



Build Sustainable And Safe Cities That Serve The Needs Of People: LG Sinha

LG addresses Srinagar Conclave of MoHUA's High-Level Committee on Urban Planning



■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JUL 04: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha addressed the Srinagar Conclave of High-Level Committee on Urban Planning of Ministry of

Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India.

In his keynote address, the Lt Governor extended his felicitations to the members of the High-Level Committee and all the experts.

He said the two-day long deliberations with all the states and Urban Planners and recommendations will help in formulating final report of the Committee on reform in Urban Planning in the country.

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Global Community Must Isolate, Expose Nations Harboursing Terrorists...: PM Modi At SCO Summit



■ HT News Network

ASTANA [KAZAKHSTAN], JUL 4: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said that terrorism in

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Climate Change a Concern, India Committed to Reduction: Jaishankar

■ HT News Network

ASTANA, JUL 4: Climate change is a prominent concern before the world today and India is working towards achieving committed reduction in emissions and building climate-resilient infrastructure, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Thursday.

Jaishankar was delivering

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Ignore Fake Power Disconnection Messages: KPDCL

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JUL 04: Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL), today urged the consumers to ignore fake text and whatsapp messages being circulated by scamsters regarding disconnection of their electricity supply purportedly with the logo of the Ministry of Power, KPDCL, or J&K PDD.

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Former Minister Basharat Bukhari rejoins PDP after six Years

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JUL 4: Former Jammu and Kashmir Minister Syed Basharat Bukhari rejoined the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on Thursday, nearly six years after leaving.

"I have always represented the aspirations of the people, Bukhari told Kashmir News



Service (KNS) adding that he met with Party

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

NEWS BRIEF

SSP Reviews Security During Visit To Border Areas In Jammu Region

JAMMU, JULY 4: SSP Vinod Kumar visited the areas along the International Border (IB) to review the border security grid and said that the Border Police Posts (BPPs) will be strengthened further in the coming days in Jammu district, police said on Thursday.

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Police have deployed over 560

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Temple Vandalism Case | 43 Detained In Reasi

JAMMU, JUL 4: The police have detained 43 persons in connection with the alleged vandalism at a Shiv temple in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district, officials on Thursday said.

The place of worship was found vandalised by a visitor in a village in the Dharmari area on Saturday evening, sparking tension and protests.

As photos and videos of the vandalism went viral, the locals and several Hindu bodies held protests at

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Locals Cry Foul Over Illegal Construction in Bangus Valley

SRINAGAR, JUL 4: A controversy has erupted over the illegal construction of permanent structures in Bangus Valley, a pristine site in north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

According to residents, some huts have been illegally erected in Compartment 17 of Bangus Valley, violating the Forest Conservation Act (FCA) 1980 norms. They claim that no permanent

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

450,000 Youth Empowered, 50PC Women This Financial Year: Dr Hina Bhat

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JUL 04: Khadi and Village Industries Board Chairperson, Dr. Hina Bhat four lac fifty thousand youth have been empowered so far with women contributing 50% of this financial year's achievements.

Speaking to reporters on sidelines of an event at World Foundation School Mamat Budgam, Hina said that subsidy of 82 crores have also been release to the youth who

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

J&K Govt's 'From Waste to Wonder' for Eco-friendly Amarnathji Yatra

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JUL 4: Spiritually blissful Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra is witnessing a remarkable shift towards a cleaner and more sustainable pilgrimage with implementation of 'From Waste to Wonder' initiatives by the Jammu and Kashmir government. This reflects the administration's commitment to maintain ecology and environment.

The Directorate of Rural

TURN ON.....PAGE 02



JK BJP Top Brass Reach Delhi For High Command Meeting

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JUL 04: The Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) top leadership from Jammu and Kashmir has arrived in New Delhi for a critical meeting with the party's high command.

Sources said that the important meeting

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

2025 To Witness One Indian In Space, Another Deep Sea: Dr Jitendra

■ HT News Network

NEW DELHI, JULY 4: 2025 will witness one Indian in Space and another Indian in Deep Sea, said Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh today at "Bharat 24 - Vision of New India Conclave 2024".

Speaking on India's progress in Space and Marine sector, Dr. Jitendra Singh

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Joint Director Information releases music album "Gaadee Chalee Kashmeera"



■ HT News Network

JAMMU, JUL 04: Joint Director Information Jammu, Atul Gupta released a music

album "Gaadee Chalee Kashmeera", here today.

Deputy Director Information PR, Ankush Hans, DIO Udhampur Rajinder Diga,

Singer Bishan Dass, Actress Sonia Verma, Neeraj Sharma, Sanjay Budkulia were also present on the occasion.

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

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CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

Build Sustainable.....

The Lt Governor called upon the Town Planners, Urban Designers and Experts to focus on building future-ready cities. Given the extreme weather events, impact of climate change and unpredictable weather patterns, it is imperative to focus on resilient urban planning for future-proof cities, he said.

The Lt Governor reiterated UT administration's resolve on urban transformation and building sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and safe cities which serve the needs of people and able to effectively tackle economic, social and climate challenges.

"Our cities are growth engines of the country and also playing the key role in fulfilling the dreams and aspirations of the citizens. Increasing urbanization reflects the growing aspiration. Urban planning should be able to build sustainable infrastructure and enable residents to prosper," the Lt Governor said.

Highlighting the urban reforms introduced under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Lt Governor said the key initiatives such as Urban Rejuvenation and Smart Cities campaign, urban planners are discovering a more holistic development of cities to enhance quality of life.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor made some valuable suggestions focusing on addressing the challenges of urbanism and ensuring quality living for all citizens.

He urged the High-Level Committee to create balance between modern facilities and natural heritage and focus on quality living space in future urban planning.

The Lt Governor also emphasised on the need for sustainable urbanism and comprehensive, all-inclusive urban development, urban resilience and future readiness.

He impressed upon stakeholders and community to take dedicated measures to unlock urban potential and bridging the gap in rural and urban facilities on priority. In this regard, the Lt Governor called for giving fresh impetus to the economic activities and quality of life in satellite cities and rural areas, with increased physical and digital connectivity.

The ecological potential of cities will become the basis of their economic potential in future. Public amenities and spaces should be accessible and inclusive with focus on developing commercial hub to create employment and business opportunities, he said.

The Lt Governor suggested for inclusion of citizens' feedback and unpredictable weather patterns in urban planning and development policy, besides strengthening the multi-modal integrated transportation and response system of city management.

He further underlined the need to put dedicated focus on connectivity, technical infrastructure, green infrastructure, communication infrastructure, environmental protection and public safety during the planning process.

Sh Keshav Verma, Chairman, High-Level Committee on Urban Planning lauded the Lt Governor led UT Administration for transforming the urban landscape of Jammu Kashmir.

Urban Planning Experts also shared their views on the reforms needed in urban planning and development.

Sh Satish Chandra, Chairman, J&K Real Estate Regulatory Authority (JKRERA); Ms. Mandeep Kaur, Commissioner Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department; Sh Vijay Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; members of High-Level Committee and RERA, Urban & Town Planning experts and senior officials were present.

Global Community.....

any form or manifestation cannot be justified and called on the international community to isolate and expose the countries that harbour terrorists, provide safe havens and condone terrorism.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar delivered these remarks on behalf of PM Modi at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation being held under Kazakhstan's Presidency in Astana.

Calling SCO a principle-based organization whose consensus drives the approach of its member states, PM Modi stated, "At this time, it is particularly noteworthy that we are reiterating mutual respect for sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, equality, mutual benefit, non-interference in internal affairs, non-use of force or threat of use of force as a basis for our foreign policies. We have also agreed not to take any measures contrary to the principles of state sovereignty and territorial integrity."

The Indian Prime Minister called for giving priority to combating terrorism, which he termed as one of the original goals of the SCO.

PM Modi stressed that terrorism if left unchecked can become a major threat to regional and global peace. He asserted that cross-border terrorism requires a decisive response and terrorism financing and recruitment must be resolutely countered.

Calling on action by the global community to combat terrorism, PM Modi said, "While doing so, priority must naturally be given to combating terrorism, one of the original goals of the SCO. Many of us have had our experiences, often originating beyond our borders. Let us be clear that if left unchecked, it can become a major threat to regional and global peace. Terrorism in any form or manifestation cannot be justified or condoned."

"International community must isolate and expose those countries that harbour terrorists,

provide safe havens and condone terrorism. Cross-border terrorism requires a decisive response and terrorism financing and recruitment must be resolutely countered. We should also take proactive steps to prevent the spread of radicalization among our youth. The Joint Statement issued during India's Presidency last year on this subject underlines our shared commitment," he said.

Stressing that climate change remains another prominent concern, PM Modi said that they are working towards achieving committed reductions in emissions, including the transition to alternate fuels, adoption of electric vehicles, and building climate-resilient infrastructure.

He said, "Another prominent concern before us today is of climate change. We are working towards achieving committed reduction in emissions, including transition to alternate fuels, adoption of electric vehicles, and building climate-resilient infrastructure. In this context, during India's SCO presidency, a Joint Statement on emerging fuels, and a Concept Paper on decarbonization in the transportation sector were approved."

PM Modi noted that the SCO Summit was being held in the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic impact, ongoing conflicts, rising tensions, trust deficits and an increasing number of hotspots around the world. He emphasised that these events have put significant strain on international ties and global economic growth.

He further said, "They have aggravated some of the problems that have emanated from globalization. Our gathering is aimed at finding common ground to mitigate the consequences of these developments."

Recalling that India became a member of SCO under Kazakhstan's Presidency in 2017, PM Modi said, "India recalls with appreciation that its admission as a Member of SCO took place during the 2017 Kazakh Presidency. Since then, we have completed one full cycle of presidencies in SCO. India hosted both the Council of Heads of Government Meeting in 2020, as well as the Council of Heads of State Meeting in 2023. The SCO occupies a prominent place in our foreign policy."

The Prime Minister also congratulated Iran which is participating in the SCO Summit as a member and offered condolences over the demise of former Iran President Ebrahim Raisi and others in the helicopter crash. He also congratulated Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko and welcomed Belarus as the new member of SCO.

Jaishankar is leading the Indian delegation in Kazakhstan at the 24th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State (SCO Summit).

The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

The economic and security bloc comprises India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. (AGENCIES)

Climate Change.....

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit here in the Kazakh capital.

"Delivered India's statement at the Summit of SCO Council of Heads of States on behalf of PM Shri @narendramodiji. Thank the leaders present for conveying their best wishes to Prime Minister @narendramodi on his re-election for a third successive term," Jaishankar posted on X along with photos.

"We are working towards achieving a committed reduction in emissions, including transition to alternate fuels, adoption of electric vehicles, and building climate-resilient infrastructure," he said.

"In this context, during India's SCO presidency, a Joint Statement on emerging fuels, and a Concept Paper on de-carbonization in the transportation sector were approved," Jaishankar added.

During last year's annual climate conference, Prime Minister Modi said India has already declared to achieve Net Zero by 2070. It plans to reduce emissions intensity by 45 per cent by 2030 and increase the share of non-fossil fuel to 50 per cent.

The remarks also pointed out how economic development requires robust connectivity. "That can also pave the way for cooperation and trust between our societies," Jaishankar said.

"Respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity is essential for connectivity and infrastructure projects. So too are non-discriminatory trade rights and transit regimes," he said, and asserted: "The SCO needs to deliberate seriously on these aspects."

Jaishankar also reminded the audience that the SCO needs to make "technology creative" and apply it to the welfare and progress of societies.

"India is among the countries to formulate a National Strategy on Artificial Intelligence and the launch of an AI Mission. Our commitment to 'AI for All' is also reflected in working within the SCO framework on a Roadmap on AI cooperation," he added. (Agencies)

Ignore Fake.....

In a statement issued here today, a KPDCI spokesperson once again reiterated that the disconnection of electricity supply falls within the domain of DISCOMs for which no such messages are generated or forwarded by the KPDCI.

The spokesman added that the warning for snapping of connection for non-payment of bills is reflected in the paper bills for post-paid consumers. However, he added that pre-paid consumers can check their balance online through Bill Sahuliyat platform or Smart BS app to avoid remote disconnection.

The KPDCI spokesman further advised the consumers to report receipt of such fake messages to the Cyber Crime wing of J&K Police.

Former Minister.....

President Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday and decided to return to the party.

Bukhari was expelled from the PDP in 2018 for anti-party activities after the PDP-BJP coalition government collapsed in Jammu and Kashmir. In December 2018, he joined the National Conference but left in 2021 to join Sajad Lone's People's Conference. He was expelled from the People's Conference in June 2023.

Bukhari originally joined the PDP in 2003 and was elected from the Sangrama constituency in Baramulla district in 2008 and 2014. He served as Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, and Relief and Rehabilitation in the previous PDP-BJP government.

J&K Govt's.....

Sanitation, Department of Rural Department and Panchayati Raj, J&K is executing a comprehensive program for collection, segregation, transportation and disposal of waste stuff, aiming reduction in plastic waste generation and encouraging a positive behavioral shift among the pilgrims regarding their role in maintaining the ecosystem.

To create awareness among the pilgrims about the importance of recycling, the Directorate organized an exhibition at Baltal which not only encouraged responsible waste disposal but showcased its potential for transformation towards a sustainable environment. The display of everyday items crafted from recycled materials like paper bags, furniture made from Tetra packs and creative uses of plastic waste served as a powerful reminder of the 'From waste to Wonder' concept.

The enthusiastic pilgrims explored all the exhibits showcasing the potential of upcycling and innovative design with each piece telling a story of transformation, turning waste material into objects of wonder.

During the exhibition, Dhoopbatti, Agarbatti and other usable products like jute bags, flowerpots, waste glass bottles and many other such products prepared by Self Help Groups (SHG) are being displayed which have been prepared by using the flowers collected from the Mandir.

At the base camp, composting methods like Bucket Composting, Home Composting and Aga Drum Composting are being displayed to encourage the pilgrims to implement sustainable waste management practices beyond the Yatra. Besides, a counter for awareness generation among the pilgrims for avoiding the use of single use plastic has also been set up where they are receiving free cotton bags as alternatives for plastic bags.

Also, the mascots of Lord Ganesha and Lord Hanuman at the camp added a cultural relevance and made the message of sustainability more relatable.

The sustainable waste management initiatives are being hugely appreciated by the Yatrists. The success of these initiatives, prioritizing sustainable waste management practices, has set a commendable example for the future pilgrimages.

Further, in order to ensure smooth experience for the pilgrims, nearly 7000 sanitation work force has been deployed on field by the Rural Sanitation, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, especially for looking after the sanitation services in the entire route of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

450,000 Youth.....

have started their own Startups and are not earning for themselves but have generated employment to others.

On importance of creating employment opportunities in every corner of the village Hina said that they hope that there will be employment in every corner of the village. It is the directive of the Prime Minister and the Lieutenant Governor to ensure that no community, whether in a village, city, mountaintop, or border area, lack employment opportunities.

She also said that Jammu and Kashmir has the entire thrust of the Indian government that there should be empowerment here and employment should be generated here and all the schemes of the Government of India should be implemented here.

Hina also praised the World Foundation school's infrastructure and the quality of education being provided. "It has a very beautiful infrastructure. I am very happy to interact with the children. They are getting such a good education in this school. The faculty and staff are very good," she said.

"Sometimes it is very important that you go back to your childhood. School is the first step where children need the right education. I am very hopeful that the students here will go towards a better future", she added.

JK BJP Top.....

will discuss the current political situation in Jammu and Kashmir and the overall functioning of the party in the Union Territory.

BJP J&K President Ravinder Raina, General

Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul, and General Secretary Sunil Sharma have traveled to New Delhi to participate in the meeting.

BJP National President J.P. Nadda and National General Secretary (Organization) B.L. Santosh are scheduled to meet with the J&K BJP leaders.

Additionally, Member of Parliament and Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, Lok Sabha MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, and Rajya Sabha MP Ghulam Ali Khatana will be in attendance.

BJP senior Leader and general secretary, Sunil Sharma confirmed to Kashmir News Service (KNS) that he is currently in New Delhi.

However, other leaders who have reportedly reached the national capital could not be contacted for confirmation.

The meeting is likely to take place at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi today evening. Sources suggest that the primary agenda for this meeting will be the upcoming Assembly, Panchayat, and Municipal elections.

The involvement of senior party members and the three General Secretaries of J&K BJP underscores the importance of this gathering as the high command seeks to finalize its strategies for the electoral battle ahead.

2025 To Witness.....

shared that four astronauts including three Group Captains and one Wing Commander have been selected for India's 1st Human Space Mission-Gaganyaan. Similarly, he also shared that India's Deep-Sea mission will send three Indians to the deep sea in 2025.

During his address, highlighting the Development in the Northeast India, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space and MoS Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Dr. Jitendra Singh said Infrastructure overhaul in Northeast India in the last decade is the role model of PM Narendra Modi's development."

Going further the Minister referred to the new airports made operational in the Northeast. Increase in network of all-weather roads and highways along with remote connectivity. The railways operating trains from Itanagar and new waterways have been opened, he said. He categorically mentioned that not only in terms of infrastructure but also the human resource development is commendable as recruiters in the hospitality and aviation industry are now visiting these states for talent acquisition. Going further he emphasized that the Prime Minister is fond of the region and preferred Mizoram to establish first-ever 'Citrus Fruit Park- A Centre of excellence' in Mizoram due its favourable conditions.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, when asked about the progress of Jammu & Kashmir in the last decade, said "Record number of tourists visiting Kashmir nearly 2.5 crore in the last season is the testimony of development and peace in the region." He also added that over 1 lakh people have already arrived for Amarnath Yatra. He also mentioned that terrorism is its last phase.

The media group congratulated Dr. Jitendra Singh for making a hat trick by winning from Udhampur constituency and also being the Minister for the 3rd time. The Science and Technology Minister recalled the recent progress and shared the path of India's vision. He said "Space sector is not limited only to launch of rockets and satellites but it will also propel growth and positively impact agriculture, infrastructure, communication, healthcare etc. Land Record management, new geo-spatial policy, new space policy, and initiatives such as soil health card, DBT, land mapping etc. will boost farmer productivity,"

"In 2022 we had just one space Startup and in 2024 after opening the space sector for private participation we have nearly 200 startups and many among them have global capacity", the Minister said. He also shared that in just in a few months more than Rs 1,000 crore of private sector investment had come into the Space sector.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said, "India is among the frontline nations in terms of quantum technology as we have the National Quantum Mission". He also highlighted India's Vast resources which are untapped such as Himalayan resources, Marine Resources of 7,500 km long coastline. The Minister also shared that the government is successful in bringing agriculture and entrepreneurship together by Aroma Mission which promotes lavender cultivation and empowers farmers economically with the help of technology.

Joint Director.....

The music video is directed By ARJ Productions, while the song is written by Ganesh Singh Salal.

The team associated with the music album appraised the Joint Director that it

is the first music album in which all the artists, technicians and supporting staff are locals.

They also informed that the shooting of the album was done in scenic and beautiful locations like Dudu Valley and Daggan Top in Udhampur, Chenab river and Baradari Bridge in Reasi District. The album showcases the unexplored culture and beauty of Jammu division. It is available on YouTube and other social media platforms.

The Joint Director congratulated the entire team and commended the tireless efforts put in to promote the culture, language, scenic views, and potential of Jammu Division through songs and videos. He emphasized the importance of encouraging local artists dedicated to preserving and promoting the rich folk-lore of the region.

He strongly vouched for promotion of local talent and emphasised that it's a great initiative of the team to serve the mother tongue Dogri.

SSP Reviews.....

newly trained jawans in various border villages across the Jammu region to bolster the anti-infiltration and anti-terrorism grid, they said.

The Border Police Posts serve as the third line of defence, complementing the primary and secondary roles of BSF and Army, respectively.

"To enhance the border grid and augment the existing infrastructure in the border zones of Jammu district, the Senior Superintendent of Police toured the border belts of RS Pura and Arnia sectors," a police officer stated.

The visit was aimed at gaining firsthand knowledge of the current facilities and logistics, with a view to upgrading them comprehensively to strengthen the border grid of Jammu district, the officer said.

During the visit to Border Police Posts in Allah, Agra Chak, Arnia, and RS Pura, the SSP emphasised the need to upgrade infrastructure and assessed their current capabilities.

"This initiative covers the entire Jammu district, with particular emphasis on the border areas," the officer added.

Kumar also expressed satisfaction with the operational readiness of the border police posts and urged officers and officials to continue working with dedication and commitment to their duties. He also assured that the BPPs would be strengthened further.

"Currently, the posts are being reinforced with support from village defence groups in addition to regular manpower," the officer noted. (Agencies)

Temple Vandalism.....

various places across the Jammu region and Reasi and Katra towns observed bandh.

"Police has apprehended and detained 43 persons including 24 suspects in connection with the act of vandalism at a religious place in the Dharmari area of Arnas," Reasi Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Mohita Shamra said.

She said that they are being questioned as further investigations into the case is going on.

The SSP appealed to the people of Reasi to remain calm and maintain peace and communal harmony. The culprits involved in the incident will be brought in public very soon, she said. The police registered an FIR under relevant sections of law and formed a Special Investigation Team headed by a deputy superintendent of police to identify and arrest the culprits.

The official said the SIT is working on various clues to crack the case and requesting people to maintain law and order.

A shutdown was observed in Reasi town and adjoining areas on Monday with several youths burning tyres on different roads. (Agencies)

Locals Cry.....

structure can be built in the valley without a No-Objection Certificate (NOC) from the forest department, which was not obtained.

Locals are up in arms, fearing that the construction will damage the valley's flora and biodiversity, according to a KNS correspondent.

Gh. Jeelani Zargar, CEO of Lolab Bangus Drangyari Development Authority, expressed concern over the construction, stating that Bangus Valley is an ecologically sensitive zone with rich biodiversity. He emphasized the need for a well-thought-out plan, involving all stakeholders, before any construction activity.

The government has been focusing on eco-tourism, and locals are appealing for the preservation of eco-tourism in Bangus Valley. They insist that there should be no permanent constructions to maintain the valley's natural beauty and ecological balance.

When Contacted DFO Kralpora, he was not available for comments.



JKEDI inks MoU with Central University Jammu

Two Institutions to work together for curriculum design, teaching-training

JAMMU, JUL 04: Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) and Central University of Jammu on Thursday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to work together for entrepreneurship development and Start-up related services.

Under the guidance and mentorship of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu and Rajinder Kumar Sharma, Director JKEDI, the collaboration aims to strengthen the entrepreneurship ecosystem in the region by leveraging the expertise of both the institutions.

The MoU is expected to pave the way for joint initiatives to strengthen the entrepreneurship and start-up climate among the student community. Training, capacity building, mentoring, incubating novel ideas and handholding to nurture the entrepreneurial spirit among the student community are part of the MoU.

Combining the expertise of

JKEDI and Central University of Jammu, this partnership looks forward to fostering a vibrant entrepreneurial culture.

The MoU was signed in a formal ceremony held at JKEDI, Bari Brahmana Campus and attended by key officials from both the institutions. The signatories were Rajinder Kumar Sharma, Director JKEDI and Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar, Central University of Jammu in presence of Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Dean, School of Business Studies, Dr. Shahid Mushtaq, Assistant Professor, School of Business Studies, Zahid Ali Dar, I/c CIIBM, JKEDI and Dr. Vinod Kumar, Teaching Associate/ In-charge CBD, JKEDI.

The purpose of the MoU between the two institutions is to work together for curriculum design by way of providing valuable inputs in teaching-training methodology and suitably customizes the curriculum so that the students fit in the entrepreneurial scenario meaningfully, followed by industrial



training and visits, Internship for the students, Research and Development, skill development programs and guest lectures. The environment and the discussion echoed a strong resolve to achieve the mandate.

On this occasion, Rajinder Kumar Sharma, Director JKEDI said, "We at JKEDI are committed to train and empower different sections of society on the premise of entrepreneurship which is the future of the nation." He said JKEDI shall extend support for internships to students of the Central University of Jammu.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar Central University of Jammu said this partnership is a significant stride to help the student community benefit by enhancing their skills and knowledge with regard to entrepreneurship, innovation and startups. He further informed that Central University of Jammu has established a Section 8 company CUJ SITE

COUNCIL to provide incubation support to learners.

Prof. Jaya Bhasin and Dr. Shahid Mushtaq shared valuable inputs about vocationalisation and skilling ecosystem being promoted by Central University of Jammu in project mode.

Apart from this an action plan was discussed for execution of activities on the trajectory that could be adopted to enhance the entrepreneurship quotient among learners. This MoU is aimed at offering the students enhanced opportunities to develop entrepreneurial skills and contribute to the region's economic growth. Both institutions will collaborate on faculty development programs, including workshops, seminars, and training sessions to enhance teaching methodologies and subject expertise besides enabling small businesses with the right skill sets and training as well as creating networking forums for them to learn from like-minded individuals and industry experts.

SMC Ensures Comprehensive Arrangements for Muharram ul Haram Observance

SRINAGAR, JUL 4: In a proactive move to prepare for the upcoming holy month of Muharram ul Haram, the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) conducted a review meeting at its Central Office in Karan Nagar under the guidance of Joint Commissioner, Gh. Mohammad Bhat.

The meeting, held on the direction of Commissioner SMC, Dr. Owais Ahmed, focused on assessing and enhancing the civic amenities to be provided to the mourners during this sacred period.

Emphasizing the significance of creating a conducive environment for the observance of Muharram ul Haram, Joint Commissioner SMC provided strategic directives to officers. The aim is to ensure that all necessary facilities, including uninterrupted drinking water, availability of water tankers 24x7, Electricity, Sanitation, Macadamization of roads, Desilting of drains, are in place to cater to the religious needs and sentiments of the community.

During the meeting, Bhat instructed officers to expedite the repair and maintenance of street lights, and roads, at key locations to enhance visibility and safety during evening gatherings and processions. This initiative underscores the commitment of the administration to facilitate a peaceful and respectful atmosphere for all participants in the observance of Muharram ul Haram.

Following the deliberations, Officers have been tasked with implementing a comprehensive set of measures to improve civic facilities, such as cleanliness, lighting, and availability of water supply.

Bhat urged all Officers to collaborate diligently with line departments and work collectively to efficiently meet the needs of the community for Muharram ul Haram observance.

DC Srinagar chairs District Level Bankers Review Committee Meet; Stresses bringing more youth under ambit of self-employment

SRINAGAR, JUL 04: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting of District Level Bankers Review Committee/District Consultative Committee (DLRC/DCC) here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex to review the performance of the Banks and other Financial Institutions under various Government initiatives and sponsored schemes for quarter ending March 2024. At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a sector wise performance of the Banks in implementation of different Government schemes and reviewed the achievements of Banks in lending to Priority/Non Priority sectors under Annual Credit Plan.

While reviewing the Bank-wise movement of CD Ratio in the District, the DC was informed that total deposits of the District Srinagar stood at Rs 36395.06 crore and Advance at Rs 25925.94 crore, constitute 71 percent CD Ratio at the end of financial year 2023-24.

The DC was apprised that an amount of Rs 2293.73 crore has been disbursed among 35919 beneficiaries in Srinagar District under different schemes thereby generating expected self-employment opportunities for over 1.0 lakh unemployed youth of the District during financial year 2023-24.

Besides, the Banks operating in Srinagar have provided a total credit of Rs.11,162.17 Crore in favour of 184421 beneficiaries under both Priority as well as Non-Priority Sector during for financial year 2023-24.

The DC was further apprised that under Prime Ministers Mudra Yojna (PMMY) Scheme Banks operating in Srinagar have disbursed Rs 706.35 Crore among 21070 beneficiaries of the District during Financial year 2023-24.

Similarly, under the Pradhan Mantri Employment Generation programme (PMEGP), total 2623 cases have been sanctioned and an amount of Rs 151.61 Crore has also been sanctioned.

With regard to implementa-



tion of Pradhan Mantri SVANI-DHI schemes, the DC was informed that Rs 11.61 crore have been disbursed among 7603 Street Vendors of the District.

While reviewing the progress achieved in enrolment under social security schemes including Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)/Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal pension Yojna (APY), the DC was informed that under as many as 189392 registrations have been made till March, 2024 including 135290 under PMSBY,

43085 under PMJJBY and 11017 under APY scheme.

Likewise, the DC was also apprised about credit disbursement under Mission Youth schemes, for providing self-employment including MUMKIN, TEJASWINI, besides under the Swarozgar Utsav campaign launched as a step towards saturation of self-employment of the youth. During the meeting, the performance of Banks under Kisan Credit Card (KCC), RSETI, NULM, PMFME, FLCs, CFLs were also reviewed.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC stressed on all the line Departments and Banks operating in the District to further improve the credit facilities. He also called for educating people about financial literacy and the Digital Payment Ecosystem by bridging the digital gap to ensure cent percent coverage. He called upon Officers of all line Departments and Bankers to work in a coordinated manner with added vigour and zeal to achieve the set targets within the set timeline.

The DC emphasised on improvement of other schemes and flagship programmes of the Government and focused attention towards self-employment to uplift the socio-economic conditions of the people.

The meeting was among others attended by Chief Planning Officer, General Manager DIC, Lead District Manager, LDO RBI, DDM NABARD, all District Officers, Cluster Heads of J&K Bank, representatives of Banks and financial institutions operating in Srinagar.

Amid Heavy Rains, 5600 More Pilgrims Begin Amarnath Yatra

JAMMU, JUL 4: Despite heavy rains, a contingent of over 5,600 pilgrims set off from Jammu towards the twin basecamps, Baltal and Palagam, of the Amarnath cave shrine on Thursday, officials said.

More than 30,000 devotees offered prayers to the naturally formed ice lingam on Wednesday alone, bringing the total number of pilgrims to over one lakh, they said.

The seventh batch of pilgrims included 4,487 men, 1,011 women, 10 children and 188 'sadhus' and 'sadhvis' who departed at 3.13 am in 219 vehicles, under the escort of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp, the officials said.

Of these, 3,668 pilgrims opted for the traditional 48 km Pahalgam route, while 2,028 chose the shorter but steeper 14 km Baltal route, they said.

Since June 28, when Lt Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch, a total of 37,522 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for the yatra.

The 52-day yatra officially commenced on June 29 from the twin basecamps in Kashmir and will conclude on August 19. Last year, more than 4.5 lakh pilgrims offered prayers at the cave shrine, located at an elevation of 3,880 metres. (AGENCIES)

JAMMU, JUL 04: Senior BJP leader and former deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta on Thursday lauded the remarkable strides made by the Narendra Modi government in combatting terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP stalwart leader said that after the progression of befitting moves against terrorism by the Modi Government the Jammu and Kashmir is on the cusp of transformation with peace becoming its new hallmark.

Reflecting on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent statement in the Rajya Sabha, the senior BJP functionary highlighted the effectiveness of the government's policies in bringing an end to violence in the Union Territory.

It is pertinent to mention that Prime Minister Modi has emphasized that the government's multi-pronged strategy has not only curtailed terrorism but is also on the verge of eradicating the remaining vestiges of insurgency.

Echoing the Prime Minister's sentiments, Kavinder underscored the transformative impact of these policies on the ground. He noted that the comprehensive approach, which included robust security measures, socio-economic development, and



community engagement, has significantly reduced terrorist activities, restoring normalcy and safety in the region.

"Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Modi, J&K is witnessing unprecedented progress in eliminating terrorism. The government's unwavering commitment to peace and security is evident in the substantial decline in violence and the restoration of law and order", he said, adding that the UT has now embarked on the journey towards peace and prosperity.

Meanwhile, Mahant Jwala Soni from Ayodhya along with Narotam

Sharma, former Corporator and Mahant Keshav Shukla from Ram Ashram Peer Kho Mandir felicitated Kavinder Gupta by presenting a picture of Bhagwan Ram and Prasad recognizing his outstanding work in the field of social service.

Expressing gratitude to the aforementioned political and religious personalities, Kavinder said that his main objective to join politics was to dedicate life for the welfare of people and that is the reason behind keeping himself busy in accomplishing social causes and providing succor to the people confronting dearth and despair.

91 Route Permits, RCs Suspended For Bovine Smuggling, Other Offenses In Kishtwar

KISHTWAR, JUL 4: To enforce road safety and curb traffic violation, the Regional Transport Authority (Member Secretary) ARTO Kishtwar, under the guidance of Chairman District Road Safety Committee (Deputy Commissioner) Dr Devansh Yadav, has launched a major crackdown against those involved in the illegal trade of bovine smuggling and other traffic violations within the district.

Acting on recommendations from the IGP Traffic Police and the Transport Commissioner Jammu, the Assistant Regional Transport Officer (Member Secretary) ARTO Mohammad Saleem Manhas has suspended 66 Route Permits/Registration Certificates of habitual traffic violation and 25 Route Permits/Registration Certificates involved in illegal transportation of bovine animals in last three months.

The ARTO stated that multiple FIRs were registered during the past three month drive. "The Drive by the Motor Vehicle Department was designed to disrupt the logistics of smuggling operations making it increasingly difficult for the smugglers to transport livestock illegally. Besides, the drive aims to enforce traffic rules and regulations, prevent accidents, and ensure a safe and secure environment for all road users" he added.

During the period from April 1, 2024, to June 30, 2024, the MVD Kishtwar challaned 1,267 vehicles for various offenses, realizing a revenue of Rs 10.72 lakh as fine.

DC Kishtwar-Chairman Road Safety Committee has issued a stern warning to all the bovine smugglers and vehicle owners whose vehicles have been used for bovine smuggling or violating the Traffic rules to desist from the wrong practice else strict action shall be taken against them including cancellation of the documents of their vehicles.

Nuzhat Ishfaq visited Dab, Shalhar; takes first-hand appraisal of Muharram arrangements

HT News Network

GANDERBAL, JULY 4: District Development Council Chairperson (DDC) Ganderbal, Nuzhat Ishfaq visited Dab, Shalhar and other areas to take first-hand appraisal of Muharram-ul-Harram arrangements. During her visit, the Chairperson interacted with prominent citizens and the Intizamiya committee for the hassle-free conduct of Majlis and processions during Muharram days.

Special attention was given to crowd management, ensuring the smooth flow of processions. The deputations demanded uninterrupted electricity and drinking water supply, availability of mobile gensets, availability of mobile water tanks, sanitation and garbage lifting arrangements, decongestion of traffic outside Imambara particularly during peak periods, cleaning of surroundings, etc. On the occasion, the DDC directed all concerned to be proactive in ensuring better Muharram arrangements.



Muharram arrangements. She directed the R&B department to immediately start mac-

adamization of roads and also procession routes at the earliest. She also asked the MC Ganderbal to ensure proper sanitation in and around Imambaras and ensure availability of mobile toilet vans in the Central Imambara. Moreover, the Department of Jal Shakti and PDD were asked to ensure adequate water and electricity supply with waterproof standby arrangements. She also instructed the Assistant Director FCS&CA to ensure the availability of ration and LPG as per the requirements during the Muharram days.

The Regional Transport Officer was directed to coordinate with the police to ensure smooth regulation of traffic. Furthermore, the DDC Chairperson urged all concerned stakeholders to cooperate and extend their support to ensure the successful conduct of Muharram-ul-Haram events while maintaining peace and harmony in the district. Concerned officials of all the line departments were present on the occasion.

Niti Ayog envisaged Sampoortana Abhiyan launched in Baramulla

DC directs officers to ensure 100% saturation of six key indicators till 30th September

HT News Network

BARAMULLA JULY 4: Sampoornata Abhiyan, a three-month long campaign, launched by NITI Ayog today to achieve saturation of six key indicators in Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks across the country was kickstarted in Baramulla district amidst huge public enthusiasm and fervor. The main event was held at Dak Bunglow Baramulla, presided over by District Development Commissioner Minga Sherpa and attended by key officials including Additional District Development



Commissioner Syed Qamar Sajad, Chief Planning Officer Javaid Ahmad, representatives from NITI Ayog J&K, education and other departments. Similar such events were held across the district Baramulla. At the outset, the Chief Planning Officer welcomed all the officers and officials to the launch event and briefed the attendees about the Sampoortana Campaign by NITI Ayog, which aims for the saturation of Six key indicators under the Aspirational District Programme and Aspirational Block Programme. The CPO informed that the district has achieved remarkable success under ADP and ABP in recent years, reaching 100% saturation in most of the indicators envisioned

by the Sampoortana Campaign. During the event, the DC administered a pledge to all the officials present, as well as to those joining from the panchayats of all 26 blocks, to work diligently towards achieving the key indicators by September 30th this year. Speaking at the event, the DC emphasized the significance of saturation of the key indicators under the Sampoortana Abhiyan for the comprehensive development of the region. Minga Sherpa further urged all the officers and officials to work in close coordination over the coming months to achieve and maintain 100% saturation of the program's.

Office of the Executive Engineer, R&B Division Lolab. "CORRIGENDUM".

Subject: Invitation of Tenders .
Reference: NIT No. 06-Lolab/621-26 of 2024-25 e-tendering DATED: - 15-06-2024
Date Extension

Bid Submission End Date	08-07-2024 up to (04.00P.M)
Bid Opening date	09-07-2024 (10:00A.M) in the Office of the Executive Engineer RnB Division Lolab

DIPK- DIPK-2403/24
Date 04.07.2024

sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Lolab

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Directorate of Tourism, Kashmir

Tel:0194-2315378, Fax 0194-2479548, e-mail: ddtreg123@gmail.com

Subject: - Inclusion of partner in the Registration Certificate of Guest House "Bhat" situated at Rajbagh Srinagar.

Public Notice

Whereas, legal heirs of one the partner namely Mr. Mohammad Yousuf Bhat have approached this office with an application dated 05.06.2024 for inclusion of **Mr. Bilawal Yousuf S/o Late Mohammad Yousuf Bhat** in the registration certificate of the guest house under the name and style "Bhat" situated at Rajbagh, Srinagar under the J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12;

Whereas, guest hosue **under name and style** "Bhat." situated at Rajbagh, Srinagar is registered with this Department in the names Mr. Mohammad Yousuf Bhat & others bearing registration No. Reg/CS/751/CT/10-1-L dated 31.05.1982 and online registration certificate issued vide No. JKCH00000647 renewed upto 31/12/2024;

Whereas the legal heirs have submitted that Mr. Mohammad Yousuf Bhat has expired 05/02/2024 as per death certificate issued by SMC leaving behind following legal heirs as per legal heir certificate issued by Tehsildar Srinagar(South).

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| 1. Bilawal Yousuf | Son |
| 2. Bisma Yousuf | Daughter |
| 3. Fehmeeda | Wife(Widow) |

Whereas, the legal heirs namely Bisma Yousuf D/o Late Mohammad Yousuf Bhat and Fehmeeda Widow of Late Mohammad Yousuf Bhat have submitted declaration/NOC dated 03/06/2024 duly authenticated by Judicial Magistrate 1st Class Srinagar, where in they have given no objection if Mr. Bilawal Yousuf S/o Late Mohammad Yousuf Bhat will enter into the above mentioned partnership business with other partners mentioned in the registration certificate;

Whereas, inclusion of partner in registration certificate for the guest house is purely for purpose of running operation management of the said guest house and does not confer any right of ownership of the guest house;

Now, therefore, in exercise of powers conferred on me under section 39 of J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011, before inclusion of Mr. Bilawal Yousuf S/o Late Mohammad Yousuf R/o Rajbagh, Srinagar and issuance of registration certificate of the guest house namely "Bhat" Situated at **Rajbagh, Srinagar** in the names **1. Mohammad Yaqoob Baht 2. Abdul Rashid Bhat and 3. Mr. Bilawal Yousuf Bhat**, the matter is hereby notified for information of General Public/ Financial Institutions/ Banks/ Development Authorities/PHE Department/Electric Department that in case of any objection, the same should reach the office of undersigned within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections beyond a period of 07 days will be entertained and the request of the applicant will be considered under rules, after submission of requisite documents.

DIPK-2360/24
Date: Jul 4 2024

Sd/-
Assistant Director Tourism,
REGISTRATION

OFFICE OF THE NAIIB TEHSILDAR KREERI
Sub: Application of Showkat Ahmad Ganie S/o Late Ali Mohammad Ganie R/o Reshipora seeking their in the Legal Heir certificate.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above, in this context. As per the death certificate and report submitted by the patwari concerned Ali Mohammad Ganie S/o Ab Aziz Ganie R/o Reshipora has passed away on 26/08/2006. The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has following Legal Heirs.

S.No	Name of Legal Heir	Age	Relation with Deceased	Occupation
1	Showket Ahmad Ganie	29	SON	Labour
2	Habla Begum	55	Wife	House wife
3	Zahida Ali	25	Daughter	Student

The applicant has applied for issuance of Legal Heir certificate. As such the instant matter is published through news paper, if any one is having any kind of objection may approach this office within 7 days (Seven Days) of the publication of this notice after passing of stipulated time of 7 days (Seven Days), no objections will be entertained.

Naib Tehsildar Kreeri

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my father's name from (old name) 'FAYAZ ALI' to (new name) 'FAYAZ ALI DERVASH'. In future my father will be known as (new name) 'FAYAZ ALI DERVASH'. If anybody has any objection he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

PH: 9797866341

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT (PHE) MECHANICAL RURAL DIVISION BALGARDEN SRINAGAR

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No. PHE/MRD/TS 21 OF 07/2024 Dated: -03-07-2024

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Rural Division Balgarden Srinagar, invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/ Companies/Joint Ventures/ Consortiums between bidder/firm and Financer of all classes registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government or GST Registration for Elect/Mech. Works for "Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Electro-Mechanical works for WSS Lar Watlar Chuntwaliwar under JJM". The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jk-tenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of Pre-Qualification Criteria, General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd shall consist of Financial Bid on percentage basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

Sr No	Particulars of the work	Estimated Cost (Lacs)	Tender fee (in Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit	Bid Validity	Time of Completion of work (days)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I.	SITC of electro-mechanical works for water supply scheme Lar Watlar Chuntwaliwar	Work/scheme wise details given in FORM I of tender document	Rs. 500/- Each work	In the Shape of Bid Security Declaration (enclosed as FORM-XII)	180 days	As per FORM I

Position of funds: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

Status of AAA : Accorded

The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Rural Division, Balgarden, Srinagar.

The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM) Srinagar.

i	Publish Date	03-07-2024 (5.00PM)
ii	Document Download/sale start Date	03-07-2024 (5.00PM)
iii	Date of Pre-bid meeting	06-07-2024 (11.30AM)
iv	Bid submission start date	03-07-2024 (5.00PM)
v	Document Download/sale end Date	10-07-2024 (11.00AM)
vi	Bid submission end date	10-07-2024 (11.00AM)
vii	Date and time of Bid opening	10-07-2024 (12.00PM)

Critical Dates:

- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.
- Queries by email if any, should be made at xenphemrd@gmail.com.

SCHEME WISE LIST OF WORKS OF DISTRICT GANDERBAL

e-NIT No. PHE/MRD/TS 21 OF 07/2024 Dated: 03-07-2024

Sr No	Name of Water Supply Scheme	Description of work	District	Estimated cost	Tender fee (in Rs.)	Time of completion (Days)	Status of AAA
1.	Chuntwaliwar Part 1st	SITC of Electro-Mechanical works	Ganderbal	Rs.12,53,373/-	500/-	35 Days	Accorded
2.	Chuntwaliwar Part 3rd	SITC of Electro-Mechanical works	-DO-	Rs.41,27,583/-	500/-	35 Days	Accorded

Dipk NO :- 2405/24
Date: 04-07-2024

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech.
Rural Division, Srinagar.

Samba: 539 individuals set to avail wide range of HADP scheme benefits

■ HT News Network

SAMBA, JULY 04: District Development Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma today reviewed the implementation and progress under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) scheme in the district as he chaired a meeting of stakeholders here in the meeting Hall of the DC office complex.

At the outset, Chief Agriculture Officer, S. Madan Gopal Singh put forth a comprehensive update on the advancements made in implementing the HADP across various sectors. He highlighted the promotion of vegetables/ Exotic Vegetables under Open and Hi Tech Protected Cultivation, Promotion of Beekeeping, Development of Rainfed Areas alongside efforts to encourage farmers to take up cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic plants. Additionally, initiatives promoting the production of Millets, Mushroom, Com-



mercial Floriculture, and oilseed projects were emphasized, aiming to diversify farmers' income streams.

The Chair reviewed and discussed the list of online applicants seeking credit in Agriculture and Allied sector activities under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme. A total of 539 indi-

viduals have been selected under different programmes.

The DDC reiterated the importance of scaling up the coverage of allied sector schemes, including Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, Fisheries, Horticulture, Horticulture Planning and Marketing and Sericulture. The emphasis was placed on

extending benefits to more beneficiaries, thereby maximizing the impact of the HADP programme across the district. The Chair directed to enroll maximum number of farmers on Daksh Kisan Portal for training on different projects of Holistic Agriculture Development Programme during the ongoing Kisan Sampark Abhiyan 3.0.

The Chair called upon all stakeholders for collaborative efforts towards fostering sustainable agriculture and rural development in Samba district. He also impressed upon the Banks to prioritize the sponsoring of loan cases with proper hand holding to the beneficiaries.

Additional District Development Commissioner Samba, Chief Agriculture Officer Samba, Chief Horticulture Officer Samba, District Development Manager NABARD Samba, Lead District Manager Samba, Deputy Sericulture Officer Samba and other members of the committee attended the meeting.

Health Department team holds awareness camp on Leprosy at Sarak Marmat

■ HT News Network



DODA, JULY 04: The Health Department Doda has launched a village hot spot survey after detection of a suspected Leprosy Case in Village Sarak Marmat falling within the Medical Block Assar.

On the first Day of the campaign being conducted under National Leprosy Control Programme (NLCP), a health team from CMO Office hosted a series of awareness programmes on Leprosy at the Village Sarak, Govt Middle Schools Sarak and Labbar. The team is slated to conduct house to house survey during the next two days.

Sr. Paramedical Supervisor, Surinder Bijayal who was part of the team, urged the participants to know in detail about the precautions to control leprosy and also threw light on NLCP. He said that highly effective treatment is available to cure leprosy. "Early detection and timely treatment and dosage are essential to eradicate leprosy," he added.

Moreover, along with Leprosy, awareness regarding Malaria was also imparted to the general public by the visiting team. The team comprised of Dr Javed Parray, Medical Officer Leprosy, Krishan Chand (Sr.PMA), Ram Raj (PMA) and Farooq Ahmed (JHI) from Malaria Unit Doda

Awareness Program on Women-Centric Provisions in Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhinta held at Samba

■ HT News Network

SAMBA, JULY 04: SANKALP, HEW Samba organized an awareness program at Panchayat Ghar Badheri and Dhora here today, focusing on women-centric provisions in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhinta. The team emphasized the critical importance of legal awareness among women in ensuring their safety, dignity, and justice. The program highlighted the pivotal role of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhinta in providing robust legal safeguards against crimes such as domestic violence, sexual harassment, and other forms of gender-based violence. An overview of key provisions in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhinta that offer protection and recourse to women was also deliberated upon. These include laws against domestic violence (Section 498A), sexual harassment (Section 354), and dowry-related offences. The session aimed to empower women by informing them of their legal rights and the mechanisms available to protect them.

GDC Dharmari organises plantation drive

■ HT News Network

REASI, JULY 04: National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit of the Government Degree College, Dharmari organized a plantation drive in collaboration with Divisional Forest Office, Mahore as a part of Van Mahotsav Week-observed from 1st July to 7th July every year.

As many as 25 NSS volunteers along with the officials of Forest Department and staff of the College planted various trees on the newly constructed campus of the college. The Theme of the drive was 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' which is a campaign of the central government launched by the Prime Minister on the occasion of World Environment Day 2024 during Mann Ki Baat.

Prof. Ajay Kumar, NSS program Officer of the Unit made the volunteers aware about the importance of planting trees especially during Van Mahotsav and also said that the campaign will continue till the end of this monsoon. All the faculty members also remained present on the occasion including Dr. Shabeer Ahmad Taing, Dr. Saleem Ahmed, Prof. Mohinder Singh etc.

JKTPO organises e-commerce on-boarding drive at Rajouri

■ HT News Network



RAJOURI, JULY 04: To empower potential sellers from District Rajouri with a digital platform, an e-commerce on-boarding event was conducted by the Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organisation (JKTPO) of the Industries & Commerce Department, J&K here today in the conference hall of the Dak Bungalow.

The event was organized on the directives of Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary Industries & Commerce and under the guidance of Khalid Jahangir, Managing Director JKTPO, in collaboration with the District Administration Rajouri.

The initiative focused on onboarding local sellers, artisans, retailers, small merchants, FPOs, NRLM SHG members, and traders onto the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) Network and Government e Marketplace (GeM). In partnership with ONDC Seller Partner MyStore and GeM, the goal was to provide access to a wide-ranging digital marketplace.

Over 130 local entrepreneurs, artisans, retailers, small merchants, FPOs, and traders from Rajouri participated in the event. JKTPO plans to host similar events across all districts of Jammu and Kashmir, providing ODOP and DEH entrepreneurs with opportunities to register on e-commerce platforms. This initiative aims to empower them to showcase and sell their products globally.

The onboarding drive marked a significant step in JKTPO's ongoing efforts to boost economic growth and enhance digital commerce in Jammu and Kashmir. These workshops raised awareness about the advantages of using e-commerce platforms such as ONDC/GeM, enabling businesses to extend their reach beyond conventional limits. Earlier, Banu Partap Singh, Vice President of Sales at MyStore, along with Prafull, Manager at MyStore, conducted virtual training sessions for our sellers. During the session, Javed Seikh, business facilitator GeM, emphasized the numerous advantages of joining e-commerce platforms and provided a detailed explanation of the entire onboarding process. Fareed Ahmed Kohli, General Manager of District Industries Centre (DIC) Rajouri, chaired the meeting and addressed the gathering. He emphasized on the significance of e-commerce in empowering sellers to enhance their businesses. He also mentioned that the dedicated efforts of the Government are to enhance the local economy, urging sellers to actively utilise the available benefits. The workshop was also attended by officials from various departments of the district.

Kissan Sampark Abhiyan 3.0 launched in Rajouri

■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, JULY 04: Kissan Sampark Abhiyan 3.0 was launched today in different Panchayats of 19 blocks of Rajouri District to promote benefits of Holistic Agriculture Development Programme.

The Abhiyan was launched under the overall guidance of District Development Commissioner, Om Parkash Bhagat and under close supervision of Director Sheep Husbandry Department Jammu who is also the Supervisory Officer of the programme.

The purpose of Kissan Sampark Abhiyan 3.0 is to generate awareness regarding the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme and to expedite implementation of the projects under HADP for the welfare of the farming community.

The Sampark Abhiyan was conducted simultaneously at 19 Panchayats on the day one, while it will cover all the 312 Panchayats of the District Rajouri in coming days. Training is being imparted to



farmers by the Resource Persons for orientation of Agriculture and Allied Departments through lectures as well as audio visual aids and the baseline survey is being conducted by the Resource Persons for Baseline Survey/Skill Gap Survey of the farmers who attended the training programme.

District Nodal Officer for Kissan Sampark Abhiyan 3.0, District Sheep Husbandry Officer Rajouri, Dr. P. P. Sajotra informed that during KSA 3.0, a special focus is being laid on awareness of credit linked schemes and purpose of opening Kissan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs) in various Panchayats.

DC discusses formulation of plan for construction of Revenue buildings in Udhampur

■ HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, JULY 04: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai chaired a meeting with officers and field functionaries of the Revenue Department to discuss plans for the construction of proposed Revenue buildings across various sub-divisions in the district.

The meeting was attended by ACR Dr. Umesh Shan, ACD Dr. Ranjit Singh Kotwal, CPO Mohammad Iqbal, SDMs, Tehsildars and XEN PWD from Chenani, Ramnagar and Udhampur.

At the onset, ACR Udhampur apprised the chair about the plan formulated for the construction of Revenue buildings in various



sub-divisions. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for maximum utilization of resources and directed the XENs to coordinate closely with the SDMs to understand their specific requirements. XENs were instructed to prepare and submit Detailed Project Reports (DPRs)

and estimates for the proposed buildings at the earliest.

She stressed the importance of having ready land parcels and directed the SDMs to ensure that the necessary land is available for the construction of the projects.

Horticulture Department organises Farmers' interaction program at Border Pyt. Palanwalla

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, JULY 04: The Department of Horticulture Jammu organized a one-day farmers' interaction programme, here today in the border area of Panchayat Palanwalla-Khour.

Director Horticulture Jammu Chaman Lal Sharma chaired the event in presence of Chief Horticulture Officer Jammu, Rakesh Kotwal, MCC Uttam Lal and Horticulture Development Officer Khour, Amit Saraf. A large number of participants, with a notable presence of women and unemployed youth, attended the event underscoring the community's keen interest in agricultural devel-

opment. The Director highlighted central and UT Government-sponsored schemes available to farmers, with a special focus on the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP). He elaborated on the benefits these schemes offer, particularly to unemployed youth and women farmers. By setting up small-scale fruit processing units and forming self-help groups, farmers can achieve self-reliance and create employment opportunities within their communities. He also stressed the importance of these initiatives in promoting sustainable agricultural practices and enhancing the economic stability of farmers.

DECC Ramban organises Job Fair

■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, JULY 04: The District Employment and Counselling Centre (DECC) cum Model Career Centre Ramban held a highly successful job fair today, drawing hundreds of eager job seekers to its premises.

The event was inaugurated in the presence of General Manager District Industries Centre (DIC) Ravinder Kumar; Assistant Director Employment Amit Kumar and Director Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) Harwinder Singh.

After the inauguration, Amit Kumar highlighted the crucial role of the Employment Department in addressing unemployment issues. He reiterated the department's commitment to supporting unemployed youth by providing them a platform to connect with potential employers. He also urged the participating com-



panies to maximize youth engagement, thereby offering a plethora of career opportunities.

In addition to job placements, the event featured a comprehensive Counselling and Guidance session. Amit Kumar emphasized the department's efforts in linking job seekers with employers.

Aamir Hassan, Career Counseling Officer, discussed the JK Employment Portal

and introduced various self-employment schemes like Mumkin and Tejaswani. Lovepreet Singh, Young Professional, elaborated on the National Career Service under the Union Ministry of Labour and Employment, detailing the processes for job registration, job fairs, and DigiSaksham courses available on the NCS portal.

Furthermore, Ravinder Kumar, General Manager DIC shared insights into

schemes for industrial establishment and entrepreneurship under District Industries Centre Ramban and PMEGP Scheme.

The job fair saw enthusiastic participation, with over 250 job seekers applying for more than 400 vacancies. Notable companies such as Shriram Finance, Shriram Insurance, Bajaj Finance, ICICI Bank, LIC, and Urban Money were among the nine employers present. By the end of the day, over 75 applicants were shortlisted, and one candidate received an on-the-spot appointment letter. Additionally, 200 candidates were registered with the employment department during the event.

Various departments, including the Rural Self Employment Institute, District Industries Centre Ramban and the Handloom and Handicrafts Department, also conducted on-the-spot awareness and registration drives for government schemes.

EDITORIAL

Unprecedented heat wave causes problems for people

Kashmir is reeling under severe heat wave conditions and the people are facing numerous problems in carrying out their daily chores of life. Over the past 10 days or so both the maximum and minimum temperatures are hovering many notches over the normal temperature recorded at this point of time. The above normal temperature is causing problems for the people and they could be seen sipping water and other fluids in order to keep themselves hydrated.

In this whole scenario the students, especially the little children are the worst hit since they have to go to the schools during extreme weather conditions. Even though some of the officers of the school education department have claimed that summer vacation for the schools will start from July 8 (Monday) the same is yet to be substantiated. As on date there is confusion and the air is yet to be cleared thus leaving the students and their parents in a lurch.

The doctors have been asking the people to stay hydrated during the hot days and advised them not to venture out of their homes during the day time. Since the mornings and the evenings are comparatively cool people especially the senior citizens and children have been asked to come out during these hours. One can imagine the situation of the people doing laborious jobs and the same is done during the day time.

As the Meteorological department has forecast for rains from July 5 to July 7 one can expect the situation to change and the weather is expected to be favourable. People are yearning for a change in the weather pattern as in Kashmir once the mercury crosses the 33 degrees mark the rains are bound to arrive. Since the temperature has already crossed the 35 degrees mark there is a possibility of rains in the coming days.

People are keeping their fingers crossed since there is a forecast for flash floods during the period of July 5 and July 7. One can hope that there is normal rainfall and no abnormal activity is seen in this regard. This will ensure that there is steady rainfall with no flash flood whatsoever. Once there is normal rainfall there are no problems for the common masses and the problems arise only when more than normal rainfall is recorded. The same was seen in the national capital in the previous week at the onset of monsoon season.

Er Rashid: An Idea, Not Just an Individual

“The electoral victory, achieved under the most challenging circumstances, underscores that Er Rashid is not merely a politician but an idea—a powerful vision of what Jammu and Kashmir's political landscape could be”



■ SOHAIL KHAN

In an extraordinary display of democratic resilience, the recent Parliamentary elections in North Kashmir's Baramulla constituency marked a significant political shift. Er Rashid, who has been languishing in Tihar Jail for nearly five years without a chargesheet, clinched a resounding victory. This triumph, achieved without his physical presence and through a brief 13-day campaign led by his son Abrar Rashid, signifies more than a political win—it heralds the rise of an idea whose time has come.

Er Rashid's victory is a testament to the deep-rooted connection he shares with the people of Jammu and Kashmir, particularly the youth. Historically disengaged and skeptical of the mainstream political process, the youth came out in droves, swelling voter turnout to an unprecedented 60%. This surge is a direct response to Er Rashid's consistent advocacy for their rights and his embodiment of their aspirations.

The campaign itself saw unprecedented grassroots support. Participants funded the rallies out of their own pockets, and volunteers created posters and banners with their hard-earned money. Er Rashid's party spent a mere 26,000 rupees on the entire campaign. This broke the long-standing belief that only those with substantial financial resources could win elections, highlighting instead the power of genuine, widespread public support.

From his beginnings as a construction engineer at JKPC, Er Rashid was distinguished by his integrity and prolific writings. His articles in "Chatan" were powerful indictments against



human rights abuses and corruption. Despite facing systemic harassment and torture, Rashid's commitment to justice propelled him into politics, where he won the Langate assembly constituency twice, shocking the political establishment.

As an MLA, Er Rashid broke the mold of the conventional politician. Rejecting the trappings of power, he shunned security details and government perks, choosing instead to live among the people he served. His choice to educate his son in a government school was a bold statement against the inequality in education, reinforcing his belief that public servants should share the lived experiences of the common man. His simple attire—a kurta pajama and pheran—was a symbol of his deep cultural roots and his solidarity with the ordinary Kashmiri.

Er Rashid's political journey is characterized by his unwavering stand for human rights and his direct action approach, often joining the people in street protests. His accessibility and grassroots activism won him admiration and support across Jammu and

Kashmir. However, his arrest in 2019 under the UAPA by the NIA, and the subsequent silence of mainstream political leaders, seemed to push him to the margins of political discourse.

Yet, the silence of the political elite could not extinguish the fervor he ignited in the hearts of the people. The electoral victory, achieved under the most challenging circumstances, underscores that Er Rashid is not merely a politician but an idea—a powerful vision of what Jammu and Kashmir's political landscape could be. His success is a resounding rejection of VIP culture, dynastic politics, and corruption, and a call for genuine democracy and governance by the people, for the people.

Er Rashid's impact extends far beyond his electoral achievements. He is a statesman whose ideals resonate deeply with the youth and the disenfranchised. By re-engaging the youth with the democratic process, he has accomplished what no other political leader in the region has managed in decades. His ability to inspire and mobilize young voters reflects a profound shift towards a more participatory and

hopeful political future for Jammu and Kashmir. In a region fraught with political instability and disenchantment, Er Rashid's vision provides a beacon of hope. His journey from a principled engineer to a symbol of democratic resilience illustrates the transformative power of steadfast commitment to justice and equality. His story is not just one of personal endurance but a compelling argument for the kind of leadership Jammu and Kashmir desperately needs.

Er Rashid represents an idea—an idea that transcends traditional politics and offers a new paradigm of leadership. His commitment to democratic principles, transparency, and grassroots activism is precisely what is needed to navigate the complexities of Jammu and Kashmir's political landscape. In Er Rashid, the people see not just a leader, but a visionary statesman whose ideals and actions speak to a brighter, more inclusive future.

Sohail Khan is a Socio-Political Activist & associated with J&K RTI Movement

India's Glory Of Triumph In ICC T20 World Cup

Their successes underscore the value of perseverance and dedication in achieving long-term goals



■ BY MOOL RAJ

India's victory in the World Cup has not just been a celebration of cricketing prowess but a masterclass in resilience, teamwork, and belief. As the nation revels in the glory of this triumph, there are profound lessons that extend far beyond the boundaries of the cricket field, resonating deeply with organizations and individuals striving for success in any field.

One major lesson is to understand the power of consistency and team unity. Throughout the tournament, Team India exemplified consistency and unity. Despite facing challenges and close calls, they never wavered in their determination. This steadfastness mirrored their commitment to a collective

goal, where individual brilliance blended seamlessly with team ethos. Rahul Dravid's calm, yet inspiring leadership, as coach fostered an environment where every player felt valued and motivated, emphasizing the crucial role of leadership in nurturing talent and fostering a winning mentality. Rohit Sharma's role in the victory transcends mere captaincy; it embodies a spirit that inspires both on and off the field. Despite not captaining his IPL team, Mumbai Indians, this season, Rohit Sharma seamlessly stepped into the leadership role for the national team, showcasing resilience and adaptability. His calm demeanor under pressure and strategic acumen were pivotal in guiding India to success.

So how much you really believe in your senior employees? One of the standout narratives was the unwavering belief in key players, despite temporary setbacks. Virat Kohli's resurgence in the final of the tournament underscored the importance of supporting and trusting individuals who have proven themselves under pressure. This lesson resonates deeply in organizational contexts, where recognizing and empowering top performers can lead to transformative



outcomes. They will be handy in your tough situations. Advertisement

Then there are stories of Rishabh Pant, who overcame a recent accident to deliver outstanding performances, and Jasprit Bumrah's journey from fitness concerns to becoming a bowling stalwart, highlight the power of resilience and determination. Their successes underscore the value of persever-

ance and dedication in achieving long-term goals by winning the world cup, offering a poignant reminder to individuals and organizations alike that setbacks are temporary and can be overcome with grit and resolve. Advertisement

The seamless integration of experienced stalwarts with enthusiastic youngsters was pivotal to India's success. The mutual respect between seniors like Rohit Sharma,

Virat Kohli, Jasprit Bumrah and the exuberance of younger players exemplified a harmonious blend that maximized team potential. This synergy underscores the importance of mentorship and collaboration in fostering innovation and sustainable growth within organizations. Advertisement

This victory is not just about winning a trophy but about uniting a nation through sporting excel-

lence. It showcases the profound impact of collective achievement, inspiring millions and instilling a sense of pride and unity across diverse communities. This collective celebration underscores the importance of shared goals and camaraderie in driving organizational success and fostering a positive work culture. More In

Disentangled Morality! Anantnag fire incident A Hoax Adding Miseries to People A practice rooted in religion and tradition

Individuals and modern-day organizations have key takeaways from this world cup glory. For organizations striving for excellence, the World Cup victory offers invaluable insights. Emphasizing consistency, nurturing talent with supportive leadership, believing in and empowering top performers, fostering resilience, and promoting a harmonious blend of experience and innovation are key takeaways. By embracing these principles, organizations can cultivate a winning culture that fosters growth, innovation, and sustained success.

THE AUTHOR IS A REGULAR COLUMNIST AND FREELANCE WRITER

LOST IN THE DREAM THE FANTASY EPIDEMIC

It's time to escape the fantasy land and adopt a more grounded strategy for success



■ By Mool Raj

In a society where success is frequently defined by the scope of one's goals, the younger generation is sliding into a fantasy trap. The idea that if you can imagine it, you can accomplish it has become a catchphrase, but what happens when imagination trumps reality? Let us take a voyage inside the brains of today's young, where overconfidence meets overstimulation, to investigate the underlying reasons and potential answers to this developing problems.

Young people are inundated with images of success from an early age, whether it's social media influencers displaying their beautiful lifestyles or self-help gurus touting the secret to reaching your ambitions. The pressure to succeed has never been greater, and with it comes the tendency to overemphasize what success looks like.

The figures present a grim picture: in India alone, suicide rates among young people were dangerously high. The pressure to achieve academically, combined with growing living costs and a continual onslaught of unreasonable expectations, is having a negative impact on young people's mental health.

But why do young people fall into the temptation of fantasy? Perhaps it's the perception that success is merely a pipe-dream, driven by a culture that celebrates overnight success and fast pleasure. Perhaps it's the fear of losing out on the glossy lives represented on social media that motivates young people to pursue unachievable goals.

In the big theater of life, where the drama of desire and accomplishment never ends, the youthful generation is thrown onto the stage, overwhelmed with the glaring glare of expectations and the loud applause of cultural conventions. But beyond the sparkling facade of prospects



lurks a deadly truth: the pressure to start a job from birth is more than simply a demanding endeavour; it's a relentless beast nibbling away at our youth's mental health.

Consider this scenario: a classroom full of eager minds, not thirsty for education, but ravenous for grades. In this bizarre world, the pursuit of education has deteriorated into a high-stakes game in which success is evaluated not by depth of learning, but by the letters on a report card. The young scholars, chained by performance measures, are drowning under the weight of expectations. As if that weren't enough, the coming cost-of-living problem adds another layer of dread to our youth's already heavy burdens. While adults deal with growing pricing and economic volatility, the younger generation is forced to navigate a world where even essentials are too expensive. Imagine being a youngster and worried about putting food on the table instead of playing in the sun.

But wait — there's more! In the age of quick gratification and social media glitz, the appeal of success has evolved. Our kids are no longer satisfied with the slow burn of hard labour and persistence; instead, they are enticed by the promise of instant success and luxurious lives. Europe travels

and luxury living become the holy grail, with education reduced to a simple stepping stone, a means to an end rather than an enlightening journey.

Enter the realm of financial capitalism, where everything, from cigarette sales to unpaid parking fees, is up for investment. The formerly honourable goal of accumulating riches has devolved into a frantic game of risk-taking and speculating. The younger generation is left to forge forth unguided on this perilous terrain, where fortunes can be built or lost in the blink of an eye. So let's cast off the chains of expectation and adopt a fresh definition of success that prioritises the welfare of our children above all else. Let's be passionate and resilient. It's time to change the course of events and establish a society in which pursuing happiness comes before pursuing wealth. The spotlight is yours, and the stage is set. Will you take advantage of this opportunity to redefine success for future generations?

It's time to escape the fantasy land and adopt a more grounded strategy for success. Young people's mindsets are greatly influenced by their schools, parents and peers, who also give them the support and direction they need to face the challenges of adulthood. Education is essential for instill-

ing in young people the values of tenacity, resilience and hard effort outside of the classroom. We may assist young people in developing the skills necessary to thrive in the real world by educating them to focus on the process rather than the result and instilling in them a sense of realistic expectations.

Young people's mental health can also be greatly aided by parents and peers, who can offer a judgment-free, safe space for them to share their worries and anxieties. Young people can feel less overwhelmed by the demands of success by supporting a good work-life balance and encouraging open communication. But hope exists despite the mayhem and disarray. We may start to map out a course of action by identifying the underlying causes of the issue. Together, friends, parents and schools must redefine success and place a higher priority on mental health than financial gain. Learning should be a process of self-discovery rather than a competition for excellence.

It's time to accept that there is no one-size-fits-all recipe for success and that true success requires perseverance, hardwork and dedication. Together, let's cultivate a mindset that prioritises progress over perfection and places equal weight on the

Enter the realm of financial capitalism, where everything, from cigarette sales to unpaid parking fees, is up for investment. The formerly honourable goal of accumulating riches has devolved into a frantic game of risk-taking and speculating. The younger generation is left to forge forth unguided on this perilous terrain, where fortunes can be built or lost in the blink of an eye. So let's cast off the chains of expectation and adopt a fresh definition of success that prioritises the welfare of our children above all else. Let's be passionate and resilient. It's time to change the course of events and establish a society in which pursuing happiness comes before pursuing wealth. The spotlight is yours, and the stage is set. Will you take advantage of this opportunity to redefine success for future generations?

process and the result. We can equip our youth to flourish in a world that is becoming more complex by supporting and assisting them in the development of a positive mindset.

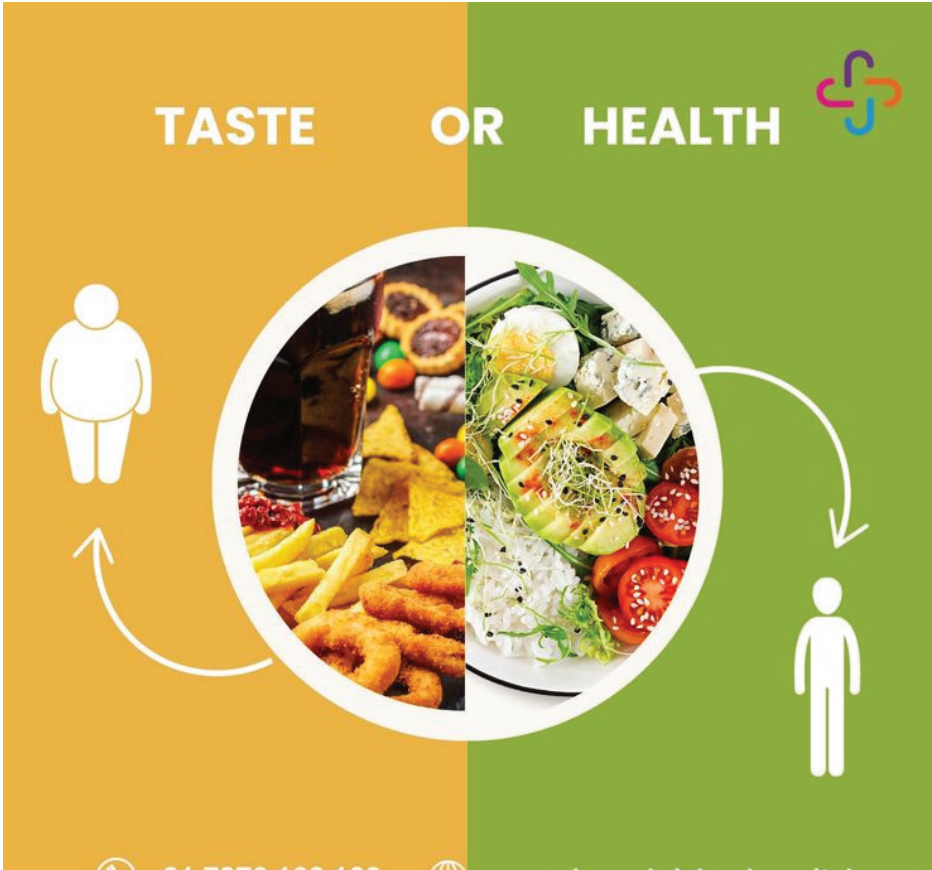
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Taste vs Health

■ Vijay Garg

Be it someone's birthday, marriage ceremony or any other occasion, today the presence of 'fast food' has become mandatory in every kind of celebration. In our times, Halwa Puri and mint chutney are now out of trend and are considered to be a food of 'backward' taste. Now no one even wants to mention them. Pizza and burgers have reached not only towns but every village. Therefore, now people living in villages do not have to run to the city for pastries and pasta. professionally prepared food homeSome of the delivery companies are so sophisticated and proficient in technology that they have left their mark in a very short time. Here too the tastes of children are coming to change. Today, the names of more than twenty-four thousand villages in India are registered with five fast food delivery companies. Further preparations are also going on. Perhaps the aim is to spread awareness among other villages by organizing programs in the village. Parents' names, types of pasta and sandwiches are now remembered by many five-year-olds going to school. about five years oldAnd children even recognize Manchurian. Today, in the Indian society, these sweet and salty fast foods have made a deep place on the taste buds of children as much as the desi dishes like Navratna chutney, ghee flour pudding, laddus, coconut kheer, pakodas, spicy potatoes etc. could not create. These old things are now being forgotten. Every day new experiments are being done in the business of instant food or fast food. Their

shape, type of chemicals, taste, aroma, colour, variety and convenience in eating are the main reasons for the popularity of fast food. It is not without reason that the space for traditional food and food styles is now shrinking rapidly. People's tastes are changing. Such attraction has arisen towards it that some people have started believing that it awakens suppressed hunger. As soon as the name of pizza or burger is mentioned, a tasty image starts forming in the mind of some people. An addiction-like interest needs to be studied to find out why it happens if it happens. What is used in this that makes people think like this? Today the situation is such that a piece of burger is in the mouth. If a person eats parantha with pleasure, keeping his eyes closed, he may feel disinterested. Whereas the qualities of Paratha are many times more than that of Pizza. But people probably don't even think about this now. Till two-three decades ago, the quality of food was taken into consideration. It was also seen that it was fresh. Now there is no use of fresh or stale. Stale sandwiches can be made hot and fresh in just a few seconds in the 'oven'. According to one figure, at least two million 'fast food' boxes or parcels were supplied to the capital alone. It takes place in Delhi. These especially include sandwiches, pizza, burgers etc. This may be surprising, but the figures of sales of cold drinks may be even more surprising. Dive into the world of tastes and flavors and forget about health, this is the aim of the fast food business. Opening the parcel and taking out hot food from it and then sitting comfortably and



biting each mouthful of it with your teeth, making it juicy with your tongue, is a kind of happiness and getting lost in it. Some time ago a western singer was promoting a fast food. It was being eaten with relish. One of his indications was that why should one bother worrying about food? People

seeing him like this would also be forgetting dal, rice, roti, saag, raita, papad and chutney and would be indulging in the same food. Seeing an attractive advertisement, even a strong mind starts moving along with it. Be it children or teenagers, youth or adults, they get trapped in the

trap of fast food, which is considered a measure of status, as if a snake is confused with a rope. The irony is that such ignorance persists despite suffering its losses. didn't fix itgo. Even if there is constipation, diarrhoea, sore throat, body starts aching due to food containing chemicals, hair starts falling, teeth get damaged, ears start hurting. But people like to remain immersed in the same hypnosis again and again to satisfy their next hunger. Nowadays, small children are becoming fond of this type of food and are harming their health under the illusion of its being half imaginary, half familiar, half true. One must be concerned about their future. The purpose of eating this kind of food is neither to improve one's health, nor to provide good medicinal value to anyone through food. Dishes containing N have to be served. Diarrhea is completely cured by eating raita and rice in our traditional food. If delicious moong dal cheela is eaten with mint chutney, it also cures stomach problems, i.e. indigestion and constipation. If coconut chutney and gram roti or stuffed bitter gourd are eaten with pleasure, stomach worms die. Eating onion salad prevents heatstroke. Fenugreek chapatti or pakoda relieves body pain. The question is, how much does eating instant food from the market, which is spread everywhere, improve health? If only the taste and If you get immersed in attraction, you will not only lose your money but your health will also be at stake.

**Vijay Garg Educational Columnist
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"Indian Army Committed To Welfare Of Agniveers," Says Rajnath Singh

■ HT News Network

New Delhi: Reacting to the clarification issued by the Indian Army on the emoluments to Agniveer Ajay Kumar, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said that the "Indian Army is committed to the welfare of Agniveers." Taking to X, the defence minister wrote, "Indian Army is committed to the welfare of Agniveers!" Indian Army's Additional Directorate General of Public Information (ADGPI) posted a 'clarification on emoluments to Agniveer Ajay Kumar' on Wednesday and said certain posts on social media have brought out that compensation hasn't been paid to the next of kin of the Agniveer. "Certain posts on Social Media have brought out that compensation hasn't been paid to the next of Kin of Agniveer Ajay Kumar who lost his life in the line of duty. "It is emphasised that the Indian Army salutes the supreme sacrifice made by Agniveer Ajay Kumar. The last rites were carried out with full Military Honours. Of the total amount due, family of Agniveer Ajay has already been paid 98.39



lakhs," ADGPI said in a post on X. "Ex - Gratia and other benefits amounting to approximately 67 lakhs, as applicable according to the provisions of the Agniveer Scheme, will be paid on Final Account Settlement shortly post-due police verification. The total amount will be 1.65 Cr approximately. It is re-emphasised that emoluments due to a fallen hero are paid expeditiously to the Next of Kin of departed soldiers, including Agniveers," it added. Earlier in the day, Leader of Opposition and Congress leader Rahul

Gandhi accused Defence Minister Rajnath Singh of "lying" on the floor of the Lok Sabha over the Agniveer scheme and demanded an apology. In his video message on X, Rahul Gandhi said that Singh had lied in Parliament about the issue of compensation to families of killed Agniveers. "The importance of truth in every religion. Rajnath Singh lied before Lord Shiva's photo about the compensation to the country, its armed forces, and Agniveers. I have said in my speech that don't listen to me or his (Rajnath Singh) speech,

but listen to the family of Agniveer family," the Leader of the Opposition said in a video message. He shared the video of the father of Agniveer Ajay Singh who died in Jammu and Kashmir and said that despite Singh's claims, his family had not received the promised compensation. Ajay Singh's father said, "Rajnath Singh made the statement that families of killed soldiers have been given 1 crore compensation but no such assistance had been received by his family. Rahul Gandhi is raising our voice in Parliament that families of martyrs must get all necessary help. Agniveer recruitment must stop and regular recruitment should be reinstated," the father of Agniveer Ajay Singh said. The Congress leader demanded an apology from the Defence Minister. "The Defence minister had lied to the family of killed Ajay Singh ji, the armed forces and the youth of the country, and must apologise to them. Daro mat, Darao mat," he added. The Congress leader demanded an apology from the Defence Minister. "The Defence minister had lied to the family of killed Ajay Singh ji.

In Tit-For-Tat Move, Congress Flags PM Modi's Speech In Parliament

■ HT News Network

New Delhi: Adopting a tit-for-tat strategy to counter the BJP's offensive in Parliament, the Congress has written to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, flagging "inaccuracies" in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address replying to the Motion of Thanks to the President's address. The main Opposition has also flagged Hamirpur MP and former Union minister Anurag Thakur's speech in Lok Sabha. The Congress's move comes after the uproar over Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi's address in Lok Sabha. Several portions of the speech were expunged and the BJP submitted a notice against the inaccuracies. Commenting on the notice by BJP MP Bansuri Swaraj, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said any member trying to mislead the House won't get away easily and "rules will get them". Congress MP Manickam Tagore has written to the Speaker, requesting that Direction 115(1) be invoked. The direction states: "A member wishing to point out any mistake or inaccuracy in a statement made by a Minister or any other member shall, before referring to the matter in the House, write to the Speaker pointing out the particulars of the mistake or inaccuracy and seek the permission of the speaker to raise the matter in the House." "In view of foregoing as per procedural norms, therefore, request you take note of the factually incorrect, inaccurate and misleading statements made by Prime Minister and Shri Anurag Thakur



requisite proceedings be initiated and appropriate action be taken in this regard," Mr Tagore has said. Among the parts of Mr Thakur the Congress has flagged are his claims that the Indian forces did not have fighter jets and adequate weaponry before the BJP came to power in 2014. "We had Jaguar, Mig 29, SU-30, Mirage 2000. We had nuclear bomb, missiles like Agni, Prithvi, Aakash, Nag, Trishul and later Brahmos," the Congress MP has pointed out. He has also challenged the government's claim that 25 crore people have been brought over the poverty line in the past 10 years. In the Prime Minister's speech, the Congress MP has said he had inaccurately claimed that the Congress's vote share went down in 16 states where it contested alone. "This is factually incorrect. Congress vote share increased in Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Karnataka, Telangana etc," he has said. On the Prime Minister's charge that the Congress made a "false promise" of giving 8,500.

No Scope For AAP-Congress Tie-Up For Haryana, Delhi Polls: Jairam Ramesh

■ HT News Network

New Delhi: There is no scope for an alliance between the Congress and the AAP for assembly polls in Haryana and Delhi but the INDIA bloc will fight elections together in Maharashtra and Jharkhand, AICC general secretary Jairam Ramesh said on Thursday. In an interview with PTI, Mr Ramesh said there is no one formula the INDIA bloc will follow for state elections. The grouping will fight together in states where Congress leaders and other alliance partners agree to such an understanding, he said. Asked whether the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) will fight the assembly polls together going forward, Mr Ramesh said the alliance will do so in Jharkhand and Maharashtra. "There is no INDIA 'janbandhan' in Punjab. In Haryana, we had given one seat to the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the Lok Sabha polls but I don't think that INDIA



janbandhan will be there for assembly polls. In Delhi, the AAP itself has said that INDIA janbandhan will not be there for assembly polls," Mr Ramesh said. The Congress and the AAP had fought the Lok Sabha polls together in Delhi, while they contested separately in Punjab. Mr Ramesh said, "In the context of West Bengal also, I had said that the INDIA bloc is for Lok Sabha polls but in states where the circumstances are such that our leaders of the state and leaders of our alliance partners want, the alliance will remain.

Respecting LAC Is Essential, S Jaishankar Tells Chinese Counterpart

■ HT News Network

Astana/New Delhi: Respecting the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and ensuring peace at the India-China border is essential, Foreign Minister S Jaishankar has conveyed to his Chinese counterpart amid efforts to reduce border tensions between the two countries.

India and China have agreed to redouble efforts through diplomatic and military channels to address the remaining border issues, said Mr Jaishankar. The two neighbours have been holding talks at different levels to resolve the dragging border row in eastern Ladakh. Mr Jaishankar discussed the issue with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi this morning in the Kazakh capital of Astana on the sidelines of the



Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit. "Met with CPC Politburo member and FM Wang Yi in Astana this morning. Discussed early resolution of remaining issues in border areas. Agreed to redouble efforts through diplomatic and military channels to that

end," he said.

"Respecting the LAC and ensuring peace and tranquility in the border areas is essential. The three mutuals - mutual respect, mutual sensitivity and mutual interest - will guide our bilateral ties," the Foreign Minister added.

India and Chinese troops had clashed in the Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh in 2020, followed by another clash along the LAC in Arunachal Pradesh's Tawang sector in 2022. After the Arunachal incident, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had accused China of trying to "unilaterally" change the status quo along the LAC.

India maintains that unless there is peace in the border areas, its ties with China cannot be normal. "Respecting the LAC and ensuring peace and tranquility in the border areas is essential. The three mutuals - mutual respect, mutual sensitivity and mutual interest - will guide our bilateral ties," the Foreign Minister added.

India and Chinese troops had clashed in the Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh in 2020.

Kirodi Lal Meena Quits As Rajasthan Minister, Fulfills "If BJP Loses" Promise

■ HT News Network

Jaipur: Rajasthan BJP leader Kirodi Lal Meena, 72, has announced his resignation - at a public prayer meeting in Jaipur - from the state cabinet and all posts.

Mr Meena - who held multiple portfolios, including Agriculture and Rural Development - said last month, before counting of votes for the 2024 Lok Sabha election, he would quit if the BJP lost any of the seven seats in eastern Rajasthan assigned to him by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"...the PM spoke to me and gave me a list of seven seats. I worked hard (and



if the party loses even one seat out of that seven, I will leave the post of minister..." he declared hours before counting. Given the BJP swept the state in 2014, winning 24 of its 25 seats (the 25th went to an ally), and it ousted the Congress from power in last year's Assembly election, Mr Meena's bet seemed safe.

However, in a plot twist not picked up by exit polls, the Congress-led INDIA

bloc won eight seats - after failing to win even one in 2009 and 2014 elections. Four of those - Bharatpur, Karauli-Dholpur, Dausa, and Tonk-Sawai Madhopur were among constituencies Mr Meena was tasked with winning. In Dausa, the seat previously held by Mr Meena, the Congress' Murari Meena thumped the BJP's Kanhaiya Lal Meena, by 2.37 lakh votes, to reclaim the bastion of party stalwart Rajesh Pilot.

On Thursday, Mr Meena posted the famous Ram-charitramanas lines 'Raghukul reeti sada chali aai, pran jaai parvachan na jaai' on X to underline his intent to keep his promise at any cost.

India Says UN Peacekeeping Mandates Not Rooted In "Current Realities"

■ HT News Network

United Nations: Calling for a reform of the UN Security Council, India has cautioned against its peacekeeping mandates as "not representative of current realities".

Intelligence Bureau Director Tapan Kumar Dekha said: "We call for caution on any activity that is rooted in authorisation from a Security Council that is not representative of current realities."

In his address at the UN Chiefs of Police Summit (UNCOPS) here recently, he said that because it is responsible for maintaining international peace and security, "it is important that the Security Council is a reformed body with an expansion of membership in both the permanent and non-permanent categories". He pointed out the imbalance in the regional imbalance in its membership "given that more than half of the Security Council's work is focused on Africa".

India, he said, has been consistently calling for greater representation of Africa in line with the African Union's two signature documents, the Ezulwini Consensus and the Sirte



Declaration, that demand increasing the continent's membership of the Council in the elected category and giving it at least two permanent seats. He said that the nature of armed conflicts where peacekeepers operate changed with the involvement of "non-State Armed Groups" - diplomatic speak that includes terrorists.

Their involvement has "increasingly exposed peacekeeping operations to regional and global dynamics that undermine their efforts to implement their mandate", he said.

Dekha criticised the current peacekeeping system where the mandates from the Council are not clear, the resources given to peacekeeping operations are inadequate, and there are no definitive exit strategies for ending missions,

endangering the safety of peacekeepers.

"There are divergences in interpretation of mandates between various stakeholders, which results in inadequacy of mandate delivery as well as a threat to the safety of our peacekeepers," he said. Dekha added that it is "extremely important that there is continuous and effective coordination between the UN leadership, host nation as well as Troop/Police Contributing countries" from the drafting of the Council mandates till ending missions with an exit strategy.

The peacekeeping operations should also be given adequate resources, he said.

There were 151 Indian police in UN peacekeeping operations, while 5,384 troops were deployed, according to UN statistics.

'Satsang' Organiser Among 6 Arrested After 121 Die In Hathras Stampede

■ HT News Network



New Delhi: Six people, including some of the organisers, have been arrested in a satsang or prayer meeting that ended in a deadly stampede in Uttar Pradesh.

A former police constable-turned-preacher Bhole Baba's prayer meeting in Hathras, some 200 km from Delhi, saw the deaths of 121 people, the vast majority women, after a rush to the exits among the 2,50,000 devotees who came to watch him preach.

Officials initially blamed a dust storm for sparking panic, while police later said the stampede began when "followers started to collect earth" from the ground where the preacher had passed. The self-styled godman, in his early 60s, has not been seen in public since the incident. He issued a statement on Wednesday declaring he will take legal action against "anti-social elements" that allegedly engineered the horrific chaos. Originally Suraj Pal Singh, he later changed his name to Narayan Sakar Hari or "Bhole Baba". He has expressed "deepest condolences to the families of the deceased". Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, who visited the accident site on Wednesday and met the injured, was asked why the preacher was not named in the FIR as an accused. "Prima facie, the case has been filed against those who applied for permission for the event. Whoever is responsible for this will come under its purview," said the Chief Minister. The bodies of all victims of the Hathras stampede have been identified and handed over to their families, District Magistrate Ashish Kumar said today.

Bodies Of All Hathras Stampede Victims Identified, Handed Over To Family

■ HT News Network

Hathras (UP): The bodies of all victims of the Hathras stampede have been identified and handed over to their families, District Magistrate Ashish Kumar said on Thursday.

A total of 121 people, mostly women, died and 31 were injured in the stampede at the preacher Baba Bhole's satsang in

Hathras on Tuesday. After the stampede, 21 bodies were taken to Agra, 28 to Etah, 34 were in Hathras and 38 in Aligarh, according to officials.

"All the bodies have been identified and handed over (to respective families)," Mr Kumar told PTI on Thursday. He said of the three bodies that were unidentified till Wednesday, two were recognised

late in the night and one through video call on Thursday morning. "The last body was identified by the family over a video call. They are on their way to Aligarh hospital (to get the body)," the district magistrate added. Mr Kumar, a 2015-batch IAS officer who joined as Hathras DM barely a week before the stampede, said there is no report of any missing person now.

District Admin Ramban launches NITI AAYOG's 'Sampoornata Abhiyan' in ABP Block Khari

■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, JULY 04: In a significant step towards accelerating holistic development in the region, the District Administration Ramban, under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner, Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary, today launched the Sampoornata Abhiyan under the Aspirational Block Programme (ABP) in Block Khari. The programme aims to improve the performance of areas lagging on various development parameters and convergence of resources to aid inclusive development.

The Programme was presided over by Chairperson DDC Ramban, Dr Shamshad Shan along with Deputy Commissioner Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary and Senior Scientist from NITI AAYOG Jagdish Kumar. The program witnessed the presence of DDC Councillors, Lieutenant Colonel Sultan Malik, DPO ICDS Jahangir Hashmi, CPO Ramban Shakeeb Ahmed Rather, ACP Ashfaq Khanji, other District and Sectoral officers, and a huge gathering of locals, staff were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, the Chair-



person DDC said that "Sampoornata Abhiyan is a significant step towards bridging the gap in development and ensuring inclusive growth in the Aspirational Blocks. "This initiative will converge resources,

improve infrastructure, and enhance the quality of life for our citizens", she said and urged stakeholder departments to work together to create a prosperous and vibrant society where no one is left behind. The Deputy Commissioner advocated

"Education is the key to unlocking the potential of our women and girls. Let us empower them to read, write, and lead. Female literacy is the catalyst for a prosperous and equitable society. Let us join hands to make every woman and girl a literate and independent citizen."

The Senior Scientist from NITI AAYOG explained in detail the aims and objectives of the Sampoornata Abhiyan and informed that Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP) was launched by the PM in 2023 and aims for the saturation of essential government services in the Aspirational Blocks in multiple domains such as health, nutrition, education, drinking water and sanitation, agriculture, water resources, financial inclusion, and basic infrastructure.

The NITI Aayog has launched 'Sampoornata Abhiyan', a 3-month campaign from 4th July - 30th September 2024, to undertake a sustained effort to achieve saturation of 6 key indicators in Aspirational Blocks across the country. Sampoornata Abhiyan will focus on the following 6 identified KPIs across all Aspirational Blocks; Percentage of pregnant women registered for Antenatal Care.

2 day awareness camp on e-Shram Portal organized for truck drivers, co-workers at Kishtwar

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, JULY 04: Two day awareness camp on e-Shram Portal for Truck Drivers/Helpers/Co-Workers by Labour & Employment Department Concludes Successfully at Kishtwar today wherein 8 number of truck drivers were successfully registered on e-shram portal. On the second day, the Labour & Employment Department, Kishtwar conducted an awareness camp on the e-Shram Portal for truck drivers, helpers, and co-workers at General Bus Stand Kishtwar and Police Check Post Zellna, today.

The camp aimed to educate participants about the benefits of registering on the e-Shram Portal. As many as 6 truck drivers/helpers were registered on-the-spot during the camp on the day.

Assistant Labour Commissioner (ALC) Kishtwar, Mamta Sudershan emphasized that this initiative is part of the government's efforts to promote the welfare and well-being of workers in the unorganized sector.

91 Route Permits, RCs suspended for Bovine Smuggling, other offenses in Kishtwar

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, JULY 04: To enforce road safety and curb traffic violation, the Regional Transport Authority (Member Secretary) ARTO Kishtwar, under the guidance of Chairman District Road Safety Committee (Deputy Commissioner) Dr Devansh Yadav, has launched a major crackdown against those involved in the illegal trade of bovine smuggling and other traffic violations within the district.

Acting on recommendations from the IGP Traffic Police and the Transport Commissioner Jammu, the Assistant Regional Transport Officer (Member Secretary) ARTO Mohammad Saleem Manhas has suspended 66 Route Permits/Registration Certificates of habitual traffic violation and 25 Route Permits/Registration Certificates involved in illegal transportation of bovine animals in last three months.

The ARTO stated that multiple FIRs were registered during the past three month drive. "The Drive by the Motor Vehicle Department was designed to disrupt the logistics of smuggling operations making it increasingly difficult for the smugglers to transport livestock illegally. Besides, the drive aims to enforce traffic rules and regulations, prevent accidents, and ensure a safe and secure environment for all road users" he added.

During the period from April 1, 2024, to June 30, 2024, the MVD Kishtwar challaned 1,267 vehicles for various offenses, realizing a revenue of Rs 10.72 lakh as fine.

DC Kishtwar-Chairman Road Safety Committee has issued a stern warning to all the bovine smugglers and vehicle owners whose vehicles have been used for bovine smuggling or violating the Traffic rules to desist from the wrong practice else strict action shall be taken against them including cancellation of the documents of their vehicles.

DC Samba inaugurates Workshop on Panchayat Development Plan, MGNREGA Convergence

■ HT News Network

SAMBA, JULY 4: Department of Rural Development & Panchayati on Thursday organized a District Level Workshop on Panchayat Development Plan and MGNREGA Convergence, here in the Conference Hall. The event aimed to enhance the effectiveness of rural development through the strategic integration of Panchayat Development Plans with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Samba, Abhishek Sharma, inaugurated the workshop and delivered the keynote address. In his speech, he underscored the importance of convergence in rural development schemes. Mr. Sharma noted that MGNREGA, being a demand-driven scheme, requires careful maintenance of material and labor ratios to ensure accelerated poverty alleviation and asset building. He also stressed the need for Gram Sabhas to prioritize the participation of women and marginalized sections of the community.

Assistant Commissioner Development Mehmood Riaz highlighted the critical need for convergence between Panchayat Development Plans and MGNREGA. He emphasized that such integration would lead to more efficient resource utilization and comprehensive rural development.

Nida, Thematic Expert, Department of Panchayati Raj, J&K, gave an overview of the process for preparing thematic area-wise Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP). She further elaborated on the issues, challenges, and strategies in preparing convergent GPDPs in the Union Territory (UT), along with the expectations from the line departments to facilitate the formation of integrated GPDPs.

Monika Samyal, Project Officer (PO) Samba, delivered a presentation on the convergent plan under MGNREGA. Sanjeet Singh Jamwal, CMC Samba, spoke on the significance of Participatory Development Initiatives (PDI) in attaining Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in rural areas. Chief Planning Officer Samba, Kasturi Lal, gave a presentation on UT-funded schemes to be integrated with GPDP and the role of administrative departments.

DDC Reasi reviews implementation of Self-Employment Schemes, approves new cases

■ HT News Network

REASI, JULY 04: District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, convened a comprehensive meeting today to review and expedite the sanctioning of cases under various self-employment schemes. The meeting aimed to bolster the local economy by empowering unemployed youth and aspiring entrepreneurs through financial and logistical support.

DDC emphasized the critical role of self-employment in promoting economic growth and reducing unemployment in the district. He urged the concerned departments to ensure the timely processing and disbursement of funds to beneficiaries under schemes such as the Mumkin, Tejaswini, HADP, PMFME and other self-employment oriented initiatives.



During the meeting, the DDC reviewed the progress of previously sanctioned cases and directed officials to address any bottlenecks hindering the timely approval and disbursement of new cases. He stressed the importance of efficiency in these processes to maximize the benefits to the local community.

Significantly, the DDC approved 22 cases under the Mumkin scheme and 17 cases under the Tejaswini scheme during the meeting. He instructed the bankers to expedite the processing of pending cases and to share detailed updates on their progress. Speaking during the

meeting, DDC instructed AD Employment Rekha Bali to organize the event, emphasizing the importance of such initiatives in promoting economic growth and reducing unemployment in the district. The DDC directed all relevant departments to participate by setting up stalls at the event, showcasing their respective schemes and support services.

Additionally, he highlighted the significance of monitoring and evaluation, instructing concerned officials to conduct regular follow-ups with beneficiaries to assess the impact of the schemes.

DLSA Ganderbal and CUK jointly organize Legal Awareness Programs in Legal Literacy Clubs

■ HT News Network

GANDERBAL, JULY 4: The District Legal Services Authority, Ganderbal in collaboration with the Department of Law, School of Legal Studies, Central University of Kashmir has organized legal awareness programs in Legal Literacy Clubs of DLSA Ganderbal established in various Government Schools across the district.

The objective of these programs was to educate students about their legal rights and responsibilities, to promote general legal literacy, and foster a culture of respect for the laws of the land.

The programs covered a range of topics, including basic legal rights and duties, consumer rights, women and child rights, POCSO Act, Legal Aid Services, NALSA Schemes, and Cyber Crimes and Cyber Law.

Thirty Nine number of law students participated



in the said awareness programs who in five groups went to said legal literacy clubs and imparted legal awareness among almost 1500 school students of District Ganderbal. These programs aim to empower the young minds with legal awareness and equip them with the knowledge to exercise their rights and responsibilities as responsible citizens.

The enthusiastic law students also conducted an interactive session, educating the young minds on vital legal aspects that affect their daily lives. The initiative aimed to empower the school students with

knowledge of their legal rights and responsibilities, enabling them to become aware and responsible citizens.

The event was a resounding success, with the school students showing keen interest and enthusiasm.

This initiative is a testament to the power of legal awareness and education. By imparting knowledge on legal rights and responsibilities, we can shape a better future for our society. The school students got greatly benefited by these awareness programs as was evident keeping in view their enthusiasm & urge to learn the things.

Sampoornata Abhiyan launched in Aspirational Block Khawas

■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, JULY 04: District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat today launched the Sampoornata Abhiyan in Aspirational Block Khawas, marking a significant milestone in the developmental journey of the district.

DDC Member Budhal Old-A, Shazia Kouser; DDC Member Moughla, Shamim Akhter; DDC Member Budhal New, Nasreen Akhter and ADC Koteranka, Dil Mir, besides district/sectoral officers local public and former PRI members attended the launch event. The objective of the Sam-



poornata Abhiyan is to saturate the specified indicators in the Aspirational Block within a span of three months (from 4th of July 2024 to 30 September 2024) through an Action Plan, thereby fulfilling the principle of Sampoornata.

The District Development Com-

missioner, in his address, stressed the significance of Aspirational Blocks, stating that Block Khawas is one of the 500 identified blocks in the country and 10th in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized that these blocks require special focus to transform them into inspirational ones.

The DDC explained that a special strategy for the development of the block was framed during 2023-24, and new works have been initiated. He emphasized that the current phase (2024-25) is focused on saturation, where all six KPIs, out 40+1 prioritized indicators, must be achieved at the specified time. He laid special emphasis on synergy among stakeholders.

PWD (R&B) starts upgradation work on Patnitop-Sanasar Road

■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, JULY 04: The Public Works (R&B) Department Ramban today initiated the up-gradation work on the Patnitop-Sanasar road, starting from the 11th kilometer to the 14th kilometer, with an estimated cost of Rs. 19.91 crore for Phase-1. This project includes the construction of a concrete road and is set to significantly enhance local transportation.

Member District Development Council Batote, Jagbir Das, launched the construction work in presence of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Ramban, Abhishek Gupta, Assistant Executive Engineer Batote, Satbir Singh, and Assistant Engineer, Abhinandan Gupta, along with other officials and local dignitaries. The renovation of the road stretch was a long pending demand of local citizens and tourists, which receives heavy snowfall and rainfall all year round. This stretch of the road will be upgraded to intermediate concrete road with adequate cross drainage works, protection works, safety features, etc.

DDC reviews saturation of Farmers Producer Organizations in Reasi District

■ HT News Network

REASI, JULY 04: District Development Commissioner Reasi Vishesh Mahajan chaired a meeting of the District Monitoring Committee on 10000 FPO Central Sector scheme here in the DC Office complex to review the saturation and formulation of FPOs in the District.

The scheme envisages to organize small and marginal farmers into business organizations by pooling their efforts on input supply and production management so that they can reap the benefits of collaboration.

The DC reviewed the present status of the formation of FPOs in the twelve blocks of the District, of which FPOs have been formed and registered in 10 blocks. He



instructed the JCC Bank, one of the cluster based business organizations, to speed up the formation of FPOs in the remaining two blocks viz; Chassana and Gulabgarh.

The DDC also gave go-ahead to the three-month campaign initiated by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare under MoA&FW, which aims to

equip the FPOs with farming related business licenses viz; fertilizer, seeds, pesticides, e-NAM registration, GST registration, FSSAI, ONDC onboarding, etc. He instructed the department of agriculture, nodal department for the campaign to initiate the campaign in coordination with other departments & FPOs.

He guided the FPOs to promote specific crops like Ginger, Turmeric, Garlic, Lemon Grass, etc, in cluster mode so as to develop crop specific villages wherein the supply side as well as the processing cum value addition by FPOs could be done with better economies. He instructed the FPOs to put in efforts to achieve the sales target of up to 25.00 lakh set for the FY 2024-25, while asking the concerned departments to appoint one officer for coordinating with FPOs at Block level.

The meeting was attended by CPO Narinder Kumar; Senior Scientist KVK Dr. Banarsi Lal; DDM NABARD Adarsh Gupta; LDM GM Wani; Chief Agriculture Officer Harbans Singh; CHO Rajinder Lochan; Deputy Registrar Cooperative society Bhawani Attri; Branch Manager JCC Bank Munish Sharma and FPO representatives.

DC Kulgam Chairs Monthly NCORD Meeting

Reviews implementation of decisions & directives passed in previous meeting

■ **Farooq Rather**

KULGAM, JULY 04: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan, today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee under the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) to discuss various measures aimed at curbing drug abuse and narcotic trade in the district.

The meeting reviewed the implementation of decisions and directives passed in previous sessions.

A thorough discussion was held on several issues related to drug addiction, areas of concern, hotspots of drug use, and the actions taken by the concerned departments to combat the menace of drugs.

The meeting also focused on the efforts of enforcement agencies in addressing drug abuse and narcotic trafficking within the district.

It was reported that 16 Panchayats comprised of 27 villages in the district have been declared drug-free to date.

It was also shared that during the current month, 08 drug peddlers were arrested, and 08 FIRs were registered.

The Deputy Commissioner instructed the concerned officials to convene regular meetings of Tehsil and Gram Panchayat level committees.

The Assistant Drug Controller reported that they have conducted 58 inspections suspended 06 Licenses and 17 samples were also lifted and sent for analysis to ascertain the quality parameters in the current month.

It was also shared that the district achieved a 100% target in the installation of CCTV cameras, and efforts are underway to achieve a 100% target in CBS.

The meeting was attended by DPO, Abdul Rasheed, ACP, GM DIC, DSP HQ, and other officers from the police and civil administration.

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DDC Kulgam Reviews Performance Under District Good Governance Index for FY 2023-24,

■ **Farooq Rather**



KULGAM, JULY 04: A meeting of officers was conducted under the chairmanship of District Development Commissioner Kulgam Athar Aamir Khan wherein performance under District Good Governance Index was assessed for FY 2023-24.

The sectors which came under review included agriculture, horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Health, Education, Rural Development, Industries & Financial Inclusion.

Overall Performance under 58 indicators was discussed threadbare and the sectoral officers were impressed upon to improve their performance with people centric initiatives and saturation of schemes.

The meeting was attended by JDP, Zahid Sajjad, DPO, Abdul Rasheed, ACP, GM DIC, DSEO and other officers.

Launch of Sampoonnata Abhiyan in Aspirational Block Ichegoza

■ **HT News Network**

PULWAM, JULY 04 District Pulwama is organizing an event to launch the Sampoonnata Abhiyan on 6th July 2024 for Aspirational Block Ichegoza at Eidgah Abhama. The Abhiyan aims to achieve saturation of six indicators pertaining to Health, Nutrition, Agriculture, and Social Development.

During the programme, various outreach activities will be organized by departments to sensitize the people about Sampoonnata Abhiyan. For the successful conduct of the Abhiyan, participation of District/Block level officials, frontline workers, public representatives, local artists, community leaders, students, and the general public from the block will be attending.

This initiative is a significant step towards the holistic development of Aspirational Block Ichegoza, aiming to enhance the quality of life for its residents through focused interventions in key sectors.

DC Budgam reviews progress of schemes under Mission Youth

■ **HT News Network**

BUDGAM, JULY 04: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo, today chaired a meeting to review Mission Youth and Skill Development Programme at Conference Hall. At the outset, the DC heading the District Committee reviewed various beneficiary cases of Mumkin and Tejaswini schemes under Mission Youth programme for sanctioning.

In the meeting, interviews of beneficiaries under Spurring entrepreneurship were held for selection of beneficiaries.

The DC stressed on imparting skilled training to the youth of the district to help them to get trained in various trades.

He directed that all the line departments shall prepare a comprehensive skill development training chart



where in different course training will be comprehensively discussed.

He also said that skilled training shall provide ample opportunities to the youth in both manufacturing and service sectors.

Among others, the meeting was

attended by GM DIC, CPO, Deputy Director employment, DIO, District Head JKEDI, LEAD bank manager, KVK, and RLM, DSWO, other concerned officers and officials from Handicrafts Handloom besides beneficiaries of the schemes.

Director Agriculture Kashmir pitches for promotion of FPOs in J&K

■ **HT News Network**

SRINAGAR, JULY 04 The Director Agriculture Kashmir Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today chaired an interactive meeting with the FPO members of Both Kashmir and Jammu Divisions "for improving the working of FPOs" at agriculture complex Lalmandi Srinagar.

Addressing the meeting Director highlighted the importance of FPOs for small farmers. He said that small land holders constitute a vast majority of farmers in the UT of J&K, in addition small holders are especially vulnerable to climate change, aggregated weather events, like untimely rain, severe drought and floods, hailstorm and pest infestation any of which could wipe out their crops, therefore the (FPO's) farmers producer organizations play



an important role and enables farmers to get the benefits of economics of scale.

FPO's help farmers to get benefit from shared resources, get better access to the markets and latest technologies, he said and added. He impressed upon the concerned officers from both the divisions to work in close coordination with the FPO's and address their issues on priority basis.

He asked the partici-

pants & officers of the departments to play their role for the successful implementation of the projects under holistic agriculture development programme. He underlined the importance of collaborative approach for achieving the set targets under different projects.

Earlier Director Agriculture visited Seed Multiplication farm Gangbug and took stock of the agriculture activities there.

The meeting was attended by FPO members from both the divisions of J&K, Concerned officers in person and through virtual mode. ship among our youth. He underlined the importance of collaborative approach for achieving the set targets under different projects.

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Truck drivers, Co-Drivers, Helpers register for e-Shram in Ramban

■ **Farooq Rather**

RAMAN, JULY 04: Office of the Assistant Labour Commissioner Ramban Organized two day on spot Registration and awareness camps at different places along the National Highway-44 for Registration of Truck drivers and allied workers on e-shram portal.

The camps were held on 3rd and 4th of July 2024 at Seri, Chanderkote, Karol, Bus Stand Ramban, Bus Stand Bahinal, Lambar Near Navyuga Tunnel and Railway Station Bahinal.

During the camp, the officials of the Labour Department educated the Truck drivers regarding the benefits of the e-shram Registration and registered many Truck drivers on the Portal by self Registration.

Truck drivers are a vulnerable section of labour class and Registration under e-shram will provide direct life insurance cover of Rs. 2 lakh and upto Rs. 1 lakh cover for temporary disability to the registrant.

The camp was organized under overall supervision of ALC Amit Kumar who urged the drivers, cleaners and helpers of commercial vehicles registered in district ramban to get registered on e-shram portal either through self Registration or through any CSC and take benefits of the Registration.

Samba admin plans to launch Saturation drive for FPOs to enhance business activities

■ **HT News Network**

SAMBA, JULY 04: District Development Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma chaired District Level Monitoring Committee (DMC) to plan the launch of a campaign and to sensitise the stakeholders regarding 3 month Saturation drive to facilitate FPOs to enhance their business activities with emphasis on assisting them in obtaining various licenses like Inputs, Seeds, Mandi, GST, FSSAI and On-boarding on platforms like ONDC and other E-retailing platforms for sale of their produce.

It was also suggested to encourage banks to provide loans to FPOs for their credit requirements. The move would provide a supplementary supportive ecosystem to farmers for sustainable income oriented farming, hassle free inputs, enhance productivity through efficient & cost effective resources & realise higher returns through better processing & market linkages.

The DC advised the stakeholders to organise camps for FPOs during the month of July 2024 and invite CEOs & all FPO Board members to share the activity plan.

The Directors of FPO may also be invited in all the Public Darbars & Block Divas meetings held in the district or block to hear their perspectives and issues. They should also be informed & sensitised about the various schemes & programmes of departments, bank linkage schemes etc. The concerned departments should assist FPOs not only in filling of applications but till issuance of licenses. DC Samba also advised to complete the issuance of licenses within the stipulated time so that they are handed over to FPOs before 14 August 2024.

Pouni Chak declared as Nano Model Village in Kisan Ghoshti

■ **HT News Network**

JAMMU, JULY 04: Pouni Chak, a village in Jammu, has been announced as a Nano Model Village under a pioneering initiative by IFFCO (Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited) in collaboration with the Agriculture Department, Jammu. The announcement was made at the Kisan Ghoshti organized by IFFCO and Agriculture Department Jammu, where S. Arvinder Singh Reen, Director Agriculture Jammu, graced the occasion as the chief guest.

In his address, State Marketing Manager of IFFCO, Shri Sukhpal Singh Sidhu, mentioned that to accelerate the adoption of nano fertilizers among farmers, IFFCO has launched the Nano Fertilizer Usage Promotion Mahaabhiyan. As part of this initiative, IFFCO has identified 200 model nano village clusters across India. These villages, including Pouni Chak, will receive a 25 percent subsidy on Nano Urea Plus, Nano DAP, and Sagarika, making these advanced fertilizers more accessible to farmers. IFFCO will also provide a financial grant of Rs 100 per acre to drone entrepreneurs, facilitating cost-effective spraying services for farmers in the selected villages.

GDC Baramulla conducts workshop for fostering innovation & entrepreneurial spirit

■ **HT News Network**

BARAMULLA, JULY 04 Government Degree College Baramulla, under the auspices of its Innovation, Incubation, and Entrepreneur Cell (IIE), successfully conducted a one-day Ideation Workshop aimed at fostering innovation and entrepreneurial spirit among students.

The workshop, started with the opening remarks by Dr. Syed Mutahar Aaqib, member IIE, focused on educating and inspiring students to leverage opportunities in innovation and incubation.

He welcomed all participants and underscoring the vital role IIE plays in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship within the academic community.

Dr. Humaira Qadri, IIE Coordinator, delivered a comprehensive overview of the centre's objectives, operations, and its pivotal role in supporting student initiatives.



She highlighted the importance of providing a robust platform for aspiring entrepreneurs and discussed various platforms through which students can benefit, assuring every possible help for nurturing potential ideas into successful innovations.

Prof. Mohammad Shafi Lone, Principal of GDC Baramulla, shared his insights on the significance of innovation and incuba-

tion in light of the National Education Policy (NEP).

He encouraged students to develop their ideas, assuring them of the college's full support in refining these ideas and seeking funding opportunities. Prof. Lone emphasized the importance of resilience, encouraging students to persist even after repeated failures, and extended the insti-

tution's full support to all budding researchers and innovators.

The workshop featured expert sessions by Prof. Tariq Ahmad Chalkoo, Advisor IIE, and Dr. Abdul Rouf Bhat, Co-convenor IIE. Prof. Chalkoo elaborated on the critical role of IIE within the college ecosystem, guiding students on strategies to approach funding agencies and the importance of prototyping in idea validation. He emphasized patience, motivation, and enthusiasm as key mantras for innovation and entrepreneurship, sharing experiences to motivate budding innovators and highlighting examples of startups that evolved into successful companies.

Dr. Abdul Rouf Bhat provided practical insights into leveraging IIE resources and navigating the entrepreneurial landscape, stressing the importance of persistence and resilience in pursuing innovative ideas and discussing the functioning of innovation committees at different academic levels across the country.

Anurag Goyal launches Sampoornata Abhiyan in Kupwara

■ HT News Network

KUPWARA, JULY 4: Senior Advisor NITI Aayog, Anurag Goyal today visited border district Kupwara in connection with the launch of Sampoornata Abhiyan in Aspirational District Kupwara and Aspirational Block Kuran.

On the occasion, the Senior Advisor formally launched the Sampoornata Abhiyan in a ceremony held at Town Hall Kupwara in presence of District Development Commissioner (DDC), Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan; DDC Member Drugmulla, Amina Majeed, CPO Kupwara, Parvaiz Ahmad, District Officers and field functionaries.

Speaking at the occasion, the Senior Advisor said that after successful implementation of Aspirational District Programme (ADP) across the country, Aspirational Block Programme (ABP) have been launched by the NITI Aayog with an aim to saturate the aspirational indicators further at block level. He added that 5 Aspirational blocks



from J&K UT are figuring among the top 100 blocks of the country which indicates the better performance shown by the departments here.

Anurag Goyal said that all the government departments should work in coordination and urged upon the concerned officers to extend their cooperation in cent percent saturation of indicators in the Aspirational District Pro-

gramme and AB Programme.

In her welcome address, the District Development Commissioner said that the district Kupwara has registered better progress under the Aspirational District Programme since its launch.

She added that the district scored 59.10 under ADP in January this year which was 37.8 earlier when the programme was launched 5 years ago.

She said tourism, health and self employment sectors have got boosted in the district adding that the Operation Theatre at Sub District Hospital Kralpora was also operationalized recently under the ADP funding.

She also highlighted various schemes which has shown best progress under ADP in the district which include PMJJBY, PMSBY, PMJAY- Sehat Scheme, besides, the district has also witnessed boost in Power Supply, JJM and Nutrition.

Meanwhile, various departmental beneficiaries of Health, Agriculture and ICDS spoke and highlighted benefits they got under the AD Programme.

Pledge under Sampoornata Abhiyan was also taken by the participants.

On his arrival, the Senior Advisor inspected different stalls installed at Town Hall by several departments including Agriculture, Health, ICDS, Employment and J&K Bank and got feedback from the concerned district officers about progress of the schemes.

DC Bandipora reaches Tulail; Attends Launch event of Sampoornata Abhiyaan in Aspirational Block Tulail

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, JULY 04: As part of the Aspirational Block Programme, Deputy Commissioner, Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman reached far-flung Block Tulail of Gurez Sub Division today and attended launch event of Sampoornata Abhiyaan in the Aspirational Block Tulail of Bandipora District.

Initiated by NITI Aayog, the Sampoornata Abhiyaan event was held at Government Hr. Secondary School Badugam Tulail, and was also attended by DDC Tulail Raja Ajaz Khan; Saurabh Sharma, representative of NITI Aayog, and a large gathering of locals from Block Tulail.

The Sampoornata Abhiyaan aims to saturate the identified KPIs within three months, starting from July 4, 2024. The objectives cover Health & Nutrition, Education, Agriculture, and Social Development.

The launch event of the



campaign at Badugam Tulail witnessed multifarious activities, including a painting competition, cultural performances, and practical demonstrations. Addressing the gathering, DC said, "Sampoornata Abhiyaan aims to bridge developmental gaps and bring about transformative changes, ensuring a brighter future for the Aspirational Blocks."

He said, "NITI Aayog has launched the Sampoornata Abhiyaan with the

goal of achieving saturation of KPIs in Bandipora's Tulail Block, which has been nominated as an Aspirational Block."

DC said, "Sampoornata Abhiyaan is a concerted effort to drive rapid and effective development in underdeveloped areas, and this year, two villages of the block have been taken up under CSR for infrastructure development related to health, education, road connectivity, and other areas."

Locals Cry Foul Over Illegal Construction in Bangus Valley

■ HT News Network

Srinagar, July 2 (KNS): A controversy has erupted over the illegal construction of permanent structures in Bangus Valley, a pristine site in north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

According to residents, some huts have been illegally erected in Compartment 17 of Bangus Valley, violating the Forest Conservation Act (FCA) 1980 norms. They claim that no permanent structure can be built in the valley without a No-Objection Certificate (NOC) from the forest department, which was not obtained.

Locals are up in arms, fearing that the construction will damage the valley's flora and biodiversity, according to a KNS correspondent.

Gh. Jeelani Zargar, CEO of Lolab Bangus Drangyari Development Authority, expressed concern over the construction, stating that Bangus Valley is an ecologically sensitive zone with rich biodiversity. He emphasized the need for a well-thought-out plan, involving all stakeholders, before any construction activity.

The government has been focusing on eco-tourism, and locals are appealing for the preservation of eco-tourism in Bangus Valley. They insist that there should be no permanent constructions to maintain the valley's natural beauty and ecological balance.

When Contacted DFO Kralpora, he was not available for comments.

Altaf Bukhari urges administration to ensure adequate arrangements in view of Muharram-ul-Haram

■ HT News Network

Srinagar, July 4 (KNS): Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Thursday, urged the administration to ensure adequate arrangements for the smooth observance of the holy month of Muharram-ul-Haram. In a statement, Apni Party president, said, "As the sacred month of Muharram-ul-Haram is about to begin, I urge the administration to ensure all necessary arrangements for its smooth observance. The administration must ensure the availability of essentials, medical facilities, and an uninterrupted supply of potable water and electricity throughout this revered month, especially in Shia-dominated areas across Jammu and Kashmir. The relevant departments should ensure proper cleanliness and sanitation measures in and around Imambaras and other significant religious places." (KNS)

Divisive politics is dangerous for the state and nation : Bhalla

■ HT News Network

Jammu, July 04 (KNS) : A meeting of District Congress Committee Jammu Urban was held here today at PCC HQ Jammu to take stock of the upcoming elections besides discussing the burning issues of the people. The meeting was chaired by PCC President Shri Vikar Rasool Wani and Working President Shri Raman Bhalla was the guest of honour. The meeting was organized by District Congress Committee Jammu Urban led by Th. Manmohan Singh and attended by Senior leaders of PCC, DCC, Block & Ward Presidents, Frontal Organizations heads and others. Prominent among them include PCC Vice Presidents Yogesh Sawhney (Ex-Minister), Ved Mahajan (Ex-MLC), Rajnish Sharma (Treasurer), Smt. Kanta Bhan, Pawan Raina, Shashi Sharma, T.S. Tony, Namrata Sharma, Suresh Dogra, Amrit Bali, Satish Sharma, General Secretary IYC Uday Chib, INTUC President Shiv Kumar Sharma.

NITI Aayog's Sampoornata Abhiyan launched in Aspirational Block Manzgam

■ HT News Network

KULGAM, JULY 04: The Sampoornata Abhiyan programme has been launched in Aspirational Block Manzgam, inaugurated by the District Development Council (DDC) Chairperson Kulgam, Mohd Afzal Parrey, and the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir and Guest Observer from NITI Aayog Mateen Nazir.

The inaugural event took place at the Government Higher Secondary School, where a mega programme was organized and the initiative aims at the overall development and saturation of various indicators to transform Manzgam into an inspirational block.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC Chairperson



Mohammad Afzal Parrey highlighted the significance of the Sampoornata Abhiyan, emphasizing that the programme's implementation will bring visible changes to Manzgam Block. In his address, the Deputy Commissioner outlined the ambitious goal of achieving saturation of set indicators within three months.

He also briefed the participants about the indicators which have to be saturated in the Block. He stressed upon line departments to work diligently towards the success of this mission to achieve set indicators within the stipulated timeframe.

DDC member Manzgam, Jameela Chowdhary, while addressing on the occasion said that the initiative would lead to saturation under set indicators and contribute to the prosperity and development of the Block and will transform it into an inspirational Block.

During the inauguration, multiple stalls were set up to register beneficiaries, and were inspected by the DDC Chairperson, the Deputy Commissioner, and other dignitaries.

Additionally, a marathon organized as part of the event saw enthusiastic participation from students. The marathon was flagged off by the DDC Chairperson and DC Kulgam from GHSS.

The event marked a significant step forward in the developmental journey of Manzgam, setting a precedent for collaborative efforts aimed at sustainable growth and prosperity.

Public Outreach Program at Handwara

Principal Secy Culture emphasizes bridging communication gaps to address public issues; e-inaugurates dev projects

■ HT News Network

HANDWARA, JULY 04: Principal Secretary Culture, Suresh Kumar Gupta, emphasized the importance of bridging communication gaps among the officers and the departments to resolve public issues effectively.

The Principal Secretary, while addressing a public outreach programme in Handwara, Kupwara of Kupwara district, said that a strong coordination among all stakeholders is key towards achieving the goal of empowering every single individual of the Union Territory socially, economically and politically.

Interacting with a diverse group of delegations, individuals and representatives of various associations, Suresh Gupta maintained that inadequate information flow often creates communication barriers, hindering the resolution of community issues. These public darbars provide an apt platform for the citizens to voice their concerns and seek prompt redressal, he added.



Key issues raised by the public and the delegations included concerns about drinking water supply, drainage and sanitation, challenges faced by the tribal population, need for enhanced power infrastructure, road widening, improved connectivity, internet connectivity, need for embankments on nallas and streams and establishment of new industries in the district.

The Principal Secretary assured all the attendees that their genuine issues and concerns would be prioritized for an early redressal. He specifically mentioned that issues related to Jal Jeevan Mission would be taken into account for expedited resolution. Suresh Gupta encouraged the public to avail benefit of both the Central and J&K Government schemes, urging officers to ensure that information about these schemes reaches the deserving populations effectively. Present on the occasion were Chairman DDC Kupwara, Irfan Sultan Panditpori, Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan, Director of Libraries Mohammad Rafi, ADC Handwara Aziz Ahmad and other concerned officers and officials.

Under Modi Govt J&K on cusp of transformation with peace becoming its new hallmark: Kavinder

■ HT News Network

Jammu, July 04: Senior BJP leader and former deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta on Thursday lauded the remarkable strides made by the Narendra Modi government in combating terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP stalwart leader said that after the progression of befitting moves against terrorism by the Modi Government the Jammu and Kashmir is on the cusp of transformation with peace becoming its new hallmark.

Reflecting on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent statement in the Rajya Sabha, the senior BJP functionary highlighted the effectiveness of

the government's policies in bringing an end to violence in the Union Territory.

It is pertinent to mention that Prime Minister Modi has emphasized that the government's multi-pronged strategy has not only curtailed terrorism but is also on the verge of eradicating the remaining vestiges of insurgency.

Echoing the Prime Minister's sentiments, Kavinder underscored the transformative impact of these policies on the ground. He noted that the comprehensive approach, which included robust security measures, socio-economic development, and community engagement, has significantly reduced terrorist activities, restoring normalcy and safety in the region.

Rohit Sharma at Wankhede:

This Trophy Belongs To The Nation



NEW DELHI: The T20 World Cup victory parade of Rohit Sharma and co. concluded in Mumbai on Thursday. The parade, which kicked off from Marine Drive, ended at the Wankhede Stadium.

Rohit Sharma thanked Mumbai for the turnout, "The huge turnout of fans to welcome the Indian cricket team shows they were as desperate for this T20 World Cup title as the players," he said.

Outgoing coach Rahul Dravid expressed his gratitude, stating, "I am going to miss this love. What I saw on the streets tonight, I won't forget it."

Virat Kohli reflected on the emotional impact of the victory, saying, "I couldn't connect with the emotions of seniors who cried after the 2011 World Cup triumph, but now I do." He also observed, "This is the first time in 15 years that I have seen Rohit show so much emotion."

India pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah expressed, "What I saw today, I have never seen anything like this before," following the parade.

BCCI office-bearers presented Team India with a cheque of Rs 125 crores. The BCCI had announced the prize money for the team after the T20 World Cup.

An open-top bus carrying the champions paraded through a huge crowd cheering the country's champions who brought home a crucial trophy after a wait of 13 years.

The fans followed the bus, and soon a sea of people was visible outside the Wankhede Stadium. Both Rohit and Kohli lifted the World Cup together on the bus as fans applauded them. The mood in the

Indian camp was euphoric as they soaked in the celebrations from the fans.

It is a special moment for the 37-year-old Rohit, who is a Mumbaier and a huge fan favourite in the city.

In 2007, Rohit Sharma was the youngest member of the Mahendra Singh Dhoni's epoch-making squad and now at 37, for him to lead his T20 World Champion Indian cricket team on a victory parade must have given him a sense of déjà vu.

He is now the oldest member of this current team, 'been there and done that' and even as the faces around him changed in more than one-and-a-half decades, the now-retired Indian T20 skipper remained a constant for all these years.

As the bus passed through the sea of human, his mind must have travelled back to that September morning in 2007 when Mumbai was as drenched as it was on Thursday evening.

Chants of "Mumbaicha Raja Kaun? Rohit Sharma" (Who's the King of Mumbai? Rohit Sharma) reverberated through the roads.

Dravid was also seen applauding the fans, while many players had covered themselves with the national flag and were enjoying the scenes. Plenty of security personnel were present with the bus for safety reasons.

The Wankhede Stadium was thrown open to fans, who filled the stands within minutes to celebrate the Indian cricket team's title triumph last Saturday.

The iconic stadium which witnessed India's last ODI World Cup triumph in 2011 had its stands filled to the brim by pas-

sionate fans as thousand others waited outside the gates which were closed around 5:00pm.

Earlier in the day, the T20 World Cup winners met with PM Modi at his residence in Delhi.

They spent close to two hours at the 7, Lok Kalyan Marg residence of the Prime Minister before heading back to the hotel.

The Men in Blue wore a special jersey while meeting PM Modi. In the front of the jersey 'CHAMPIONS' was written in bold letters.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi poses for a group photograph with the 2024 T20 World Cup-winning Indian cricket team during an interaction, in New Delhi.

The Men in Blue got hold of the prestigious T20 WC trophy for the second time, defeating South Africa by seven runs in Barbados on Saturday.

The T20 World Cup-winning Indian team touched down in Delhi on Thursday to a warm welcome from the fans awaiting the sight of their favourite heroes and the sight of the silverware.

The squad members, support staff, their families and media were stuck in Barbados, which was hit by Hurricane Beryl, at that stage a category four hurricane that passed through Barbados, with Grantley Adams International Airport in Bridgetown shut for three days. They were cocooned in their hotel before the BCCI made arrangements for the special charter flight.

Hundreds of supporters, holding placards congratulating their favourites and waving the national flag, braved the weather to welcome the victorious side,

which defeated South Africa by seven runs in the final in Bridgetown on Saturday last week.

"We have waited for this moment for the past 13 years. The team has made us proud by winning the World Cup," a fan, who claimed to have been waiting since 4:30am in the morning said, referring to India's last World Cup triumph which came back in 2011.

The Air India special charter flight AIC24WC -- Air India Champions 24 World Cup -- which left Barbados around 4:50am local time on Wednesday arrived in Delhi at 6am (IST) on Thursday after a 16-hour non-stop journey.

Heavy security was deployed to keep the crowd in check at the Indira Gandhi International Airport but that did little to dampen the spirits as fans cheered enthusiastically holding up posters of star batter Virat Kohli, skipper Rohit Sharma and outgoing head coach Rahul Dravid.

Tired but excited, the players acknowledged the waiting fans by waving at them and flashing warm smiles.

Suryakumar Yadav, who took the sensational match-winning catch of David Miller in the final, was the most enthusiastic in responding to the cheering.

Wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant saluted the gathered crowd, while pacer Mohammed Siraj blew flying kisses in their direction.

Rohit and Player of the Final Virat Kohli, both of whom retired from T20Is at the end of India's campaign, were among the last to come out of the VIP exit.

Rohit, who held the coveted trophy in

his hands, raised it for the fans to catch a glimpse before boarding the bus.

Kohli gave a thumbs up to acknowledge the support before taking his place in the bus.

In their excitement to see their heroes in person, some fans claimed that they had been waiting outside the airport since last night.

"We have been here since last night. It was very important for us to win this World Cup after losing the ODI World Cup last year," a group of fans said.

The squad won the country its second T20 world title, ending an 11-year wait for an ICC trophy, on Saturday.

India's previous ICC title was in 2013 when it won the Champions Trophy under Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

Its earlier World Cup titles came in 1983 (ODI), 2007 (T20) and 2011 (ODI).

BCCI secretary Jay Shah and Rohit had posted on social media on Wednesday, urging fans to turn up in large numbers to show their support for the side.

A similar road show was held in Mumbai 17 years ago when Dhoni's team had beaten arch-rivals Pakistan in the final of the inaugural 2007 World T20 in South Africa.

Four Mumbai players of the T20 World Cup cricket team will be felicitated in the Maharashtra Vidhan Bhavan complex here on Friday, state assembly speaker Rahul Narwekar said in the House on Thursday.

Suryakumar Yadav, Rohit Sharma, Shivam Dube and Yashasvi Jaiswal, all from Mumbai, were part of India's T20 World Cup squad.

(With inputs from PTI)

SA Unsure on de Kock's T20I Future: 'Glimmer of Hope'



BRIDGETOWN: South Africa are hopeful Quinton de Kock will remain available to play white-ball international cricket and realise his dream of winning a World Cup, as they are yet to receive news of his T20I retirement. De Kock called time on Tests in 2021 and ended his 50-over career at last year's ODI World Cup. The T20 World Cup in West Indies and USA was expected to be his last T20I outing but national white-ball coach Rob Walter hopes there may be more to come from de Kock.

"Quinn's an enigma. He hasn't officially called time. So we have that little glimmer of hope that sits in the back-ground," Walter said on arrival in South

Africa on Thursday. "Quinn has very high standards for himself and has dreamed about a World Cup win for a very long time. Has had a number of knocks along the way, not least this last final, You would have seen that he was very emotional with it. Whether we see him again, time will tell."

Walter has not broached the subject with de Kock yet and will not have to for some time. South Africa's next T20Is are in West Indies in August but de Kock is not on their national contract list and therefore not obliged to be available for those, or any other international games, but that will not compromise his selection in future.

As was the case with de Kock at this World Cup, when he was picked without playing the preceding series against India in December as he was at the BBL, national availability is no longer a non-negotiable ahead of big tournaments. That means de Kock may still come into contention for the 2026 T20 World Cup as long as he remains active on the league circuit. "I've had no conversations with him. It wasn't the right time after the final to have that conversation," Walter said. "So let me leave it at saying your guess is as good as mine."

Luckily for Walter, the other likely retiree, David Miller, has left no one guessing over his future. Miller confirmed his availability for South Africa in an Instagram story when he said: "Contrary to reports, I have not retired from T20 international cricket. I will continue to be available for the Proteas. The best is yet to come."

Chance for Washington to make a mark: Raju

CHENNAI: With Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Ravindra Jadeja having retired from the T20Is, the tour of Zimbabwe, where India will play five matches, will be all about finding replacements and building a pool of players for the next T20 World Cup.

One among them will be Washington Sundar. While India played three left-arm spinners against South Africa in the final, that may not be the case any more. With Jadeja's retirement, Axar Patel has moved up the pecking order and so has Kuldeep Yadav. As a result, the focus turns to other spin-bowling all-rounders in Washington.

Former National selector SL Venkatapathy Raju believes that the off-spinning all-rounder has an excellent opportunity to impress in the Zimbabwe tour. "With Jadeja's retirement from the shortest format, Axar with his all-round ability will automatically be the first choice spinner. Plus India can no longer play three left-arm spinners as there is none (third spinner) who can walk into the team. So Washington has a good opportunity to impress and try to get the second spinner's spot," said Venkatapathy Raju.

Washington was once a regular in the scheme of things for India in white-ball cricket but injuries forced him to be in and out of the squad. "He is now back as part of the India squad against Zimbabwe and if he works on his fitness and stays injury-free, he will get a lot more opportunities to play for India as there is no doubt about his talent and potential," opined Raju. After R Ashwin, Washington is the best off-spinner in the country and his ability to bat any position means that if properly guided he has the potential to serve India for a long time.

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