shahid emphasized the critical need for heightened convergence with various departments to amplify the impact of developmental efforts.

Secretary RDD delved into a plethora of pivotal aspects concerning development works, flagship schemes, and centrally sponsored initiatives earmarked for the fiscal year 2023-24 in Udhampur.

Chairing a meeting, he scrutinized

Pariksha Pe Charcha

DC Baramulla presides an

event to promote Stress Free

Examinations programme

■ HT News Network

BARAMULLA, FEBRUARY 16: National Commission for

Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in collaboration with

School Education department Baramulla today held a

day-long event at Govt. Boys' Higher Secondary School

Baramulla to celebrate Prime Minister Narendra Modi's

7th edition of envisaged program, 'Pariksha Pe Charcha

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa

was the chief guest on the occasion. The event was

attended by CEO Baramulla, Balbir Singh Raina, Deputy

CEO, HoD DIET, representative from NCPCR, teachers,

During his address, the DC emphasized the crucial role that both teachers and parents play in creating a sup-

portive and stress-free environment for students as they

burdensome "make it or break it" mentality regarding

their children's exam results and encouraged them to

view this period as an opportunity for their wards to learn

DC Kulgam reviews status

of various work projects of

Health sector

■ Farooq Rather

health sector work projects including NTPHC Chowgam,

MCH Kulgam, PHC Devsar and other buildings of health

department, a meeting of officers was Friday held under

the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC)

During the meeting, the chair was informed about the

After reviewing the status of NTPHC building Chowgam

and Devsar, DC directed the concerned officers of the

executing agency to finish incomplete work at both the

buildings and handover the same to the health depart-

He also instructed Chief Medical Officer and Medical

Superintendent District Hospital Kulgam to make MCH

Subject: - Grant of Registration

"M/s Tripflex Tour and Travels Situated at

Public Notice

Whereas, I Mr./Ms. Zahid Ahmad Kambay S/o/D/o/W/o Mr.

Abdul Ahad Kambay R/o Batapora Hazratbal Srinagar, Kashmir

intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for Registration

of my proposed Travel Unit under the name and style "M/s Trip-

flex Tour and Travels situated at SHUHUMA ALUSTENG Kashmir

Whereas, I will submit State Subject/Domicile Certificate,

Qualification Certificate, Pan Card, Experience Certificate (Min-

imum 05 Years), Character Certificate (Police Department), Bank

Statement (Minimum Balance 10000), Site Plan, Affidavit, Rent

Deed duly attested by Sub-Registrar, Printing Material (Letter

Head/Visiting Card), Photograph of the Unit (Indoor and Outdoor)

and Two Passport size photographs to the Department of Tourism

as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my unit as an

Excursion Agency. / Adventine tour Operator Now as per J&K

Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before the

Competent Authority, the matter, processes my case for registra-

tion is hereby notified for information of general Public/Financial

Institutions/Bank/Organization, etc for objection, if any and the

same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration

of the Proposed Travel unit

under the name & style

Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan at mini-secretariat, here.

status of all aforementioned work projects.

ment within the stipulated time frame.

building operational within days.

SHUHUMA ALUSTENG

under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

KULGAM, FEBRUARY 16: To review the status of various

Minga Sherpa further urged parents to relinquish the

parents and school children.

prepare for their upcoming exams.

various initiatives and projects aimed at fortifying rural infrastructure and nurturing livelihood opportunities through sectoral convergence.

FOR

The agenda of the meeting spanned a broad spectrum of issues, including progress under flagship schemes like MGN-REGA, advancements in Local Body (LB)

projects, prompt payment of wages, meticulous monitoring of delays, the UNNATI project's trajectory, agricultural expenditures, status updates on ongoing projects, and strategies for social audits.

During the deliberations, Block Development Officers (BDOs) were unequivocally instructed to marshal resources with precision, ensuring the seamless execution of schemes while leaving no eligible beneficiary overlooked.

Secretary underscored the need for transparency, accountability, and the unwavering pursuit of set targets in all developmental endeavors.

Dr Shahid enjoined BDOs to harness innovative methodologies to expedite project execution without compromising on quality or adherence to timelines.

Reaffirming the pivotal role of officers in driving effective scheme implementation for public welfare, he stressed the imperative of achieving 100% Aadhaar seeding of beneficiaries.

Secretary also emphasized the vital importance of livelihood generation and the sustainable operation and maintenance of assets, urging concerted efforts in these spheres.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR BIRTHS &

DEATHS BLOCK WAGOORA

delayed Birth/Death certificate.

PUBLIC NOTICE

his office is in receipt of representation from: AFROZA

BEGUM W/O SHABIR AHMAD GANAIE R/O, Saloosa Tehsil

kreeri District Baramulla for issuance of Birth Certificate in

favour of my daughter namely MOHAMMAD USMAN

GANAIE S/O SHABIR AHMAD BHAT whose D.O.B as per

documents is 13/06/2021 & 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.

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of

PUBLIC NOTICE

I informed to general public that my daughter namely ZARA SAFEER D/O SAFEER AHMAD BEIGH her Date of birth (DOB) is 14/07/2021... Now I am applying for her date of birth certificate(DOB)if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file His /her objection in the (BDO) office WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

> NAME..SAFEER AHMAD BEIGH F/O....ZARA SAFEER R/O....CHANDOOSA **BLOCK.... WAGOORA**

PUBLIC NOTICE

I informed to general public that my Son namely ABDUL MANAN LONE S/O NASEER AHMAD LONE his Date of birth (DOB) is 02/07/2022 Now I am applying for his date of birth certificate (DOB) if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file His /her objection in the (BDO) office WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

> NAME..NASEER AHMAD LONE F/O.... ABDUL MANAN LONE **R/O....MURANTANGMARG BLOCK.... 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 ABSAAR UL HAQ S/O MUSAIB MANZOOR R/O ROHAMA Tehsil BARAM-ULLA Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 04/08/2023 and event has been shown to be occured at S.D.H Kreeeri for issuance of delay order .In this connection if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertaine.

> **EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS KREERI**

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 ZUHAIB SHOWKAT S/O SHOWKAT AHMAD KHAN R/O CHECKI DARGAM Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 26/11/2019 and event has been shown to be occured at S.D.H Kreeeri for issuance of delay order .In this connection .

if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertaine.

> **EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS KREERI**

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 AZAAN AHMAD KHAN S/O MUDASIR AHMAD KHAN R/O CHECKI DARGAM Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 29/07/2020and event has been shown to be occured at S.D.H Kreeeri for issuance of delay order .In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/

her claim this office within 07 days, after that no

objection shall be entertaine

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS KREERI

PUBLIC NOTICE

I informed to general public that my Son namely MOHAMMAD IBRAAR NAJAR S/O MUSHTAQ AHMAD NAJAR his Date of birth (DOB) is 10/03/2015.....Now I am applying for his date of birth certificate(DOB)if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file His / her objection in the (BDO) office WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

> NAME..MUSHTAQ AHMAD NAJAR F/O....MOHAMMAD IBRAAR NAJAR R/O....KACHWA MUQAM **BLOCK.... WAGOORA**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Registration of Non-Institutional Birth Event

This is for information to the general public that I want to register the Birth Event of my Child namely Toiba D/O Mohammad Shafi Khatana R/O Khellan Gojaan District Anantnag with date of birth as 13/08/2017 at Block Development Office Pahalgam (Registrar Birth & Death). The said Birth event has occurred at my home and not in any Hospital. Anybody having any objection in this regard, can file his/her objection in the office of BDO Pahalgam within 07 days from the publication of this notice.

> NAME: MOHAMMA SHAFI KHATANA S/O: ABDUL SHAKOOR **R/O: KHELLAN GOJAAN** CONTACT NO:- 00000000

PUBLIC NOTICE

Registration of Non-Institutional Birth Event This is for information to the general public that I want to register the Birth Event of my Child namely Aliya Jan D/O Mohammad Shafi Khatana R/O Khellan Gojaan District Anantnag with date of birth as 01/01/2020 at Block Development Office Pahalgam (Registrar Birth & Death). The said Birth event has occurred at my home and not in any Hospital. Anybody having any objection in this regard, can file his/her objection in the office of BDO Pahalgam within 07 days from the publication of this notice.

NAME: MOHAMMAD SHAFI KHATANA S/O: ABDUL SHAKOOR KHATANA **R/O: KHELLAN GOJJAN CONTACT NO:-8082670400**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Registration of Non-Institutional Birth Event This is for information to the general public that I want to register the Birth Event of my Child namely Misra Jan

D/O Nazir Chohan R/O Khellan Gojaan District Anantnag with date of birth as 07/04/2005 at Block Development Office Pahalgam (Registrar Birth & Death). The said Birth event has occurred at my home and not in any Hospital. Anybody having any objection in this regard, can file his/her objection in the office of BDO Pahalgam within 07 days from the publication of this notice.

> NAME: NAZIR CHOHAN S/O: LAL DIN **R/O: KHELLAN GOJAAN** CELL NO:-9541153913

PUBLIC NOTICE

Registration of Non-Institutional Birth Event This is for information to the general public that I want to register the Birth Event of my Child namely Iqra Nazir D/O NAZIR AHMAD CHOHAN R/O Khellan Virsaran District Anantnag with date of birth as 01/04/2010 at Block Development Office Pahalgam (Registrar Birth & Death). The said Birth event has occurred at my home and not in any Hospital. Anybody having any objection in this regard, can file his/her objection in the office of BDO Pahalgam within 07 days from the publication of this notice.

> NAME: NAZIR AHMAD CHOHAN S/O: LAL DIN **R/O: KHELLAN VIRSARAN CONTACT NO:-941935 3394**

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

REGISTRATION BIRTH & DEATH

(BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WAGOORA)

DEATHS BLOCK WAGOORA Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of

delayed Birth/Death certificate.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR BIRTHS &

PUBLIC NOTICE

This office is in receipt of representation from: NIGHAT MUSHTAQ W/O MOHAMMAD IQBAL BHAT R/O, TAKIYA Wagoora Tehsil Wagoora District Baramulla for issuance of Birth Certificate in favour of my daughter namely: NOORAIN IQBAL D/O MOHAMMAD IQBAL BHAT whose D.O.B as per documents is 10/02/2024 & 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 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 MALEEKAH MANZOOR D/O MANZOOR AHMAD SHEIKH R/O KHAIPORA BALA Tehsil Tangmarg Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 17/02/2022 and event has been shown to be occured at S.D.H Kreeeri for issuance of delay order .In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertaine

> **EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS KREERI**

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 pertainingto Birth of FATIMA FAROOQ D/O FAROOQ AHMAD BHAT R/O VIZER Tehsil Wagoora Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 30/04/2022 and event has been shown to be occured at S.D.H Kreeeri for issuance of delay order .In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE

1ST CLASS KREERI

(e-mail Id:-ddtreg123@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No objections beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.



Secretary Planning chairs public grievances redressal camp at Bhambla panchayat

Terms "LG's Mulakat" as effective platform for grievance redressal of common masses

HT News Network

13TH CHEADLINES

ΓODAY

REASI, FEBRUARY 16: Secretary Planning Development and Monitoring Department, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, today chaired a public grievances redressal camp at Bhambla panchayat in Pouni block to assess and address public issues and concerns.

District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Paul Mahajan, besides other senior officers were present on the occasion.

The locals apprised the Secretary of their grievances and demands seeking an early redressal to the same. The issues raised inter alia included infrastructure development, tainareas and construction



healthcare facilities, staff shortage in health department, construction of bridge near Kalidhar temple, completion of pending roads, school upgradation, fresh survey of PMAY, monkey menace, ambulance availability, school building repairs, low voltage in cerof a playground in the area. Various government departments, including Agriculture, Health, Animal Husbandry, Horticulture and Social Welfare, set up their stalls to raise awareness among the people about the central and Jammu and Kashmir government schemes.

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary emphasized the government's commitment towards addressing the needs of the people on priority basis while highlighting the importance of holding these grievance camps for resolving public issues at their doorsteps.

He mentioned the LG

Mulakat programme as an effective platform for people to directly raise grievances with the Lieutenant Governor, encouraging the public to use the platform to get their genuine concerns redressed. This unique initiative is one of his many programs aimed to infuse accountability and transparency in the system making the governance more people centric, he added.

DC Rajouri inaugurates 10 day Digital Awareness Program for students of Parisha & Palaash

■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, FEBRUARY 16: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat today inaugurated a transformative ten-day digital awareness program for a group of fifty students of Parisha and Palaash-Child Care Institutions.

The initiative has been taken under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan, a visionary scheme aimed to empower rural populace across the States and Union Territories of the country by enhancing their digital literacy.

The core objective of the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan is to equip citizens in rural regions with essential digital skills, enabling them to proficiently operate com-



Scheduled Tribes (ST), comprehensive training, minorities, individuals participants will learn to below the poverty line navigate the digital land-(BPL), women, and persons with disabilities. By using scape, enabling them to perform tasks like sending the Information Technoland receiving emails, ogy and its applications, browsing the internet, especially digital payment accessing government sermechanisms, the scheme endeavors to foster active vices, seeking information, and conducting digital payparticipation from rural ments.The scheme's inclucommunities in the nationsive approach targets rural building process. Speaking

emphasized the significance of embracing digital literacy as a catalyst for socio-economic advancement. He underscored the pivotal role of the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan in bridging the digital divide, particularly among marginalized segments of society.The DC urged participants to wholeheartedly engage with the training program, recognizing its potential to uplift communities and facilitate greater access to opportunities in the digital age. By equipping individuals with essential digital skills, the initiative not only empowers them to use the digital platforms but also foster their active participation in the socio-economic.

at the inaugural ceremony,

the Deputy Commissioner

DIC Jammu hosts awareness programme on PM Vishwakarma scheme

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 16: District Industries Centre Jammu, in collaboration with the District Administration today hosted an awareness programme on PM Vishwakarma scheme here in Teachers Bhavan for the stakeholders. The awareness event was chaired by Joint Director IEDS, MSME DFO, G Velladurai. The PM Vishwakarma scheme has been launched on Sep 17, 2023 by the Prime Minister. Under the scheme 18 categories of artisans have been covered. After successful registration at CSC and due step wise verifications by the authorities, the artisans will be eligible for a toolkit of Rs. 15000; A Collateral free loan up to Rs. 300000 at just 5% interest rate. For more details of the scheme the artisans can contact Gram Panchayat/Panchayat Secy./GRS/BDO/DIC office/DC office. At the outset, Rajesh Kumar, IEDS Assistant Director delivered welcome address and a brief about the seminar. Detailed presentation and clarifications regarding the registrations process of the scheme was given by D K Tvagi, IEDS Assistant Director Officer from MSME DFO. Representatives of CSC Centre, Ministry of Skill Development Government of India and Lead District Manager gave presentations on the role of their respective

GDC Vijaypur organises workshop on Communication Skills

potential beneficiaries on the platform.

Department in PM Vishwakarma verification & execution.

Guest of honour, Shehzada, Assistant Commissioner

Panchayat, Jammu motivated the participants and officers

of district administration to bring maximum number of

■ HT News Network

SAMBA, FEBRUARY 16: IQAC of Government Degree College Vijaypur in collaboration with Department of Commerce and Department of English organized a highly successful workshop on "Communication Skills" that aimed at guiding students towards career ambitions and developing personality. Students of the college attended the lecture with great fervor and zeal.Prof. Ritu Bhagat (Convenor, IQAC) welcomed the guest. The speaker of the event was Kiran Kurwade, Director-Strategic Initiatives, Chitkara University, Chandigarh. He focused on the importance of holistic development for improving the Intelligent quotient among the students. He also stressed that for achieving higher IQ there is an important role of Emotional quotient (EQ). More than 100 students and all the faculty members participated in the workshopProf Mamta Gupta (HOD Commerce) concluded the session by motivating the students towards improving their communication skills for the better future perspective. The whole event was conducted under able guidance of Principal of the college Dr. (Prof.) Vandana Gupta. The proceedings of the program was done by Dr. Tisha Singh (Lecturer, Dept of Commerce) and Dr. Gunjeet Mahiwal ((Lecturer, Dept of Education) presented formal vote of thanks. Pens were distributed to all the students who attended the workshop.

GDC Marh organises two day workshop on 'Campus Bird Count'

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 16: NSS unit joined hands with Bird watching club of Government Degree College Marh organised two day workshop on 'Campus Bird Count, here on the college campus. The college is registered on e-bird world's largest citizen Science Project. The programme was inaugurated by Chief Guest Prof Rakesh Kumar Koul (College Principal) along with Dr Parmil Kumar.The workshop was conducted by Sachin Kumar Bhagat, Assistant Prof. in Political Science, a famous bird lover of Jammu and Kashmir under the overall supervision of Prof. Rakesh Kumar Koul Principal, GDC Marh who explained the mystic connection between birds and humans.

Deputy Commissioner leads inspection team to combat encroachment in Main Market Kishtwar

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, FEBRUARY 16: In continuation to the proactive move of district administration Kishtwar towards reclaiming public spaces, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Devansh Yadav today conducted a comprehensive inspection in the Kishtwar town. The focus of the inspection was on monitoring the progress of the ongoing anti-encroachment drive targeting the Main Bus Stand and Market areas along the National Highway.

Accompanied by authorities from Revenue and the Municipal Council, the Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar underscored the importance of removing



illegally installed stalls, reharis, and the unauthorized extension of shops in public spaces.

During the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner issued firm directives to Municipal and Revenue officers, urging them to implement stringent actions. This includes the issuance of challans and notices, accompanied by a stern warning against encroaching on footpaths and roads. The emphasis was on creating a clear and obstruction-free environment for pedestrians and commuters.

In a bid to streamline traffic. auto-rickshaw operators were specifically advised to park only at authorized stands. This measure aims to enhance the flow of traffic and ensure a more organized public space.

Furthermore, street vendors, hawkers, and rehadi walas were encouraged to utilize designated Market and Vendor spaces. The goal is to contribute to a revitalized market landscape, free from congestion and encroachments along footpaths.

Deputy Commissioner expressed optimism that the collective efforts of the administration, coupled with cooperation from stakeholders, would lead to a more orderly and aesthetically pleasing urban environment in Kishtwar.

SDM reviews functioning of **Forest, Social Forestry Departments in Ramnagar**

■ HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, FEBRUARY 16: In accordance with the directives of Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai, Sub Divisional Magistrate Ramnagar, Rafiq Ahmad Jaral today presided over a comprehensive review meeting with officers and officials of Forest and Social Forestry departments in his office chamber. In attendance were Divisional Forest Officer, Forest Division Ramnagar, Naresh Majotra, Rang Officer Avtar Singh and other officials. The meeting commenced with the Divisional Forest Officer providing an overview of various schemes and initiatives implemented in the Sub Division. The Discussion also encompassed the challenges encountered by the department during the summer season, particularly in tackling the forest fire incidents and demarcation of forest land. The SDM asked the DFO to constitute a committee of officials of Forest, Fire and Emergency services and police departments to manage forest fires and other related incidents effectively. "The meeting of Committee shall be convened in the month of March 2024 to formulate a plan to tackle the forest fire incidents effectively" he said.

Further, the SDM directed to monitor the demarcation of forest land, for which a Committee of revenue and forest officials has already been constituted by Deputy Commissioner Udhampur. He asked the Committee to complete the task by 15th March 2024.

The SDM emphasized the importance of raising awareness among local communities about the Forest Rights Act and protection of forest.

National Campaign on "Ashwagandha: A Medicinal Plant" organised by J&K Ayush

HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 16: J&K State Medicinal Plant Board, Directorate of Ayush, J&K in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jammu organized a one day National Campaign cum Training Programme on "Ashwagandha: A Medicinal Plant" under National Campaign on Ashwagandha.

Dr. Mohan Singh, Director Ayush J&K/CEO J&K Medicinal Plants Board and Prof. Amrish Vaid, Director Extension, SKUAST-Jammu, were chief guests on the occasion.

The training programme was attended by 80 medicinal plant growers of Jammu District.

Speaking on the occasion Prof. Amrish Vaid appreciated the efforts of KVK Jammu for conducting this National Level campaign on medicinal plants



particularly focusing on Ashwangandha for the medicinal plant growers of Jammu District. He also asked the farmers to grow other medicinal plants also because of their high market demand and price as compared to other crops. He apprised them that medicinal plants are less prone to Insect and Disease

DC Kishtwar flags off JKRTC Bus to Bimal Naag of Block Drabshalla

■ <u>HT News Network</u>
KISHTWAR, FEBRUARY 16: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav today flagged of a newly allotted JKRTC Bus to Bimal Naag of Block Drabshalla.Present on the occasion were DDC member Drabshalla-A Ashok Kumar, ACR Mohammad Idrees, Tehsildar Drabshalla Irshad Ahmed, EO Municipal Council Ninad Sen, RTC official Mohammad Iqbal Bakshi and Ajaz Ahmed, besides MVD Officials and other dignitaries.It's noteworthy that Bimal Naag holds the distinction of being a serene spiritual tourist destination with. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the District Administration's unwavering commitment to augment transport provisions for the residents of Kishtwar district. He stressed upon JKRTC, private transporters, drivers, and the MVD department to strictly adhere to road safety measures, ensuring the utmost safety of commuters. The bus has been furnished with adequate seating and safety features, ensuring a comfortable journey for the local commuters.JKRTC officials highlighted that the bus service will commence from the Main Bus Stand Kishtwar at 2 PM daily, accommodating an overnight stay at Bimal Naag and returning the following morning to the Kisht-

Rattan Lal slams BJP's false propaganda against NC leaders joining Saffron Party NC guarantees to bail out people from clutches of inefficient administration

■ HT News Network

JAMMU Feb, 16th: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of J&K National Conference, slammed the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for spreading false propaganda of NC leaders joining the Saffron Party, despite knowing the fact that they have been thrown out of the party for their antiparty activities. In a statement issued here today, Rattan Lal Gupta has called out the BJP for shamelessly issuing such statements with a sole aim to deceive the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He clarified that the claims made by the BJP are baseless and misleading. He emphasized that some former NC leaders who are now being touted as BJP recruits were actually expelled from the National

Conference due to their anti-party activities since long. One such example is the former NC leader Mushtaq Ahmed Bukhari, who was ousted from the party following his involvement in activities that were detrimental to the Party's principles and objectives, he said. Furthermore,



he highlighted the case of another former NC leader, Dr Shehnaz Ganai, who left the party nearly four years ago to contest the DDC election as an independent candidate in 2020 but unfortunately she was defeated by the NC

candidate. The Provincial President criticized the BJP for $its \, deceitful \, tactics \, in \, spreading \, false \, narratives. \, He \, stressed$ the importance of countering such misleading information and urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir not to be swayed by the BJP's attempts to mislead and deceive them.

Exposing BJP's apprehension regarding the Assembly elections, the senior NC leader claimed that the entire BJP leadership is fully aware of the increasing popularity of the National Conference and its potential to secure a majority of seats in the Assembly polls whenever they are conducted in the union territory. Supported by surveys conducted by various news channels, they confidently asserted that the National Conference is on the verge of

forming a government with a resounding majority. Raising serious concern over the hardships being faced by the common masses in absence of popular government in Jammu and Kashmir, Rattan Lal Gupta made a bold promise to the people, asserting that the National Conference guarantees to rescue them from the clutches of an inefficient administration that has failed to address.

CMYK



EDITORIAL =

19TH LADLINES

A Critical Challenge for Ambulance **Services**

The issue of traffic jams poses a critical threat to the efficacy of ambulance services. The intricate network of narrow streets and unpredictable traffic patterns exacerbates the already challenging task of navigating through the valley's bustling thoroughfares during emergencies. As ambulances struggle to weave through congested roads, precious minutes tick away, potentially jeopardizing lives.

Traffic jams in Kashmir not only impede the swift movement of ambulances but also amplify the chaos surrounding emergency situations. The cacophony of honking horns and the jostling of vehicles often create an insurmountable barrier for ambulances, delaying their arrival at critical scenes. In a region where every second counts, these delays can be the difference between life and death.

The consequences of traffic congestion on ambulance services extend beyond mere inconvenience; they represent a dire threat to public health and safety. Patients in need of urgent medical attention face heightened risks as ambulances struggle to navigate through the labyrinthine streets of Kashmir's cities and towns. Moreover, the psychological toll on patients and their families, forced to endure agonizing waits amidst the clamor of traffic, is immeasurable.

To mitigate the impact of traffic congestion on ambulance services, it is imperative to prioritize the expansion and enhancement of emergency medical infrastructure in Kashmir. Increasing the availability of ambulances equipped with advanced life-saving technology and trained medical personnel is paramount. Moreover, investments in road infrastructure and traffic management systems are essential to streamline the flow of vehicles and ensure unimpeded access for emergency responders.

Furthermore, public awareness campaigns emphasizing the importance of yielding to emergency vehicles and adhering to traffic regulations can foster a culture of cooperation and solidarity within Kashmir's communities. By rallying together to address the challenges posed by traffic congestion, we can safeguard the well-being of our fellow citizens and uphold the sanctity of human life in the face of adversity.

In the pursuit of a safer and more resilient Kashmir, combating traffic jams and bolstering ambulance services must remain steadfast priorities. Only through collective action and unwavering commitment can we surmount the obstacles that threaten to derail our efforts to provide timely and effective emergency medical care to those in need.

Empowering Kashmiri Youth: The Inspirational Journey of Khurshid Malik, Visionary **Entrepreneur, and Champion of Change**



Irfan Attari Kashmiri

In the picturesque valleys of Kashmir, amidst the serene backdrop of Srinagar, there emerges a beacon of hope for the youth of the region - Er. Khurshid Malik. This visionary entrepreneur has not only ignited the flames of ambition but has also provided tangible opportunities for thousands of young Kashmiris, shaping their destinies through education, empowerment, and entrepreneurship.

Khurshid Malik's journey is one of resilience, determination, and unwavering commitment to uplifting his community. Born and raised in Kashmir, he understood the challenges faced by the youth firsthand. Armed with a passion for change, Malik embarked on a mission to transform lives through education and skill development.

Through his organization, Zinorain Group of Institutions, Malik has pioneered initiatives to bridge the gap between education and employment. With a focus on skill development, the institution has trained over 10,000 youth from the districts of Budgam and Srinagar, providing them with valuable skills and opportunities for economic empowerment. Leveraging government-sponsored schemes, Malik has collaborated with various skill development programs to offer free training to the youth, ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder their path to success.

Recognizing the potential of emerging sectors such as information technology, apparel, and electronics, Malikestablished partnerships with industry bodies and councils to deliver specialized training programs. These programs not only equip the youth with technical skills but also foster an entrepreneurial mindset, encouraging them to explore innovative solutions and create their own ventures.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought unprecedented challenges to Kashmir, exacerbating existing socio-economic disparities. In response, Malik demonstrated remarkable compassion and solidarity by extending support to marginalized communities. Through his efforts, he distributed COVID relief aid to those most affected, providing essential supplies and assistance during these trying times.

Atrue visionary, Khurshid Malik's commitment to empowering the youth of Kashmir is exemplified by his personal sacrifices. Despite the allure of a stable government job, he chose to forgo this path



multiple times, driven by his unwavering belief in the power of education and entrepreneurship to bring about transformative change. His actions inspire not only admiration but also emulation, encouraging others to follow in his footsteps and contribute to the betterment of society.

In recognition of his exemplary contributions, Malik has been honored with numerous awards from local organizations. These accolades serve as a testament to his tireless efforts and unwavering dedication to the welfare of his community.

Looking ahead, Khurshid Malik's vision remains resolute - to foster a culture of innovation, entrepreneurship, and selfreliance among Kashmiri youth. His endeavors have already borne fruit, with many of his students successfully establishing their own ventures and contributing to the socioeconomic development of the region.

As Kashmir continues on its path of progress and development, individuals like Khurshid Malik stand as guiding lights, illuminating the way forward for the youth of the region. With his steadfast commitment and pioneering spirit, Malik continues to inspire generations, leaving an indelible mark on the landscape of Kashmiri entrepreneurship and empowerment.

With a steadfast commitment to his vision, Khurshid Malikis not content to rest on his laurels. He envisions a future where every Kashmiri youth is equipped with the skills and mindset to thrive in the rapidly evolving global landscape. To achieve this, he remains actively involved in mentoring and guiding the next generation of aspiring entrepreneurs, sharing his knowledge and experiences to empower them to reach their full potential. One of Malik's proudest achievements is witnessing the success stories that have emerged from his mentorship and training programs. Many of his former students have gone on to establish their own businesses, thereby creating employment opportunities for others in their communities. These success stories serve as a testament to the transformative power of education and entrepreneurship in uplifting individuals and communities.

Moreover, Malik's impact extends beyond the realms of education and entrepreneurship. He is deeply invested in community development initiatives, working tirelessly to address pressing social issues and improve the quality of life for all Kashmiris. From promoting environmental sustainability to advocating for gender equality, Malik's holistic approach to community development reflects his commitment to building a more inclusive and equitable society.

As he continues to chart new paths and break down barriers, Khurshid Malik remains guided by his unwavering belief in the potential of Kashmiri youth. He sees them not as beneficiaries of charity, but as agents of change capable of shaping their own destinies and contributing meaningfully to the progress of their communities.

In the years to come, it is certain that Khurshid Malik's legacy will endure as a shining example of what can be achieved through passion, perseverance, and a deep sense of purpose. His tireless efforts to empower the youth of Kashmir have not only transformed individual lives but have also laid the foundation for a brighter and more prosperous future for the entire region. As we reflect on his remarkable journey, one thing becomes clear: Khurshid Malik is not just an entrepreneur; he is a visionary leader, a catalyst for change, and a true champion of the human spirit. In a world often marked by uncertainty and adversity, his story serves as a powerful reminder that with courage, compassion, and determination, anything is possible.

Khurshid Malik's impact reverberates far beyond the borders of Kashmir, inspiring individuals across the nation and beyond. His story serves as a testament to the transformative power of education, entrepreneurship, and community engagement in driving positive change in even the most challenging of circumstances.

In an increasingly interconnected world, where opportunities abound but obstacles remain, Khurshid Malik stands as a guiding light, showing us that with perseverance and a sense of purpose, we can overcome any adversity and create a better future for ourselves and generations to come.

As we look to the future, one thing is certain: Khurshid Malik's journey is far from over. With each passing day, he continues to sow the seeds of hope and empowerment, nurturing the dreams of Kashmiri youth and paving the way for a brighter tomorrow.

In the annals of history, Khurshid Malik's name will be remembered not only for his entrepreneurial endeavors but also for his $unwave ring commitment to the {\it uplift} ment$ of his community. His legacy will endure as a symbol of resilience, compassion, and the indomitable human spirit.

As we bid farewell to this chapter of Khurshid Malik's journey, we do so with a sense of awe and gratitude for all that he has accomplished. And as we eagerly await the next chapter, we do so with renewed hope and determination, knowing that with leaders like Khurshid Malik leading the way, the future is indeed bright.

In the tapestry of Kashmir's landscape, Er. Khurshid Malik has woven threads of hope, opportunity, and transformation. His journey from humble beginnings to becoming a catalyst for change embodies the resilience and potential of the Kashmiri youth. Through his visionary leadership, Malik has not only equipped thousands with the tools to succeed but has also instilled a sense of empowerment and possibility in a region often overshadowed by adversity. As we draw the curtains on Khurshid Malik's remarkable story, let us carry forward the lessons he has imparted. Let us remember that true progress stems from empowering individuals to chart their own destinies and creating an environmentwhere dreams can flourish. Malik's legacy will continue to inspire generations to come, reminding us that with determination, compassion, and a commitment to the greater good, we can build a future filled with promise and opportunity for all.

As the sun sets on one chapter, let us eagerly await the dawn of a new era, guided by the enduring spirit of Khurshid Malik and the countless others who strive to make the world a better place. In their footsteps, may we walk with purpose and conviction, shaping a brighter tomorrow for Kashmir and beyond.

The Author is a Renowned Social Activist/Writer, President of Foundation For Youth Web & Student Of Cybersecurity, Email:askirfanattari@gmail.com

Family is Emotion



Ehmadd Rouf

Family is like a part of your body. If separated, it can leave adverse effect on the body. An individual goes through ups and downs in his life. And it's the family that stands with us shoulder to shoulder in these tough times.

I can remember when I was pursuing my higher studies, during the time of examination, it was my family that helped me cope with the examination pressure. Whenever thoughts of failure came to my mind, my family stood by me and talked me out of depression by spending time with me and talking to me about many great things I was to accomplish if I kept my nerve. In my conversations with family, and I am sure you feel the same, I feel relaxed and a certain calmness wraps me in.



My family boosts my energy and fills me with undying hope. It gives me the strength to face failures of life and motivates me to keep going. And needless to say, it saves me from anxiety and negative thoughts.

You family understands your feelings and supports you financially and psychologically. A family can be the best counsellor providing that necessary healing touch that you so desperately need. In fact, I can say without a doubt that my family is the force, which brings me back on the right path whenever I go astray. That emotional support of mother when she cries for you to quit the life of bad habits; that stern look in eyes of vour sister indirectly nudging you to pull yourself up when you feel low; all this is nothing but selfless familial support for your

own betterment. It is the sacrifice that your family members make for you own good.

But family doesn't have to be your blood relations only! Your friends can be your family, too! A good friend who is pious and inspires piety in you, brings out the best character in you, and rekindles your social life, indeed is a blessing from Almighty. Otherwise, you know the famous saying that one bad apple can spoil a bunch.

A good friend can bring about a great revolution in your life, in your carrier by providing you with better environment in which your aspirations can thrive. He can be the guiding light, slowly bringing you closer to your dreams with no ulterior motive but only goodwill for his friend.

I am grateful to God that I've such friends in my life with whom I can share my personal issues and relieve my heart's burden without fearing being judged. Not only the emotional support, friends are a great source of physical strength who would shield you from any harm coming your way! When I am with my friends, I am sure we inspire dread in the hearts of our enemies. Likewise, a pious friend can be your gateway to Jannah as well!

However, while counting all these good things about friends and families, there it's also my responsibility to not do anything inappropriate that would make other members of my family suffer because of my actions. As a family, we are impacted by each others' actions: good or bad. So, we have to be modest in our actions and courteous in our speech so that we have a good time together as a family. May Allah shower His mercy and blessings on my familyandonthefamiliesofmyreaders,ameen, and take care of your families!

instagram @ Ehmadd.rouf



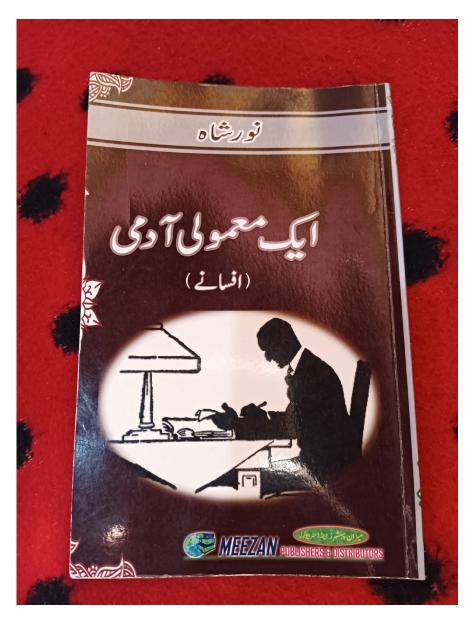
India. Presently the one which I am



Rayees Ahmad Kumar

Amidst the vivid cultural mosaic of valley, one luminary stands tall - Noor Shah a literary virtuous and genius whose inked prose paint a portrait of linguistic richness and creative profundity. Born at picturesque Dalgate area of Srinagar in 1936, Noor Shah has embarked on a literary Odyssey spanning many decades. Through his magical pen, he has profoundly enriched the fictional landscape of valley. Distinguished fiction writer Asmat Chagtai says that she knew Kashmir through Noor Shah's stories. Another noted fiction writer Krishan Chander says that he knew Kashmir through the stories of Noor Shah and Hamidi Kashmiri. During his service tenure Noor Shah has held many powerful administrative posts viz Director Rural development, Director Science and Technology, Deputy Commissioner and Chief executive officer JK energy development agency. Apart from short stories, Noor Shah has written eighty dramas for Radio. His resourcefulness can be assessed by going through his Novels like Payal Ke Zakhm, Neeli Jheel Kalay Saye and Aao Sou Jayein. The novelist has also to his credit a few novelettes like Adhi Raat Ka Suraj, Lamhe Aur Zanjeerien. Not only dramas and novels, but he has written several TV serials like Dard Ka Rishta (13 episodes), Gul Aur Bulbul (13 episodes), Neelma (13 episodes), Solar Energy in J&K (4 episodes), Gull (a 30 minute documentary) and a feature film Urdu in Kashmiri. Noor Shah's short story collection include Be Ghat Ki Nav, Veeranay Ke Phool, Ek Raat Ki Malika, Man Ka Aagan Udas Udas, Geelay Pathroun Ki Mehak, Be Samar Sach and Aasman, Phool Aur Lahoo. Many M.Phil and Doctorate degrees have been conferred to scholars for analysing the literary works of Noor Shah. The habit of writing diary proved so fruitful to the him that he could write Band Kamrey Ki Khidki out of his diary entries. It is because of this, Noor Shah has earned a name as a proactive fiction writer of

reviewing is Ek Mamuli Aadmi a collection of thirty short stories. The book spans 120 pages, boasting a crafted cover and premium paper quality is published by Meezan Publishers Srinagar. Noor Shah has dedicated this masterpiece to Ahmad Furqan, Ahmad Fawad, Ahmad Dawood and Qasim Kamili. This handsome collection opens with Baat Eik Raat Ki (p7) a magnificently crafted and beautifully woven $short story \, reflecting \, the \, different \, forms$ of poverty prevalent in our society, where some are bound to beg before public to feed their families while some even sell their chastity to earn through illegal means. Taali(9-11)- the second short story is a clear reflection of the unfair treatment met by our daughter in-laws at the hands of their mother in-laws in new home particularly when they fail to give birth to a baby. The relationship takes many ugly turns and get strained with each passing day. Without checking the potency of sons, parents go for divorcing the daughter in-laws and most embarassing moment is faced when medical reports prove the fault of their own son. Neeli Lout Aye Gi (12-20), Noor Shah is an expert romantic fictional story writer who is well-versed about how to begin and finish a heart melting love story of two souls. This one of a couple of house sparrow has been skillfully shaped enduring the sharp pangs of pain of solitude alongside a man who craves and longs for the company of Neeli his beloved. Apni Apni Kahani (p21-25), this one portrays the cunning and deceptive nature of women who always stand in the queuto lure a big chunk of gullible and simpleton men in the name of love and pious relationship. They maintain temporary relations with men, visit health resorts, spend nights in hotels intending to earn big money thereby deceiving them. Shakhi Be Samar (p26-27) - Noor Shah has artistically woven this one reflecting how two girl friends were so closer to each other living as husband wife against the norms and traditions of social and religious ethics. Both had impregnated themselves by a male servant secretly who was accompanying them and doing their house chores. Be Nam Kahani Ka Akhri Warq (p32-34), this one skillfully crafted illustrates the dwindling human values and cultural ethos among valley dwellers. In past Kashmir was famous for it's hospitality and rich human values but alas suddenly such blessings have altogether vanished from the land of ever-flowing Jhelum and beautiful Dal Lake. Ek



Mamuli Aadmi (p43-48), this title short story is wellcrafted by Noor Shah Sahab, revolving around a romantic story of Asima and Nadir who once were classmates during college life now aspiring to tie the nuptial but Asima's brother becomes a hurdle in their true love story. Nadir belonged to an impoverished class while Asima was from a well-off family, so her brother didn't allow her to strengthen their relationship. Instead he married her to Salman a rich guy but his tragic death due to an accident distressed Asima further. Nadir had excelled in journalism and was a capable and competent guy but while capturing a firing scene he too lost his life on the same day of Salman's accidental death. Call Bell (p49-51), We have previously heard many incidents about begging women being duped by thirsty men in their own homes who aimed to earn for

their children but were exploited sexually or sometimes they themselves were interested in the same. Allah Khair Kare (57-60), while going through this meticulously penned story, we are reminded of the era of arrests and beating of our youth allegedly involved in stone pelting by police. It can't be denied that only those involved in anti-national or antisocial activities are put behind the bars, but sometimes even innocent ones too are labelled as criminals and fall prey to the draconian laws as has been shown in the story. Kashmir Kahani(70), this one manifests and reflects the pain of pelt victims who either have been partially blinded or have completely lost their vision. Ghar Ki Baat (71), this one is a clear reflection of the corruptive practices adopted by Policemen while dealing with people on daily basis who often keep it secret to their spouses and later

beg before them not to make it public. Khandani Rewayat(72-73), Tricky and sophisticated people always lure and dupe naive and artless people, however this unfair and illegal means doesn't suit a literary person especially a poet as has been vividly painted in his story. Du Gaz Zamin(82-84), Pathetic and melancholic conditions of people dwelling across two sides of the artificially created border have been expertly demonstrated where the people having same skin colour, traditions, culture and history are made to endure pain and live hostilely. They continue to loose their loved ones, their dreams get shattered and become homeless this whole for two yards of land. Jugno (85-86), Noor Shah Sahab has analogised children with fireflies in this story who live together with brotherhood, amicably and with utmost love and care. They are devoid of hatred, avarice and cupidity. Pehchan(90-91), This one unveils the inner longing and yearning desires of some women who instead of day's bright light, love the black and dark night. It is because nobody recognises them while doing immoral and unscrupulous activities. Kitabain(92-94), There is a famed proverb - books must be few and good. While choosing a book, it is crucial we must always buy the morally upright one's, which develop morality and ethical values amongst ourselves and our children. These mustn't be like those we are bound to keep away from our own children. Waapsi (109-11), Noor Shah Sahab has brilliantly reflected the impact of division of people among several sects of the same religion and region of Kashmir. People are erecting few yard mosques in each lane and street, which ultimately has divided them amongst different ideologies, sects and communities. Apna Apna Dukh(115-18), In this tech-savvy and ultra-modern era when science and technological developments have eased our lives, every facility is easily available at our doorsteps, our unethical and conservative nature has seen no transformation. We still consider our daughter in-laws as our maid servants and labourers for each family member, which contradicts the teachings and orders of holy religion. Lazati Be Gunah(119), this brief and closing one of the book depicts Noor Shah's technical aspects of creating fictional pieces. That is why he is acclaimed among few distinguished and noted fiction writers of

Writer is a columnist hailing from Qazigund Kashmir

Melting Of Glaciers In Kashmir Time To Act



By MooL Rai

The state of glaciers in Kashmir is alarming. Climate change, coupled with unplanned development and pollution, is causing glaciers to melt at an unprecedented rate. According to a study published in the journal Scientific Reports, glaciers in the region have lost mass at an average rate of 35 centimeters per year .This is significantly higher than the global average of 19 centimeters per year.

The melting of glaciers in Jammu and Kashmir is having a number of negative impacts. Glaciers are the main source of water for the Jhelum, Chenab, Tawi, Sindh,



Lidder, Veshaw and other rivers and tributaries, which provide drinking water and

irrigation for millions of people in the region. The melting of glaciers is reducing the amount of water available in these rivers, which could lead to water scarcity in Jammu & Kashmir in the future, something that is already happening in several

The rapid melting of glaciers is also leading to more frequent and severe floods and flash floods and drought conditions in some areas of Kashmir. This is because glaciers act as natural reservoirs, storing water during the winter and releasing it slowly during the summer. When glaciers melt more quickly, there is more water runoff during the spring, which now often lead to flooding in many areas of Jammu and Kashmir. However, once the glaciers have melted, there is less water available during the summer, which now creates drought situations as well. Glaciers also provide habitat for a variety of unique plants and animals. As glaciers melt, these species are losing their habitat and are at risk of extinction. Moreover, glaciers are a major tourist attraction in Jammu and Kashmir.

Even as the government of Jammu and Kashmir has been taking a few steps to address the melting of glaciers, however, more needs to be done to protect glaciers in Jammu and Kashmir. The central government should also take more proactive steps to address this challenge.

At J&K level, we need to develop and implement a comprehensive glacier protection plan. This plan should include measures to reduce pollution, manage development in glacier-fed areas, and monitor and assess glacier health. J&K also needs to Invest in water conservation and efficiency measures. This could include rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation, and wastewater recycling. Besides promoting sustainable agriculture and forestry practices, J&K also needs to increase public awareness about climate change and the importance of glacier protection. At the national level, considering J&K's ecological sensitivity, there has to be more investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency. Similarly, more support is needed in research and development on glacier protection and climate change adaptation.

> The author is a columnist and freelance writer



"115 Crores Frozen, Don't Have That Much": Congress On Bank Accounts Row

■ HT News Network

19TH LADLINES

New Delhi: The Congress today faced a temporary hurdle after the Income Tax department froze its main bank accounts, including those of the Youth Congress. However, the party swiftly challenged the move, and the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal granted relief by de-freezing the accounts until a final hearing next week.

The Congress issued a clarification stating that the party is mandated to ensure that a sum of 115 crore has to be maintained in their bank accounts. The amount has to remain untouched in compliance with the directive from the tax authorities, implying a freeze on these funds.

"This means that 115 crore have been frozen. This 115 crore is much more than we have in our current accounts," the Congress said. In a press conference earlier today, party treasurer Ajay Maken described the move as a "disturbing blow to the democratic process". The freeze reportedly stems from atax demand of 210 crore raised by the Income Tax department, a move that the Congress claims is politically motivated and strategically timed to disrupt the party's election preparations.

"Democracy doesn't exist; this is like a one-rule party, and the prin-



cipal opposition party has been subjugated. We seek justice from the judiciary, media, and the people," Mr Maken said.

The Congress leader said that the party has taken legal action in response to the freeze, with the matter currently before the income tax appellate tribunal. In a press conference, Mr Maken explained that they chose not to disclose the information earlier as the hearing is pending.

The party learned about the freezing of its accounts yesterday, and the party's lawyer Vivek Tankha said that a total of four accounts have been affected. Banks have been instructed not to accept or

honour Congress' cheques, with the frozen funds to be submitted to the

Income Tax department. Mr Maken claimed that in the election year of 2018-19, the party submitted its accounts 45 days late, but freezing the accounts is an extreme measure. He argued that there have been cases and precedents where such actions were not taken. "We have given the names of all MLAs and MPs who have contributed, based on the Manmohan Singh committee report," Mr Maken

The Congress leader claimed that timing of the freeze, coming just ahead of the crucial general elections, raises suspicions about the

motives behind the Income Tax department's actions

"Right now, we have no money to spend. Electricity bills, staff salaries, our Nyay yatra, everything is impacted. Look at the timing; this is clear," he said. "We have only one PAN, and the four accounts are all linked." Party president Mallikarjun Kharge voiced his apprehension, stating, "Intoxicated with power, the Modi government has frozen the accounts of the country's largest opposition party - the Indian National Congress - just before the Lok Sabha elections. This is a deep blow to democracy." "The unconstitutional money that BIP has collected will be used in the elections, but the money we have collected through crowdfunding will be sealed. That is why we have said that there will be no elections in the future! We appeal to the judiciary to save the multi-party system in this country and secure India's democracy. We will take to the streets and fight strongly against this injustice and dictatorship," he added, in a post on X.

This development comes on the heels of the Supreme Court, in a landmark judgment, striking down the electoral bonds scheme. The electoral bonds scheme, introduced by the government on January 2, 2018, was seen as a solution to replace cash donations and enhance transparency in political funding.

"Nitish Kumar Begged Lalu Yadav For Forgiveness In 2022": Tejashwi Yadav

■ HT News Network

Mohania (Bihar): RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav on Friday claimed that Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar had "begged for forgiveness for past betrayals" before his parents, party supremo Lalu Prasad and ex-CM Rabri Devi, before they allied with the JD(U) president in 2022.

Mr Yadav, who lost the Deputy Chief Minister's chair last month when Kumar abruptly went back to the BJP-led NDA, made the claim at a rally in Mohania, in the state's Kaimur district, which was organised as part of former Congress president Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra.

Breaking into the local dialect Bhojpuri, the young RJD leader said, "Nitish ji had, after begging for forgiveness, told my parents that the BJP was trying to split his party and wean away his MLAs".

Mr Kumar dumped the BJP and joined the RJD-led Mahagathbandhan in 2022.

The RID leader added: "We were initially not very inclined towards trusting him again. But there were talks with leaders across the country, all of whom



agree. So we made a sacri-Calling his ex-boss "a tired Chief Minister", the RJD leader said he is proud

that in just 17 months the Mahagathbandhan made him give government jobs on an unprecedented scale. "He (Kumar) had earlier mocked me by asking whether I would use my father's money to pay them salary. But I had told him

that our support to his government would require him to help us fulfil the promise of 10 lakh government jobs that I had promised to the people ahead of the 2020 assembly polls," Mr Yadav

Mr Yadav claimed the Mahagathbandhan would have won the assembly polls, but for manipulations by the administration, which worked overtime to ensure that its candidates were shown defeated by margins of as low as 12

Fishing in troubled waters of the NDA, which Mr Kumar has joined claiming he was there "for ever" even as the BJP has made it clear that it will not give up its ambition to form its own government in Bihar, Mr Yadav said, "Now that Nitish ji is back with the BJP, there is no guarantee that he will not make a flip-flop again".Cries of "palturam (Mr turncoat)" emanated from the crowds, even as the RID leader added that he had said in the assembly that Prime Minister Narendra Modi prides himself on his guarantees, but even he cannot guarantee that Nitish Kumar will not do another volte-face".

11 killed, 4 injured after fire at paint factory in North

HT News Network

New Delhi, Feb 16 (UNI) At least elevDelhi's Alipuren people were killed and four reported injured after a massive fire broke out in a paint and chemical factory at Dayalpur market in Alipur, North Delhi on Thursday

"All the injured have been taken to the nearest Raja Harishchandra hospital," an official from Delhi Fire Ser-

According to the official, the fire was reported at 5.25 pm yesterday and nearly 22 fire tenders were rushed to the spot.

The fire had been brought under

control at around 9 pm, the official

Additionally, two motorcycles, two cars, and one mini-truck were engulfed by the flames.

A search operation is currently underway at the incident site, he added. UNI

proposals worth ₹84,560 crore

■ HT News Network

New Delhi:The Defence Ministry said the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved Acceptance of Necessitv(AoN) for various capital acquisition proposals amounting to 84,560 crore.MSD distances itself from agency behind Poonam Pandey's "death" publicity event

The approvals accorded by the DAC, which is chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, lay special emphasis on the procurement of various equipment from Indian vendors, the Defence Ministry said.

The DAC has accorded AoN under the Buy Indian-Indigenously Designed Developed and Manufactured (IDDM) category for procurement of a new generation of anti-tank mines having seismic sensors and provision of remote deactivation with additional safety features, it added. In order to enhance operational efficiency and domination in the tactical battle area



Defence Ministry clears

visual line of sight by the mechanised forces, the AoN under Buy (Indian-IDDM) category has been accorded for procurement of Canister Launched Anti-Armour Loiter Munition System.

The AoN also has been accorded for procurement of Air Defence Tactical Control Radar under Buy (Indian-IDDM) category to strengthen Air Defence Systems, especially capabilities to detect slow, small and lowflying targets as well as surveillance, detection and tracking of different

To enhance surveillance and inter-

diction capabilities of the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard (ICG), the AoN for procurement of medium range maritime reconnaissance and multi-mission maritime aircraft, through the Buy and Make category, has been granted. Besides, to keep the Indian Naval ships one step ahead of the threats posed by adversaries, the AoN under the Buy (Indian) category has been accorded for procurement of Active Towed Array Sonar having capabilities to operate at low frequencies and various depths for long range detections of adversary submarines.

"The AoN has also been accorded for procurement of Heavy Weight Torpedoes for enhancing attacking capabilities of Kalvari Class submarines. The AoN for sustainment support through Follow On Support (FOS) and Repair Replenishment support through Follow On Supply Support (FOSS) for 24 MH60R aircraft under Foreign Military Sale route with the US Government has also been accorded," the Ministry said.

SC to give urgent hearing of Sharad Pawar's plea against EC decision on real NCP

HT News Network

New Delhi, Feb 16 (UNI) NCP leader Sharad Pawar on Friday requested the Supreme Court to give an urgent hearing to his pending petition (Sharad Pawar vs Ajit Pawar dispute) as there is a likelihood of a whip being issued against him by his rival Ajit Pawar faction.

The Supreme Court assured Sharad Pawar, that it will give an urgent hearing to his petition challenging the decision of the Election Commission of India (ECI) which recognized Ajit Pawar's Faction as the real Nationalist Congress Party (NCP).

Senior Advocate Dr Abhishek Manu Singhvi appearing on behalf of Sha-



rad Pawar said, "It is a matter of extreme urgency. Because of the election commission order, Sharad Pawar will be subject to the whip of Aiit Pawar. The session in Maharashtra starts next week. We have not been given any symbol at all."Chief Justice of India (CJI) D Y Chandrachud replied, "We will look into it, let me see. We will list it."'It will be a strange situ-



ation, because of the ECI order, Sharad Pawar will be subject to the whip of Ajit Pawar when the Assembly starts next week, Dr. Singhvi told the court. That order is under challenge, it is identical to the questions of law raised in the other matter (UBT-Shinde dispute)....please list it on Monday or Tuesday, because the session in Maharashtra starts at the end of the week

on the 20th. They have not given me anv symbol at all. it is worse than the Uddhav Thackeray Case."

The bench comprising CJI DY Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra agreed to list the matter at the earliest.

Sharad Pawar filed a Petition in the Supreme Court on February 13, challenging the order passed by the ECI on February 6 by which the official 'clock' symbol of NCP was allotted to the Ajit Pawar group.

The decision of the ECI to allot the symbol to the Ajit Pawar group was taken on the criterion of "legislative majority." acknowledging that the Ajit Pawar faction possesses the majority of legislators with 51 out of

UP residents witnessed importance of law & order over last 7 yrs: Yogi

HT News Network

Lucknow, Feb 16 (UNI) Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday said that the citizens of the state have witnessed the importance of law and order over the past seven

Addressing the closing ceremony of the 67th All India Police Duty Meet, the CM said, "Their decision to re-elect this government stems from witnessing the improved law and order situation and security environment in the state. The robust law and order situation in the state has resulted in receiving investment proposals of Rs 40 lakh crores in Global Investors Summit. Whereas before 2017, no one wanted to invest in the state."

He said that on February 19 investment proposals of more than Rs 10 lakh crore are going to be implemented through a Ground Breaking Ceremony in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "This will



directly provide jobs to 35 lakh youths, demonstrating that when law and order is applied with determination, positive results follow," he said.

Yogi mentioned that various police forces play a crucial role in creating a better environment for the country's internal security, law and order and safety. "Not only that, but the police force also has a vital role in determining public perception. They face significant challenges in creating this perception and have to work with a dual mindset," he said.

He emphasised that the police force operate under a zero-tolerance policy towards anti-social and anti-national elements while actively engaging in dialogue and delivering justice to the common man. "This creates a new confidence in the minds of com-

mon people. It also reflects

the sensitivity of the police

force," he said. The CM said, "The event is being attended by officers and staff of various forces from across the country. They have their own experiences. Understanding and benefiting from these experiences is essential."

He mentioned that the tradition of exchange of knowledge in our country has been ancient. Naimisharanya, located 70 kilometers from the capital Lucknow, was a center of exchanging the knowledge of sages thousands of years ago. "It played a significant role in documenting the tradition of Vedic knowledge of India, with 88,000 sages and saints from across the country being part of it," he said.

He said that the All India Police Duty Meet carries forward this heritage. Knowledge is not just what is written in books but what you experience during field duty.

Yogi said, "We all have to prepare ourselves according to the changing nature of crime. "When we share our best practices in front of the public, we get to know and learn a lot. Similarly, through such competitions and contests, one gets the opportunity to see and learn many things.

Arvind Kejriwal's Trust Vote Move After **Enforcement Directorate Summons**

HT News Network

New Delhi: In a show of strength amid speculation of his arrest, which has ramped up following the sixth summons issued to him on Wednesday in connection with the alleged liquor policy scam, Delhi Chief Minister and AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal moved a trust vote in the Assembly today. Discussions on the motion will be held tomorrow, a day on which the AAP chief is also supposed to appear before a court and explain why he had skipped the five earlier summons issued by the Enforcement Directorate. Moving the vote of confidence motion in the Assembly, Mr Kejriwal said two AAPMLAs told him that they were approached by members of the BJP who claimed that the Delhi chief minister would be arrested soon.

"The MLAs were told that 21 AAP



legislators have agreed to leave the party and more are in touch with the BJP. They offered the MLAs 25 crore to join the BJP. The MLAs told me they did not accept. When we spoke to other MLAs, we found that they had not contacted 21, but seven. They were trying to carry out another

"So it is clear that the alleged liquor policy scam is not a scam at all but an attempt to break our party and topple the government by filing false cases like they have in other states. Their aim is not to carry out an investigation but to arrest our leaders - and they have already arrested some - in the guise of the liquor policy case. Their aim is to topple the government because they know they can never win elections in Delhi," the AAP chief claimed. Claiming that the BJP wanted to form its own government in Delhi by doing so, the chief minister said, "By god's grace and thanks to people's faith in us, they were unsuccessful. So, to see for ourselves and show the people that not one of our MLAs defected and all of them are with us, I am presenting a motion of confidence."

Operation Lotus," Mr Kejriwal said.

CMYK

Sheikh Fayaz Ahmad convenes Mega Public Darbar at Handwara, assesses public grievances.

■ DR.AB QAYOOM

PUBLICATIONHEADLINES

Handwara, Feb 16: Administrative Secretary, Floriculture, Parks and Gardens Department (J&K) Sheikh Fayaz Ahmad, today, presided over a mega Public Darbar here at Town Hall Handwara under the ambitious public outreach-cum-grievances redressal programme of the government.

Member DDC Mawar, Member DDC Nutnoosa, President traders Federation Handwara and a large number of people put forth issues of public importance before the Administrative secretary.

ADC Kupwara Mohammad Rouf Rehman, ACD Kupwara, ACP Kupwara and other senior Officers of civil and police Administration attended the mega public outreach program. The Public Darbar witnessed overwhelming response from the public during which people from various areas of Handwara participated. The participating delegations and general public on the occasion projected several demands and grievances pertaining to their respective regions, encompassing both developmental and



administrative concerns that need imme-

diate attention of the government. Some of the major development demands included construction of public park near Degree College Handwara, for which 32

Kanals of land already stands identified; construction of lavatory block near children's Park at Handwara, recreational Park at Bagatpora on Bungas road, for which 200 kanals of land is available; making of

slaughter house operational, Tribal Sub Plan for tribal villages, development of Saranwali Moanbal as tourist spot, release of second and third installments of PMAY(G) and wages under MGNREGA etc.

HT-NEWS

While highlighting the importance of the Public Darbar, administrative Secretary, Sheikh Fayaz Ahmad said Public Darbars act as a bridge between the administration and the people where highest level government functionaries connect with people on rotation basis. Sheikh Fayaz assured all individuals and delegations that genuine demands projected by them have been noted and would be redressed on priority. He impressed upon the concerned officer to adopt a proactive and people friendly approach in delivery of public services.

DDC Member Mawar, Khurshid Ahmad Dar, DDC Member Nutnoosa adv. Zahoor Ahmad and President Traders Federation Handwara, Aijaz Ahmad Sofi while highlighting issues of diverse nature faced by the public, expressed their gratitudes to the UT govt for organizing a public darbar in Handwara.

Drug Control Authorities close down 06 medical shops at Kulgam

HT News Network

KULGAM, FEBRUARY 16: Drug Control Authorities today closed down 06 medical shops in Kelam, Agroo, Devsar, Brinal and Lammar of district Kulgam after they were found violating the conditions of licenses besides other mandatory Govt. directive regarding CCTV and Computerized Billing System and issuance of cash memos/invoices.

Moreover, many other pharmacies were also inspected and statutory drug samples were lifted for analysis purposes to ascertain their quality parameters.

The team of officers headed by Assistant Drug Controller Anantnag informed that such inspections are routinely carried out as mandated under law.

He added that our organisation has already sensitized chemists to adopt a robust system for maintenance of records and CCTV Surveillance to plug in gaps to avoid misuse of essential life saving scheduled formulations along with observing conditions of licenses.

KVK-Anantnag launches Training program on 'Organic Fruit Production for Sustainable Agriculture'

■ HT News Network

ANANTNAG, FEBRUARY 16: The Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Anantnag, affiliated with SKUAST-Kashmir today inaugurated a 4-day training program titled 'Organic Fruit Production - A Way Forward' as part of the HADP project, which focuses on 'Alternate System of Agriculture for Sustainability.'Dr. I. A. Mir, in his opening remarks, welcomed the participants, signaling the commencement of this significant initiative. This training program aligns with the broader efforts of SKUAST-Kashmir, guided by Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dil Mohammad Makdoomi, Director Extension & Education, Prof. H. R. Naik, Director Research, and Prof. Parmeet Singh, the Principal Investigator of the project. Dr. Ishtiyaq A. Khan, Head of KVK-Anantnag and Training Coordinator, emphasized the growing global demand for organic food and underscored the importance of embracing organic practices. During his address, Dr. Khan shed light on the scope and various aspects of organic fruit production, with a special focus on Jammu & Kashmir and the entire nation. The training program aims to equip participants with knowledge and skills related to sustainable agriculture practices, specifically in the context of organic fruit production. This initiative is a step forward in promoting sustainable and ecofriendly agricultural practices, aligning with the increasing global trend towards organic farming. The KVK Anantnag's efforts, under the umbrella of SKUAST-Kashmir, are geared towards fostering awareness and expertise in organic fruit production, contributing to both local and national agricultural sustainability goals. The strong emphasis on organic practices is expected to have a positive impact on the agricultural landscape, enhancing productivity while preserving the environment.

DC Bandipora reviews functioning of Revenue Department



HT News Network

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 16: The Deputy Commissioner(DC)Bandipora,Shakeel Ul Rehman Rather today chaired a meeting of revenue officers at mini Secretariat to review the status of various revenue matters.

The DC took a review of digitization of Jamabandis, encroachment, PSGA services, e-Office in revenue offices, pending Mutations, allotment of land to landless, encroachment and other related issues.

He said that revenue officers/officials are custodian of government land, and we must take care of it with added responsibility.

While reviewing the status of encroachment, the DC asked the concerned revenue officers to take strict action in cases of encroachment of Government Land(s) and ensure that no government land is

encroached. RAther stressed upon revenue officials to meet the timeline of online ser-

vices as per the Public Service Guarantee Act and ensure that no service is provided in offline mode, which is available on the online portal. He also warned that strict action shall be taken against offi-

> ing to the PSGA timelines. The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora Umar Shafi Pandit, ACR Bandipora Shabir Ahmad Wani, Sub Divisional Magistrates in virtual mode. Tehsildars and other concerned.

cers and officials not adher-

Nazim Zai reviews implementation of NTEP, adult BCG vaccination trial in J&K

HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 16: Mission Director, National Health Mission (NHM), J&K, Nazim Zai Khan, today chaired a meeting held to review implementation of National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP), Sub National Certification Claims and Adult BGC Vaccination Trial in Jammu and Kashmir.

Nazim Zai directed the concerned officers and officials of Health Department to work diligently to achieve the targets set for elimination of tuberculosis from the UT by 2025 as per National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2017-2025. He instructed them to expedite procurement of pending lab equipment in the Intermediate Reference Laboratory (IRL) of Jammu division for making it operational at the earliest.



concerned to conduct external death audit of TB patients and Contact Tracing of active pulmonary TB cases. He also asked for mapping of all Ayushman Arogya Mandirs with Nikshay Portal for providing TB drugs as per the mandate of Central TB division, Union Ministry of Health and Familv Welfare.

Emphasizing the importance of Nikshay Poshan Yojana, the MD directed the officers to bring all the eligible beneficiaries under the ambit of NPY without anv fail.

Among others the meeting was attended by the Director Health, Services Kashmir, Director Family Welfare and Immunization, J&K, State Tuberculosis Officer Kashmir, State ImmunizationOfficerJ&Kbesides Chief Medical Officers, District TB Officers and other officers and officials from NHM and Health Department. Emphasizing the importance of Nikshay Poshan Yojana, the MD directed the officers to bring all the eligible beneficiaries under the ambit of NPY without any fail.

Director Agriculture visits Khanmoh & Balhama areas of Srinagar

Inspects Vermicompost Units, Borewell & Packhouse Units established under HADP

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 16: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today visited Kanmoh, Balhama areas of Srinagar district and inspected Vermicompost Units, Borewell and Packhouse units established under Holistic Agriculture development programme (HADP) in these areas.

Speaking to the farmers at different places, Director Agriculture highlighted the importance of HADP and said that it will have a long



term impact on agriculture and allied sectors in the region.

Director Agriculture

coordinated efforts among the agriculture and allied departments for the successful implementation of all the projects under HADP.

Igbal impressed upon the officers of the department to organise farmers awareness programs and to accelerate the frequency of field visits so that the farmers could remain updated regarding the benefits of different programmes by

the department. Director was accompanied by Chief Agriculture officer Srinagar, Manohar Lal Sharma and other officers from the district.

GDC Vijaypur organises Symposium on "Voting is Everyone's Right and We Must Vote **During Elections**"

■ HT News Network

SAMBA. FEBRUARY 16: Department of Sociology in $collaboration\,with\,NSS\,unit\,of\,Government\,Degree\,College$ Vijaypur under the banner of Voting Awareness Campaign organised a symposium on the theme, "Voting is Everyone's Right and We Must Vote During Elections" under the supervision and guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Vandana Gupta, Principal of the college The main objective of the event was to increase the enrolment of the voters, especially the eligible ones and was to create awareness among the students about their voting rights and how they can enrol themselves in the voter list. More than 15 college students participated in the activity with great enthusiasm, fervour and zeal. The event commenced with the welcome address by Prof. (Dr.) Anoop Kumar Bhagat, HOD Sociology.He briefed the students about the importance of voting in a democracy and explained in detail how to register in the electoral rolls through online mode and also enlightened the students about the history of election commission.

GDC Ramgarh organises Nukkad Natak ■ HT News Network

SAMBA. FEBRUARY 16: NSS unit 'Prabha' of Government Degree College, Ramgarh today organised a Nukkad Natak on the theme "Nasha Mukti" under the aegis of NMBA. The nukkad natak was organised under able guidance and supervision of Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra. Speaking on the occasion, she threw light on existing challenges associated with drug abuse and the urgent need of the hour to curb this issue. She also informed the students about the role of parents, teachers and society in stopping the menace of drug abuse in the society.

J&K Pollution Control Shuts Down Brick Kiln in Budgam District to Tackle Pollution Concerns

HT News Network

Budgam, Feb 16 (KS): The J&K Pollution Control Jammu has taken swift action to address pollution concerns in central Kashmir's Budgam district.

An official order of which a copy lies with News Agency Kashmir Scroll reads J&K pollution control board has directed Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate Budgam to close the Brick Kiln owned by Mr. Abdul Rehman Sofi, known as MIS RBC Brick Kiln Utligam, Tehsil Beerwah, District Budgam.

The order reads the J&K Pollution Control Jammu issued a communication, bearing No: JKPCC/LSK 17361426/023/973-78, dated 22/12/2023 which reads this communication passed an order, with endorsement No: I80/JKPCC of 2023, dated 22/12/2023, which directed the Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate Budgam to immediately close the Brick Kiln owned by Mr. Abdul Rehman Sofi, known as MIS RBC Brick Kiln Utligam, located in Tehsil Beerwah, District Bud-

As per the order, acting upon this directive, the Deputy Commissioner of Budgam issued an office communication, with reference No: DCB/Relief/ SC-171886/2023-24/3502-12, dated 05/01/2024.

DC Kathua chairs District NCORD meeting to review Anti-Drug Measures

advantage of all the proj-

ects under HADP. He under-

scored the importance of

HT News Network

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 16: Deputy Commissioner Rakesh Minhas today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee under the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) to discuss and review measures aimed at curbing drug abuse and the narcotics trade in the district.

During the meeting, extensive deliberations were held on issues pertaining to drug addiction, identification of areas of concern, and hotspots of drug abuse. Additionally, measures undertaken by law enforcement agencies to combat this menace were thoroughly examined.

The Assistant Drug Controller provided an update on the installation of CCTV cameras in pharmacies, with a total of 638



out of 692 cameras already operational. These cameras are crucial in monitoring the sale of psychotropic drugs over the

Furthermore, it was highlighted that 50 pharmacy licenses were revoked due to non-compliance with guidelines and direc-

Instructing ADCs and SDMs to maintain

a stringent vigilance on the sale of overthe-counter drugs, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for random inspections of pharmaceutical establishments to ensure the efficacy of CCTV surveillance systems. SDM Bani was specifically directed to prevent the cultivation of narcotics and psychotropic substances in the hilly terrains known for such activities.

The DC urged concerned authorities to take action against unregistered de-addiction centers operating within Kathua. Reviewing the Nasha Mukat Panchayat campaign, the DC directed ADC Basohli, ADC Billawar, SDM Hiranagar, and SDM Bani to identify and declare five panchayats each in their respective jurisdictions as Nasha Mukt Panchayats.

Chief Education Officer was tasked with launching an extensive awareness campaign in schools to educate students about the perils of drug abuse. Lastly, the DC instructed the Chief Medical Officer to compile a comprehensive list of de-addiction centers and clinics operating in the district.

Among others, SSP Kathua, ADC Kathua, ACD, CMO, CEO, Officers from BSF and other departments were also present.

CMYK

ADC chairs STF meeting on Pulse Polio Immunization at Ganderbal

Farooq Rather

13H CHEADLINES

CODA

GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 15: In a proactive move to enhance public health initiatives, a District Task Force (DTF) meeting for Intensified Pulse Polio Immunization (IPPI) was today held in the VC Room of Mini Secretariat Ganderbal.

The meeting was chaired by Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal (ADC), Gulzar Ahmad and was attended by key stakeholders to strategize and coordinate efforts for the upcoming immunization



The meeting was attended by Dr. Afroza Shah, Chief Medical Officer Ganderbal; Mirza Asif Ali Beigh, Executive Officer of Municipal Council Ganderbal; Muzamil Akhter, Chief Education Officer Ganderbal; Dr. Nighat Yasmeen, Dy. CMO Ganderbal and Dr. Bushra

Yousuf, District Immunization Officer Ganderbal. Representatives from the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) were

also present. During the deliberations, the ADC emphasized the importance of meticulous planning and dedicated efforts to ensure the success of the IPPI program covering the set target Population of

The ADC emphasized that the hilly and hard-to-reach areas, where accessibility and adverse weather conditions pose significant challenges, need special and extra attention to ensure no one is left out.

On-the-spot instructions were issued to concerned departments to streamline their operations and enhance coordination for effective implementation of the program scheduled on 3rd, 4th and 5th of March

DDC inaugurates first batch of training under PM Vishwakarma Scheme at Govt. ITI Poonch

■ HT News Network

POONCH, FEBRUARY 16: Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary inaugurated the first batch of training under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme, here today. The inaugural ceremony took place at Government Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Poonch and witnessed the commencement of Tailoring (Darzi) training, providing an invaluable source of skilled enhancement for aspiring Vishwakarma candidates. The Superintendent Government ITI Poonch, Er.



Jawaid Ahmed, extended warm welcome to Deputy Commissioner and members of District Level implementing Committee members including the General Manager District Industries Centre Poonch, Khalid Hussain Wafa, District Treasury Officer, Rashid Dostum and staff members of Govt. ITI Poonch.

Commissioner shed light on the Vishwakarma Scheme and various other government initiatives. He informed that the training program would span six days, with participants receiving a daily stipend of

500, amounting to 3000 in total. Additionally, a sum of 15000 would be grant-

ed for procuring a toolkit. Furthermore, the government would extend a loan of 100000, accompanied by a 5% interest subsidy on first tranche.Deputy Commissioner encouraged the trainees to leverage their skills and open their own businesses in the market, such as carpentry, boutique, plumbing, among others, in order to seize opportunities, earn a livelihood, and lead fulfilling lives. The General Manager of DIC, Khalid Hussain Wafa also addressed the gathering and provided further insights into the Vishwakarma Scheme and its associated benefits.

DC Bandipora launches Mobile Milk ATM Initiative

Identify more youth to be engaged under Government Sponsored schemes: Shakeel Ul Rehman

HT News Network

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 16: The Deputy Commissioner(DC)Bandipora, Shakeel Ul Rehman Friday launched the Mobile Milk dispenser Van initiative at Animal Husbandry Complex, here.

This innovative project aims to bring locally sourced, farm-fresh milk directly to the doorsteps of residents in the surrounding areas.

Milk dispensers commonly known as milk ATM, equipped with refrigeration and storage facilities, will traverse neighborhoods and communities, offering residents convenient access to high-quality milk.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC stressed upon concerned officers from the Animal Husbandry Department to identify more youth to be engaged under Govt sponsored schemes of the Department.

He said the schemes provided by the Government are



meant for sustainable business and profitable enterprise and emphasized on more awareness in the upper reach-

The DC said schemes under the Animal Husbandry

Department have the potential to provide self-employment

in addition to providing direct or indirect sources of income

Earlier, the DC inspected various units of animal husbandry, including Mobile Veterinary Unit, Pet care unit, stray animal shed, laboratory, milk analyzer, hematology analyzer and other blocks.

He also handed over keys of milk distributing vans among beneficiaries under IDDS Scheme.

Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Bandipora, Gh. Ahmad Lone informed the DC that Bandipora is self-sufficient in milk production with per capita availability of 1000ml, which is double the National Average.

He informed that in value addition, the department has sponsored milk processing units involving local youth at Papchan Bandipora besides engaging around 2000 youth under different schemes.

Dr. Lone informed the department also succeeded in establishing a first of its kind broiler farm and started artificial insemination in remote areas of Gurez.

HDFC Bank's Home Loan business demonstrates strong performance

Srinagar, Feb 16 KNT: HDFC Bank shared an update on its Home Loan Business which has witnessed healthy growth post the merger of HDFC Ltd with itself.

The Bank's market share has grown approximately by 18 % to 20 % on incremental disbursals, post the merger. It has exhibited robust and consistent higher doubledigit, year-on-year growth across its Home Loan Business for the first six months, post the merger. On a sequential basis, the Bank has gained a leading position as it recorded a growth of 3.6% which was the highest amongst its peers in home loans.

By mid-March, the Bank will be launching a seamless straight through journey for Home Refurbishment Loans which can become a strong product offering for customers. Also, by April 2024, the Bank proposes to launch a Home Saver product. This will lay a robust foundation for a lucrative offering to the existing and prospective home buyers. Despite a substantially larger book than peers, the Bank's model is generating huge benefits on a monthly basis and its differentiated strengths are expected to generate substantial value for customers and the Bank in the future.

"One of the biggest opportunities was to generate CASA and initial signs are encouraging. Pre-merger about 30% to 35% of incremental disbursals were to customers with an HDFC Bank savings account. This has reached about 80% of incremental disbursals, post-merger. The Home Loan Business for the Bank has become both an asset and liability generator and is growing sizeably. This leads to a higher stickiness quotient and a stronger customer connect with the Bank for a longer duration." says Mr. Arvind Kapil, Country Head - Mortgage Banking, Home Loan, LAP, HDFC Bank. All this has been done without compromising on the Bank's traditional underwriting standards. The foundation is now in place and the Home Loan Business is on its way to becoming a springboard for larger customer engagements. Current trends indicate interesting and encouraging signs that the Bank seems to be emerging as a preferred option for customers with higher credit scores which has exhibited a 10 %. growth, post merger. On the operational front, the Bank will convert all erstwhile HDFC Ltd.'s service centres to branches in a phased manner and its entire mortgage team will also become relationship managers. The Bank has already commenced cross selling its products/services. through these service centres from February 01, 2024. As a part of enhancing the cross-sell strategy, home loan customers will be able to avail of a wide range of products/services like Consumer Durable Loans, Credit Cards, Wealth Advisory Product, Unsecured Loans and Home Refurbishment Loans. Going forward, cross-sell will be a continuing focus for both existing as well as new customers. The strength of this team is expected to be able to cross-sell at no

incremental acquisition cost thanks to digital journeys. The Bank believes that structural demand for housing will continue to be strong in the long run in India, due to a conducive environment. India is expected to have the largest working population by 2050, estimated at 900 million which is likely to give a major fillip to urbanisation in the country. This is projected to go up to 40% by 2030

Social Welfare Budgam organizes Awareness programme

HT News Network

BUDGAM, FEBRUARY 14: The District Social Welfare Budgam today organized a day long awareness programme on 'Children in Conflict with Law & Children in Need of Care and Protection' at the conference hall of Juvenile Justice Board Budgam.

The programme witnessed the presence and active participation of Staff of DSWO/DCPU office Budgam, members of Juvenile Justice Board Budgam, staff of District Hub for Empowerment of Women, One Stop Centre, Child Welfare Committee, Child Help Line Budgam, Staff members of Juvenile Justice Board Budgam, representatives from Education department, Teachers, ASHA workers 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 threw light 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 vis-a-vis DLSA likewise free legal Aid, ADR Mechanism, Victim Compensation Scheme.In his speech, he also apprised the audience about the role and responsibilities of the Child Welfare Committee and constitutional safeguards meant for women and child etc. Other speakers including Rukaya Tasleem, Sandeep Kour, Muneer Ahmed also spoke

ADDC Shopian inaugurates Sensitization/Training programme on 'Implementation of Child Rights'

HT News Network

SHOPIAN, FEBRU-ARY 16: The Additional District Development Commissioner(ADDC)Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone today inaugurated one day sensitisation cum training programme of Child Protection Committee under Mission tation of Child Rights' at Government Degree College Shopian.

ADDC graced the occasion as the chief guest, while Principal Government Degree College, Shopian, Prof. Mohammad Shafiq was the Guest of Honour.

During his address, ADDC highlighted the significance of such training programmes in creating awareness and fostering a collective approach. He underscored the essential role played by collaborative efforts in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children within the commu-



The ADDC emphasised that the primary objective of the programme was to enlighten stakeholders about the Mission Vatsalya guidelines, ensuring a comprehensive understanding and implementation of child.

He appealed to the stakeholders to exhibit their best to implement the juvenile justice for child protection in the district. He laid emphasis on child protection to stop the child abuse prevailing in the society in different manifestations.

He said that the aim of the programme was to raise awareness regarding Child Rights and ensure the proper implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act in the district.

Speaking at the event, Tehsil Social Welfare Officer, Shopian, Farhana Tak explained the importance of the programme and gave a detailed description of the topic and its working mechanism at the district level.

Chairperson, CWC. Farooq Ahmed also high-

lighted that under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), the department focuses on providing preventive, statutory care, and rehabilitation services to vulnerable children, including those from potentially vulnerable families, families at risk, orphans, child drug abusers, child beggars, trafficked or sexually exploited children.

He said that District Child Protection Unit, Child Welfare Committee (CWC), and Juvenile Justice Board (JJB), are actively working to ensure the implementation of child rights and juvenile justice acts, while also combating child labour and violations of relates laws." He also focused on understanding child rights.

Various stakeholders, including, DDC Member, Raja Waheed, Administrator, OSC, Sumaira Gulzar, Members CWC, Representatives from DLSA, Police, Teachers, Media, Asha Workers and Anganwadi workers attended the

Special Training on NMBA program held at different blocks of Budgam

■ HT News Network

BUDGAM, FEBRUARY 16: The District Hub for Empowerment of Women, Mission Shakti Budgam and One Stop Centre Budgam held a series of training programmes under Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA) at Block Budgam, Beerwah, B.K.Pora and Chadoora

The events, held from 10th to 15th February, brought together a diverse group of participants, including supervisors, SHG (NRLM) members, and health workers. This collaborative initiative aimed to build capacity and enhance awareness regarding the vital Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan.

Participants were engaged in meaningful discussions and interactive sessions, fostering a deep understanding of the initiative's goals. The focus was on equipping supervisors, AWWs ASHA Workers, community Mobilizers (SHG-NRLM) with the necessary to the success of Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhi-



yan.Resource persons, including Afroza Bhat (DMC DHEW) delivered a speech on NMBA, providing major information regarding the rise of drug abuse and awareness.

Shafiqa, Psychiatric Counselor OSC addressed the gathering on gender-based violence, domestic violence and also raised awareness on detrimental effects of drug abuse. She also elaborated various steps to combat such abuse through rehabilitation centres and ATFs available in the district.

DHEW-Mission Shakti Budgam remains knowledge and skills to actively contribute steadfast in its commitment to positively

Pahari Tribe ST Forum Congratulates Senior Leader Mirza Abdul Rashid for Pahari ST Movement

■ Syed Nazakat Khaleefa

Srinagar, 16 February 2024: The Pahari Tribe ST Forum extends heartfelt congratulations to senior leader Mirza Abdul Rashid, a member of the Pahari movement and former Minister and Member of Parliament. The felicitation ceremony was held at his residence in Bhatindi, Jammu.

Mirza Abdul Rashid, a venerable leader, highlighted the threedecade-long struggle of the Pahari community, commending the BJP government for its unwavering commitment to inclusive development and welfare. The Pahari Tribe expressed gratitude for Rashid's relentless efforts in empowering the community.

In a collaborative spirit, Pahari leaders appreciated Prime Minister



Narendra Modi for his commitment to empowering not only the Pahari community but also safeguarding the interests of Gujjar, Bakarwals, and other listed tribes. "We are all brothers working towards the common goal of nation-building,' emphasized one of the leaders.

The Pahari Tribe also extended thanks to the Union Territory administration for bridging the gap between the community and the

central government, ensuring justice for the Pahari community, and fostering a stronger connection with the central government.

The unwavering commitment of Prime Minister Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, State President Ravindra Rana, alongside the collective efforts of BJP leaders in Jammu and Kashmir, played a pivotal role in achieving this significant triumph.

Acknowledging the dedicated Pahari leadership emphasizes their relentless pursuit of securing Schedule Tribe (ST) status. The sacrifices made by Pahari leaders underscore their steadfast dedication to the cause, and their contributions are

held in the highest esteem. This victory stands as a testament to the unity and vision of the Bharatiya Janata Party, showcasing the effectiveness of cohesive efforts.

WHO says tobacco use declines globally, urges to keep enforcing tobacco control policies

■ HT News Network

HEADLINES

ΓODAY

Washington, Feb 16 (UNI) The World Health Organisation (WHO) said on Friday that nations are successfully reducing tobacco use, with about 1 in 5 adults worldwide consuming tobacco in 2022, and urged countries to continue putting in place tobacco control policies and fighting against interference by the tobacco industry.

"Trends in 2022 show a continued decline in tobacco use rates globally. With about 1 in 5 adults worldwide consuming tobacco compared to 1 in 3 in 2000. The report shows that 150 countries are successfully reducing tobacco use. Brazil and the Netherlands are seeing success after they implemented MPOWER tobacco control measures, with Brazil making a relative reduction of 35% since 2010 and the Netherlands on the verge



of reaching the 30% target," WHO said in a fresh tobacco trends report.The report said the total number of tobacco users aged 15 years and over has declined steadily to an estimated 1.245 billion people in 2022 from 1.362 billion people in 2000 and is projected to further decrease to 1.20 billion people by 2025. At the same time, the WHO South-East Asian region and the European region have the highest percentage of tobacco users of about 26.5% and 25.3% respectively. However, WHO said the voluntary global goal of a 30% reduction in tobacco use by 2025 will not be achieved. Only 56 countries globally will reach this goal, while the world will make it to a 25% reduction in tobacco use by 2025. The organisation urged governments to "continue putting in place tobacco control policies and continue to fight against tobacco industry interference," saying that "efforts to protect health policy from increased tobacco industry

interference have deteriorated around the world."

"Good progress has been made in tobacco control in recent years, but there is no time for complacency. I'm astounded at the depths the tobacco industry will go to pursue profits at the expense of countless lives. We see that the minute a government thinks they have won the fight against tobacco the tobacco industry seizes the opportunity to manipulate health policies and sell their deadly product," the report quoted Director of WHO Department of Health Promotion Dr. Ruediger Krech as saying.The organisation also said children aged 13-15 years old continue regularly using tobacco and nicotine products in most countries despite countries' efforts to restrict legal access to adults only due to "easy access to purchasing" nicotine products and "low concerns about becoming addicted."

Blinken to meet Chinese FM at Munich Security Forum

HT News Network

HT - HEALTH

Berlin, Feb 16 (UNI) US Secretary of State Antony Blinken will meet with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi during the Munich Security Conference in Germany on Friday, according to a schedule on the US Department of State

"[At] 3:30 p.m. LOCAL [14:30 GMT] Secretary Blinken meets with People's Republic of China Director of the Office of Foreign Affairs Commission and Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Munich, Germany," the schedule read.

The encounter comes after, in January, Wang held a meeting with US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan in Thailand's capital of Bangkok. Following the meeting, a senior US administration official announced that a phone call between US President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping would be arranged in spring. This year, the Munich

Security Conference takes place from February 16-18. Over 450 high-profile officials, including heads of state, ministers, leading personalities of international and non-governmental organizations, high-ranking representatives of industry, media, academia, and civil society are expected to attend the meeting to discuss inter-

national security issues. The forum was founded in 1963 and this year it celebrates its 60th US Secretary of State Antony Blinken will meet with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi during the Munich Security Conference in Germany on Friday, according to a schedule on the US Department of State website.ecurity Conference takes place from February 16-18. Over 450 high-profile officials, including heads of state, ministers, leading personalities.

Japanese Cabinet slams N Korea's position on abduction issue as 'unacceptable'

HT News Network

Tokyo, Feb 16 (UNI) Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi on Friday called "completely unacceptable" Pyongyang's claim that the issue of abducted Japanese nationals allegedly held in North Korea had already been solved, adding that Tokyo was committed to addressing the problem in a proper manner.

On Thursday, Kim Yo Jong, sisterof North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, said that if Tokyo abandoned the idea of putting forward "the already settled abduction issue" as a condition for mending bilateral relations, there would be no reason for the two nations not to become close and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's visit to North Korea might take place.

"I would like to refrain from commenting on every statement by



North Korea, but the claim that the issue of Japanese nationals held in North Korea has been resolved is completely unacceptable. There is no change in our government's course, which aims to address complex problems such as the issues of Japanese nationals held in North Korea, the missile program and the nuclear program," Hayas-

hi told a press conference.

Kishida has on many occasions confirmed his desire to hold highlevel talks with the North Korean leader to resolve problems in bilateral relations and has made it clear that efforts to do so are being made "through various channels," Hayas-

On Tuesday, the Financial Times

reported, citing people familiar with the talks, that the Japanese prime minister had intensified his efforts to meet with the North Korean leader. The summit is expected to focus on securing the release of Japanese citizens abducted decades ago, among other

things, the report said. Tokyo claims that the North Korean intelligence services have abducted at least 17 Japanese citizens since the 1970s, but Pyongyang has recognized only 13 cases of abductions. Five of them managed to return to Japan following visits to North Korea by former Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi in 2002. Pyongyang claims that the remaining eight people have died, but Japan considers the evidence presented for their deaths unconvincing or false, and continues to demand the extradition of all abductees.

Greek parliament passes bill on same-sex marriage

HT News Network

Athens, Feb 16 (UNI) Greece's parliament approved a landmark bill allowing same-sex civil marriage on Thursday, granting same-sex couples the right to wed and adopt children. A majority of 176 lawmakers in the 300-seat parliament voted in favor of the bill, entitled "equality in civil marriage," Greek national broadcaster ERT reported. A total of 254 participated in the roll call vote."We are here to deal with an existing social reality together, with responsibility, putting an end to an inequality that is serious for our democracy," Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said, addressing the plenary shortly before the roll call vote.The new law also



in 36 countries worldwide, the premier stressed. There are already parents in same-sex couples who cannot legally care for their children, pick them up from school or test of conservative groups accompany them to hos-

methods.Legal systems

are adapted internation-

ally in response to trends

in societies and same-sex

marriage is legal already

recent opinion polls showed that the Greeks were divided on the reform. Even when the bill was voted on, opposite groups were both in demonstrations on Thursday. "In a Christian Orthodox

country, we should not allow the ratification of something that goes against the teachings of the Bible," Dionisis Makris told Xinhua during a pronear the parliament.

Israel claims killing Hezbollah leader; 14 others die in strike

HT News Network

BEIRUT: An Israeli strike killed a Hezbollah commander and 14 others in the southern Lebanese city of Nabatiyeh, a security source said on Thursday, raising fears of further escalation.

Hezbollah movement and Israel have been exchanging neardaily fire across the border since Oct 7.In the bloodiest day since then, the Israeli military said in a statement it had killed Hezbollah commander Ali al-Debs, his deputy and another fighter in Nabatiyeh on Wednesday.

A source in Lebanon said that, along with Debs and two other Hezbollah members, the strike had killed eleven civilians, including seven from the same family. The deaths brought to 15 the total number of civilians killed in Israeli strikes on Wednesday, the highest such toll since the crossborder hostilities erupted.

In its statement, the Israeli military said Debs, his deputy and another fighter were killed "in a precise air strike carried out by an IDF (Israeli army) aircraft on a Hezbollah military structure in Nabatiyeh". Hezbollah announced

on Thursday that three of its fighters including Debs had been killed, without specifying where they had died. It had already said two other members were killed on Wednesday.

The Israeli army had said it lost a soldier in unclaimed rocket fire from Lebanon on Wednesday and that its warplanes carried out strikes on Lebanon. Debs had already been targeted and wounded in an Israeli drone strike in the southern city on February 8.

Lebanon's official National News Agency had identified five of the dead civilians in Nabatiyeh

as Hussein Barjawi, his two daughters, his sister and his grandson. His wife and niece were also killed, the security source said.Emergency responders pulled a boy alive from the rubble. the NNA added, while another relative and at least six other people were taken to hospital. The agency said the Israeli strike was carried out by "a drone with a guided missile".

A photographer said the ground and first floors of the three-storey residential building were hit, with pieces of furniture strewn among the rubble.

Trump judge sets March date for historic criminal trial

HT News Network

NEW YORK: A New York judge on Thursday rejected Donald Trump's attempts to dismiss charges of covering up hush money payments to a porn star, setting the stage for the first criminal trial ever of a former US president to begin on March 25. At the same time, Trump's representatives attended a separate hearing in Atlanta, pushing to have the lead prosecutor bringing charges of election fraud and racketeering against Trump disqualified from the case.

They are just two of four



criminal cases facing the Republican frontrunner as he campaigns to retake the White House, with his legal teams thus far failing to push the actual trials until after the Nov 5 vote.

Trump, who has seized on his legal woes to fire up his supporters and denounce Democratic opponent Joe Biden, reiterated his claim

that the charges were "just a way of hurting me in the election." "How can you run for election if you are sitting in a courthouse in Manhattan all day long," he said as he arrived. In the courtroom, his legal team argued he would not receive a fair trial in New York because another Manhattan jury awarded \$83 million to E. Jean Carroll, a writer whom Trump was found to have sexually assaulted and defamed. Judge Juan Merchan rejected that, as well as arguments by Trump's lawyers that there was too much media coverage for a jury to be unbiased.

Ukraine reinforces 'critical' frontline town

HT News Network

KYIV: Ukraine has rushed soldiers to the embattled eastern town of Avdiivka, surrounded on three sides by Russian forces, where the military said the situation was "extremely critical". The announcement of reinforcements came as a Ukrainian rocket strike on the Russian border city of Belgorod killed at least six people, officials there said. Both sides are escalating aerial attacks as the war nears the end of its second year. Ukraine's position around Avdiivka in the eastern Donetsk region has grown increasingly precarious."The Third Separate Assault Brigade confirms that it was urgently redeployed to strengthen Ukrainian troops in the Avdiivka area," the brigade said in a Telegram post. It described the situation as "extremely



critical," "threatening" and "unstable", adding that Russia was "throwing new forces and resources into the town". Russian troops, who have managed to almost encircle the town through a series of bloody attacks launched last year, have made progress in recent days. Bringing in supplies and evacuating the few hundred civilians who remained was "complicated", a Ukrainian army spokes-

man said on Thursday.Russian President Vladimir Putin said in late January that Russian troops had reached the city's outskirts. They have also cut a key access road, according to reports from both Ukrainian and Russian military bloggers. The battle for the industrial hub, less than 10 kilometres north of the city of Donetsk, has been one of the bloodiest of the two-year war. It has drawn comparisons with last year's grinding fight for Bakhmut, in which tens of thousands of soldiers were killed. Should Russian forces punch through Ukraine's stretched defences, it would be the most significant territorial gain for Moscow since it seized Bakhmut last May. In the eastern city of Kramatorsk, a Ukrainian serviceman echoed widespread concerns over a lack of ammunition and fatigue among troops fighting to hold back Russian efforts to advance.

Bad news for big economies as UK, Japan slide into recession

■ HT News Network

LONDON: Two major world economies Japan and the UK — have fallen into a recession in the second half of 2023.

While Japan's 'unexpected fall comes off the back of a contracting gross domestic product (GDP) – its economy also shrank by 3.3pc in the previous quarter, the UK's decline comes ahead of this year's expected election for PM Rishi Sunak, who has promised to boost growth.

The figures from Japan's Cabinet Office also indicate that the country has lost its position as the world's third-largest econo-

my to Germany, BBC News reported. Economists had expected the new data to show that Japan's GDP grew by more than 1pc in the fourth quarter of last year.

The latest figures were the first reading of Japan's economic growth for the period and could still be revised.

Two quarters in a row of economic contraction are typically considered the definition of a technical recession.

In October, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecast that Germany was likely to overtake Japan as the world's thirdlargest economy when measured in US

The IMF will only declare a change in its rankings once both countries have published the final versions of their economic growth figures. It began publishing data comparing economies in 1980.











@HEADLINESTODA17

'Accidental spinner' Ashwin enters 500 club

RAJKOT: As R Ashwin walked towards the bowling crease from mid-off after 11 overs of the England innings on Friday, the scoreboard read 71/0. After dismissing India for 445, England openers — Ben Duckett and Zak Crawley — had gotten off to a flying start, and Rohit turned towards the most reliable and experienced craftsman in his arsenal. India needed a wicket and Ashwin was one away from getting into the 500 club.

Everyone knew it was coming, and yet there was a sense of anticipation in the air as to when and how it was going to happen. In fact, if you ask around, every single

person who has watched him and followed his career would say they expected it to have happened by now. Even his teammate and partner-in-crime Ravindra Jadeja thought so. "I thought he would complete it in the first Test," Jadeja had said a couple of days ago.

At the start of the series, Ashwin needed ten wickets to get to 500, and Jadeja wasn't alone in thinking what he did. After all, that is what the off-spinner's reputation was. 490 Test wickets in 95 matches, a tad above five wickets every match in a career that has spanned just over 13 years. Fastest to get to 250, 300, and 350, second fastest

to get to 400 and 450, second most player of the series awards, the list just goes on. These numbers, as phenomenal as they are, don't do enough justice to what Ashwin has achieved.

For someone who started as a batter all through his age-group career, and who took off-spin as a primary skill much later than most international spinners would have, Ashwin made his Test debut only when he was 25. He calls himself an "accidental spinner" and rightly so. By the time Ashwin played for India, he had already won two Indian Premier League titles with Chennai Super Kings, and had five years of Ranji Trophy cricket behind him. On debut, he returned with nine wickets and the Player of the Match award as he belonged at that level. Since then, it has been a rollercoaster ride for him. He has had his share of ups and downs, and had a forgettable series here and there, but seldom has he had a year where he wasn't good.

In the past 13 years, only twice his annual average went over 30 (not including 2024), and thrice he averaged less than 20. At home, he averages 21.30 and away 30.40. Among spinners with more than 200 wickets (at home), only Muttiah Muralitharan (19.56). And among spinners with 149 (same as Ashwin) away wickets or more, the Indian stands sixth on the list. But, all top five have played more matches than he has so far. To put his overall record into context, the bowlers above him on the all-time list – Muralitharan (20), Shane Warne (22), James Anderson (20), Anil Kumble (19), Stuart Broad (21) Glenn McGrath (23), Courtney Walsh (22), Nathan Lyon (23) – all made their debuts at a relatively younger age. Among spinners, barring Graeme Swann (29), no one else has taken 250 Test wickets while making his Test debut at an age older than Ashwin.

Harmanpreet: Domestic players can use WPL to earn India call-up for T20 World Cup



SYDNEY: India's domestic players can use the upcoming second season of the WPL to make themselves known on the big stage and earn an India call-up in the lead-up to the T20 World Cup later this year, India and Mumbai Indians captain Harmanpreet Kaur

Harmanpreet, who lifted the inaugural WPL trophy as Mumbai captain last season, has led India in three T20 World Cups before. In 2018 and 2023 India made the semi-final, while in 2020 they lost in the final against Australia.

With the next T20 World Cup slated for September-October later this year in Bangladesh, Harmanpreet said: "WPLis the kind of platform where domestic players will get opportunities," at the pre-season press conference in Mumbai. "If they do well here then it means they're kind of ready for international cricket. It makes

things easier for the BCCI [selectors] because you've proven yourself at a good level and under pressure. If we get to see good talent and performances here, then it'll be really good for us [Indianteam] to look at such players and givethemopportunitieswhilethinking of the team for the T20 World Cup.

"I think players getting such opportunities will want to grab them with both hands because if you can perform here then everyone is looking at you and your performance won't be wasted, and you'll get chances going ahead."

Harmanpreet cited the example of left-arm spinner Saika Ishaque who shot to fame in the maiden WPL season with 15 wickets that earned her ODI and T20I debuts later in the same year, and a maiden Test call-up as well. Ishaque first made a memorable WPL debut with figures of 4 for 11 in the opening game against Gujarat Giants, then wore the purple cap for a while in the league stage before finishing the tournamentasthejointsecond-highest wicket-takeralong with herteam-mates Issy Wong and Amelia Kerr.

"Last year we saw Saika do well and other players too who were picked later in the team," Harmanpreet said. "Later on they got opportunities in the Indian team. So it's a good platform for players because if you do well here, you can get picked [for the Indian

As has been in the IPL, the Mumbai Indians women's team could also create a legacy for unearthing unknown talent from domestic cricket and fastforwarding their path to international cricket. The Mumbai set-up is known for its scouting system and their team management is banking on some more domestic spinners this time.

"We're trying to give chances to young girls in domestic cricket," bowling coach Jhulan Goswami said.

Increasing business profitibility by reducing

printing cost



ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR ALL PRINTING NEEDS

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

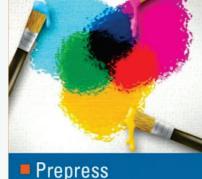


When you need a Company that can handle a complex workload, save your money and deliver on time...... leave it to

LUBAAB



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



- Sheet Fed
- Bindery
- Finishing
- Promotions

Our Printing Services

Flyers Posters Business Cards • Note pad Envelopes Brochures Booklets Catalogues Post Cards Presentation folders letterheads Magazines Newsletters

Raised printing

Wedding Cards Invoices Forms Labels Scratch coupor Signs/Banners Pen/Caps T-Shirts

Calenders Embroidery Door Hangers

Rni Registration No: JKENG/2011/39231, Title Code: JKENG00842, Chief Patron: Syed Sad Ud Din Bukhari (Saidi), Owner, Printer Publisher & Editor: Syed Jahangir Bukhari, Published From: Lubaab Publications Building Radio Colony Gund Hassibhat Lawaipora Srinagar - 190017, Printed At: Lubaab Publications, (Offset Printing Press), Radio Colony Gund Hassibhat Lawaipora Srinagar J&K 190017, Contact Us: Advertisement Section: Dailyheadlinestoday@gmail.com, Advt. Section: 7006846797, 9999038812, Editorial Section: 9419008414, 9596084712, Email: Dailyheadlinestoday@gmail.com, Website & Email: http://Dailyheadlinestoday.com Dailyheadlinestoday@gmail.com, Jahangirbukhari@gmail.com, Printing Press Section: Sheikh Mushtaq: 9697071471