

Srinagar 🔹 Saturday 17, February 2024 🗣 Vol: 15 🔹 Issue No: 41 🗣 Pages: 08 🗣 Price: 🔻 5/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paisa) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

**Pak Ouadcopters Found Hovering Near LoC In Poonch** 



JAMMU- Army troops guarding the Line of Control (LoC) on Friday opened fire to bring down Pakistani quadcopters at two different places in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district officials said.

However, the flying objects returned to the Pakistan side after briefly hovering over the • P-06

#### **PM's Visit Will Give New Wings To J&K: Devender Singh Rana**



JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana Friday exuded confidence that the ensuing visit of Prime Minister Yashasvi Narendra Modi would give new wings to J&K which is already on a path of peace, progress and prosperity with equitable • P-06

#### Admin **On Toes**

## **Weatherman Predicts Heavy Snowfall From Today**



On Feb 18, he said there

Ahmad said there is a

#### OWAIS GUL

SRINAGAR: Amid the rising day temperature, the Jammu and Kashmir arv 19-20 would likely experience a fresh wet-spell as the weatherman here has forecasted light to moderly cloudy with possibility ate snowfall from Febru-

ary 17 to 20th. of light snow at isolated In the meantime, the higher reaches towards government has also late night. started readying arrangements to avert disruption

is a possibility of light to of utilities due to snow. moderate rain and snow Director Meteorologiat most places with heavy cal department (MeT), snowfall over isolated Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said higher reaches of North, that there is a possibility Northwestern, Central of heavy to very heavy and South Kashmir. On February 19-20, snowfall over middle

and higher reaches of

moderate rain and snow Bandipora, Ganderbal, Budgam and South Kashat most places of plains mir districts from Febru-& lower reaches while the middle and higher In Kashmir, Ahmad said on Feb 17, weather conditions are expected to reaches of Kupwara, Baramulla, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Budgam and remain partly to general-South Kashmir districts

> would experience heavy to very heavy snowfall. On Feb 21, he said there is a possibility of intermittent light to moderate snowfall at many places till afternoon, late afternoon and gradual improvement thereafter.

In Jammu region, he said there is a possibility of light to moderate rain and snow over higher reaches with • P-06

# **PM Modi To Launch 209 Projects** Worth Rs 3161 Cr For J&K

AGENCIES

JAMMU: Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi will inaugurate or lay the foundation of 209 projects worth over Rs 3,161 crore in Jammu and Kashmir on February 20, the Union territory administration said on Friday.

These projects will upgrade infrastructure. strengthen service delivery systems, general employment opportunities and spur progress and prosperity in the Union territory.

The prime minister will inaugurate 85 projects and lay the foundation of 124 projects at an event at the MA Stadium in Jammu at 11 am on February 20.

Modi is also scheduled to address a public rally, his second in the region after the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019. Earlier on April 24, 2022, he had addressed a rally in Palli Panchayat in Samba district

> Security Heightened In J&K rinagar- Security has been heightened in Kashmir valley ahead of Prime Minister Narendra

progress).

The prime minister

Modi's visit to Jammu next week.

the security arrangements

across Jammu and Kashmir have

been tightened to ensure there

is no untoward incident ahead

Minister arrives

A top police official said that



will inaugurate seven administration published grid stations, three a full-page advertisement receiving stations and in some leading newspathree transmission line pers on the event, carryprojects in Jammu, Puling the pictures of both wama, Baramulla, Srinagar, Budgam, Ramban Modi and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha with a captain "Viksit and Samba districts, 12 road projects and three Bharat Viksit Jammu bridges completed at a cumulative cost of Rs Kashmir Aman aur Tarakki ki Nai Tasveer" (a 184.19 crore. new phase of peace and

He will also inaugurate five common effluent treatment plants in

"Besides upgradation of vigil on the borders, the security forces are patrolling the highways and other vulnerable spots, from the security point of view", the officer said, adding, "frisking of February 20 when the Prime has also been intensified in many south districts • P-06

traffic management

system in Srinagar city,

modernisation of Narwal

fruit mandi in Jammu,

sewage treatment plants.

transit accommodation

244 flats for Kashmiri

migrants at two locations

in Ganderbal and Kup-

wara in Kashmir Valley,

drug testing laboratory

in Kathua, and degree college buildings infra-

structure at • P-06

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## **Houseboat Owners Demand Rehabilitation To Safer Places**



## LG Sinha Pays Obeisance At Shri Martand Surya Temple Paloura **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

**JAMMU:** On the holy occasion of Surya Saptami, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Fridav paid obeisance to Lord Shri Martand at Shri Martand Surya



## e-office **SED Directs To Replace Physical Tasks In Workplaces**

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: School Education has ordered to replace physical tasks with electronic ones by switching over to e-office mode by March-31 at directorate level to CEO level and April 30 at zonal and cluster head level respectively. Âdministrative Secretary School Education Department Piyush Singla had ordered all the subordinate offices of the School Education Department to switch over to e-office

INOX INOX CINEMA

mode with immediate effect Singla in a circular issued on Thursday directed that the process of switching over to e-office at directorate level to CEO level shall be completed \_ before March 31 and upto zonal level, cluster head level by or before April-30 espectively. "Accordingly, with a view to



**REHAN OAYOOM MIR** 

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

The President of the Houseboat Association of Kashmir (HBOA), Manzoor Pakhtoon said the revival of

water transport in Jhelum is a welcoming step but they are demanding the rehabilitation of already deployed houseboats in Jhelum river to other safer places

Pakhtoon added that the houseboats in Jhelum from Rajbagh to Lal Mandi stretch are not in the condition to handle the high and continu-

ous tide which will be gener-

ated by the motor-•P-06

Temple, Paloura, Jammu.

He participated in the Mahayagya organised by Shri Martand Tirath Trust and prayed for the peace, progress and prosperity of one and all.

The Lt Governor interacted with the people and extended his hearty greetings on the auspicious occasion.

Since time immemorial Jammu Kashmir is known as the land of spirituality and one of

the main centres of learning and knowledge in the country. It has always promoted inclusive cul-

tural ecosystem and kept alive time-tested traditional wisdom, the Lt Governor said. • P-06

ensuring a complete switch over to e-office mode, from physical files and Daks, it is enjoined upon all the subordinate offices of School Education • P-06

#### Major Changes

# **'Education Sector Sees Promising Developments Post 2019'**



#### **RIYAZ BHAT**

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

The official documents accessed, wherein the authorities have made comparison of major works and initiatives taken before

and after 2019 reveal that prior to 2019, at least 819 civil works in schools were completed. However, after 2019 at least 2339 civil works were completed. The documents further

schemes including SSA,

RMSA and Samagra Shik-

sha. at least 9635 civil works

in schools were completed

from 2004-2019 and post

2019, at least 12,600 such

works were completed.

"342 Spill over works also

got completed." Earlier, this week KNO

has reported a series of stories wherein the concerned authorities had compared the works and developments in Schools before reveal that under the erstand after 2019. while centrally sponsored

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

However, in the •P-06

### Sinthan Top Witnesses Surge In Tourist Footfall



JAHANGEER GANAIE

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

According to reports obtained, the delayed snowfall in prominent tourist destinations like Sinthan Top in Kokernag attracted a considerable number of tourists.

In January 2022, only 440 visitors explored Sinthan Top and Dakusm, whereas in January 2023, the number rose to 1,364. However, this year, the influx surged significantly to 14,877 tourists in January alone.

Of these visitors, 13,328 were domestic tourists, 1,519 were locals, and 30 were foreign tourists. • P-06



# SHIVPORA SRINAGAR

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FIGHTER (HINDI)

11:45AM (U/A)

ohabbatein

02:20PM (U)



TERI BAATON MEIN AISA ULJHA JIYA (HINDI) 11:20AM, 06:50PM (U/A)



11:00AM, 04:00PM, 06:30PM (ENG) MOHABBATEIN (HINDI) 01:30PM (HINDI) (U/A)









SRINAGAR | Saturday, 17, February 2024



# DC B'la presides an event to promote 'Stress Free **Examinations'**

#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

**BARAMULLA:** National **Commission for Protection** of Child Rights (NCPCR) in collaboration with School Education department Baramulla Friday held a day-long event at Govt. Boys' Higher Secondary School Baramulla to celebrate Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 7th edition of envisaged program, 'Pariksha Pe Charcha 6.0'

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa was the chief guest on the occasion. The event was attended by CEO Baramulla, Balbir Singh Raina, Deputy CEO, HoD DIET, representative from NCPCR, teachers, parents and school children.

During his address, the DC emphasized the crucial role that both teachers and parents play in creating a supportive and stress-free environment for students as they prepare for their upcoming exams



Minga Sherpa further urged parents to relinquish the burdensome "make it or break it" mentality regarding their children's exam results and encouraged them to view this period as an opportunity for their

wards to learn and develop regardless of the outcome. The CEO highlighted that under the guidance of DC Baramulla, the Education department has been conducting Pariksha Pe Charcha Programs across

the five sub-divisions. zones, and cluster heads of the district to promote a stress free environment for the students appearing in the exams.

Meanwhile, representative from NCPCR discussed in length about Exam Warriors, a book by PM, Narendra Modi aiming to empower students with the tools and strategies to navigate the exam season with confidence, resilience, and a sense of purpose, ultimately shaping them into well-rounded individuals capable of facing life's challenges with grace and determination.

It is worth mentioning here that 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' is a nationwide program started by the PM in 2018 to create a stress free atmosphere for students appearing in the yearly board exams. The PM held an interactive session with the students across the country on 29th of January

## 'Implementation of Child Rights' **ADDC Shopian inaugurates Training programme**

#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

SHOPIAN: The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian. Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone Friday inaugurated one day sensitisation cum training programme of Child Protection Committee under Mission Vatsalya on the 'Implementation of Child Rights' at Government Degree College Shopian.

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

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

that the primary objective of the programme was to enlighten stakeholders about the Mission Vatsalya guidelines, ensuring a com-



prehensive understanding and implementation of child.

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

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

Speaking at the event, from potentially vulner-Tehsil Social Welfare Offiable families, families at cer, Shopian, Farhana Tak risk, orphans, child drug explained the importance abusers, child beggars, trafficked or sexually exploited children. of the programme and gave a detailed description of He said that District the topic and its working mechanism at the district

Child Protection Unit, Child Welfare Committee Chairperson, CWC, (CWC), and Juvenile Jus-Farooq Ahmed also hightice Board (JJB), are activelighted that under the ly working to ensure the Integrated Child Protecimplementation of child tion Scheme (ICPS), the rights and juvenile justice department focuses on acts, while also combating providing preventive, statchild labour and violations utory care, and rehabilitaof relates laws." He also tion services to vulnerable focused on understanding children, including those child rights.

## JD Info accords warm sendoff to outgoing DDI-PR



**GMK NEWS NETWORK** 

SRINAGAR: The Joint Directorate of Information Kashmir Friday accorded farewell to outgoing Deputy Director Information (PR) Kashmir, Bilal Mukhtar on his transfer from department and welcomed new DDI (PR) Kashmir.

The Joint Director Infor-

cation of Bilal Mukhtar. He prayed for the health and wellbeing of the transferred officer. He also welcomed the incoming Deputy Director.

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

Social Welfare Budgam organizes Awareness programme



**GMK NEWS NETWORK** 

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

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

sion, Adv. Feroz Ahmad Khan briefed the audience about the benefits and importance of Juvenile Justice Care and Protec-

tion Act. He threw light on the role of PLVs before the Juvenile Justice Board, when a child in conflict with law is produced before the board. He also highlighted the role of DLSA, especially Panel Lawyers and LADCs and Para Legal Volunteers.

Furthermore, he also briefed the audience about

## **ORGANIC FRUIT PRODUCTION KVK-Anantnag launches Training program**

level

#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

ANANTNAG: The Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Anantnag, affiliated with SKUAST-Kashmir Friday inaugurated a 4-day training program titled 'Organic Fruit Production – A Way Forward' as part of the HADP project, which focuses on 'Alternate System of Agriculture for Sustainability.

Dr. I. A. Mir, in his opening remarks, welcomed the participants, signaling the commencement of this significant initiative.

This training program aligns with the broader efforts of SKUAST-Kashmir, guided by Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dil Moham-

scope and various aspects organic farming.

mation Kashmir, Mohammad Aslam in his address praised the integrity, sense of responsibility and dedi-

Cultural Officer Kashmir. Burhan Hussain also spoke on the occasion and shared his experience with

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

leadership.

the officer and extended

good wishes for him. He

also welcomed the new

officer in the department.

event, the felicitation func-

tion was held during which

the outgoing officer was

presented with bouquets,

memento and Shawl sym-

bolizing appreciation for

his dedicated service and

At the conclusion of the

#### PROTECT OUR PRECIOUS CHILDREN

## **DLSA Srinagar organises Awareness** programme on Child Labor

#### GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar and Social Welfare Department, Srinagar, in collaboration with Human Rights and Anti-Corruption Forum Friday organised an awareness programme on various central and state Labour Laws and Welfare Schemes floated by the government on combating "Child Labour, Bondage/Forced Labour, Human Trafficking, e.t.c. at Slum areas of Nowgam and Bemina Byepass areas of Srinagar.

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

The aim of the programme was to raise awareness about the prevalent issues of child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking, as well as to highlight the importance of education, child custody and protection from abuse.

Sunila Kumari, J.L.A, DLSA Srinagar, emphasized the legal provisions in place to protect the rights of children and vulnerable individuals. She further emphasized the commitment of DLSA to provide free legal aid and assistance to victims of child rights violations.

Speaking on the occa-



In order to encour-

age and attract children

towards education, DLSA,

Srinagar & Department of

Social Welfare with sup-

port of Human Rights and

Anti-Corruption Forum.

distributed story books,

note books, pencils, e.t.c

The attendees pledged

to play an active role in

preventing and reporting

cases of child exploitation

among the children of

slum dwellers.

and abuse

sion, Adv. Syed Shabana Kausar, panel lawyer of DLSA, Srinagar, encouraged participants to spread awareness about these issues and to report any suspected cases of child exploitation or abuse to the authorities

Participants were informed about the importance of access to education for children and the legal framework that ensures their right to education

Speaking on the occa-

### **Drug Control Authorities close** down 6 medical shops in Kulgam

#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

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

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

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

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

the services and schemes of NALSA vis-a-vis DLSA likewise free legal Aid, ADR Mechanism, Victim Compensation Scheme.

In his speech, he also apprised the audience about the role and responsibilities of the Child Welfare Committee and constitutional safeguards meant for women and child etc. Other speakers includ-

ing Rukaya Tasleem, Sandeep Kour, Muneer Ahmed also spoke on the occasion.

mad Makdoomi, Director Extension & Education, Prof. H. R. Naik, Director Research, and Prof. Parmeet Singh, the Principal Investigator of the project.

Dr. Ishtiyaq A. Khan, Head of KVK-Anantnag and Training Coordinator, emphasized the growing global demand for organic food and underscored the importance of embracing organic practices.

During his address, Dr. Khan shed light on the

of organic fruit production, with a special focus on Jammu & Kashmir and the entire nation. The training program aims to equip participants with knowledge and skills related to sustainable agriculture practices, specifically in the context of organic fruit production.

This initiative is a step forward in promoting sustainable and eco-friendly agricultural practices, aligning with the increasing global trend towards

The KVK Anantnag's efforts, under the umbrella of SKUAST-Kashmir. are geared towards fostering awareness and expertise in organic fruit production, contributing to both local and national agricultural sustainability goals.

The strong emphasis on organic practices is expected to have a positive impact on the agricultural landscape, enhancing productivity while preserving the environment.

MAN

## **HEALTH & MEDICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE, SRINAGAR**



For and on behalf of the Lt.Governor of Jammu & Kashmir UT, Sealed Tenders affixed with Rs.5/- revenue stamps are invited from the outsourcing agencies registered with Labour Department, for "Outsource of Designated Parking Slot at Government SMHS Hospital" As per Earmarked Parking Space given in the Tender documents for the year 2023-24.

S.No	Particular of the Tender	Cost of Tender Fee	Earnest Money	Date of Opening of Bid
1	"Outsource of Designated Parking Slot at Government SMHS Hospital	Rs 750/=For	Rs.2,00,000/=for General Rupees Two Lac Only	s 06-03-2024 ( 14.00 Hrs. )

The tender document for the above job can be seen from 15-02-2024 (13:00: 00 hrs.) on the website www.jktenders.gov.in The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website from 15-02-2024 (13:00 hrs) to 05-03-2024 (16:00 hrs).

Any clarification will be entertained from 15-02-2024 (13:00 Hrs) to 25 -02-2024 (16:00 Hrs). 3.

4. The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on website www.jktenders.gov.in from 25 -02-2024 (16: 00 hrs) up to 05-03 -2024 (16:00 hrs) only.

5. The uploaded bids on the website will be opened on 06-03-2024 (14:00hrs) or any other feasible day, in Office of the Convener Rate Contract Committee Govt. Medical College Srinagar in presence of bidders who wish to attend. In case of holiday on the date of opening of bid, bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

6. Cost of tender document (in shape of DD) favoring FA/CAO Government Medical College Srinagar) & earnest money (in shape of CDR/FDR) in original favoring FA/CAO Government Medical College Srinagar in shape of Hard copy should reach in office of Member Secretary State Level Purchase Committee, Govt .Medical College Srinagar through by person/speed post/Regd. Post/Courier only before due date of submission of bid. State Level Committee shall not be responsible for any delay due to any reason. 7.

- Original copy affidavit on Rs.50/- stamp paper duly attested by Executive Magistrate with the effect that:-
- The documents/catalogues etc enclosed with the Tender are original & genuine and have not been tampered with or fabricated. a.
- The firm has not been blacklisted in the past by any Govt. / Private institution of the country and there is no case pending against b. the firm before vigilance/any other investigating agency.
- 9. Complete bidding process will be on-line. (Price bid shall not be submitted in physical form)

No: NIT/e -SMHS/Parking/ 36 OF 2023		Member Secretary
Dated: - 14-02-2024	DIPK-16530-23 DT: 16/02/2024	Rate Contract Committee Government Medical College Srinagar



1.

2.





SRINAGAR | Saturday, 17, February 2024

# **Farooq misses 3 parliament** sessions, asks mere eleven questions in LS

#### AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: The three time chief minister of erst while Jammu and Kashmir and National Conference (NC) president, Dr Farooq Abdullah might have been vocal against the incumbent central government but he has asked 11 questions to the government in the parliament during the 17th Lok Sabha.

The NC president in his fourth term as Member of Parliament (MP) from Srinagar parliamentary constituency missed three sessions completely out of total 15 in the last five years.

According to PRS Legislative Research, a nonprofit organization tracking performance of parliamentarians and legislators, the average number of questions asked by an MP during this period is 210 and from the erstwhile



has missed three sessions

including Winter Session

2019, Budget Session 2020

and Monsoon Session 2021.

in just 11 debates which

include the need to restore

Article 370 from Jammu

and Kashmir in Special

asked by the parliamentar-

The eleven questions

Mention on 22-09-2020.

He has participated

state of Jammu & Kashmir is 103

Abdullah as per the research accessed has overall attendance of 61 per cent while the octogenarian leader has 100 percent attendance in only one session—Special Session 2023 and 92 percent and 90 percent in Winter Session 2022 and Monsoon Session 2020 respectively.

Jammu & Kashmir and also the rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits It is pertinent to mention that Tariq Hamid

ian from Srinagar mostly

focus on development in

Karra represented the same constituency for the period of just two years from 204-2016. His performance was a bit better than Farooq Abdullah as he had asked 20 questions and participated in four debates with 34 per cent attendance in two years tenure.

Notably, KNO in its earlier reports mentioned the performance of other two NC MPs from Kashmir including Muhammad Akbar Lone and Hasnain Masoodi. Masoodi is the top performer among the three parliamentarians from Kashmir, who has an overall attendance of 85 per cent and participated in 126 debates and asked 73 questions from 2019-2024-(KNO)

#### LOK SABHA ELECTIONS 2024

# J&K Election Deptt holds workshop for political parties

#### GMK NEWS NETWORK

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

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

Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu and Kashmir,



Pandurang K Pole, who inaugurated the session, stressed upon the central role of political parties in a vibrant democracy like India.

He apprised the representatives of various election related aspects highlighting the need for a closer liaison between political parties and administrative machinery in ensuring a free, fair and role in increasing partici pation of voters in the total process

cesses. He also emphasized Earlier, the National on the importance of main-Level Master trainers, taining good practices and transparency to ensure Chand Kishore Sharma peaceful and fair elections. and Riaz Ahmed Butt He appealed the politiimparted training on sev cal party leaders, who got eral topics including EVM training on election related preparedness, issues pertaining to Model Code of matters, to be trainers for further imparting training Conduct, Election Expento other leaders of their diture monitoring, MCMC parties and play important and Social Media.

## **Expected change in weather Div Com reviews** preparation of departments

#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

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

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

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



ity and transportation. Similarly, Div Com of services for the conveenjoined on KPDCL for nience of general public. making workshops func-He also directed them to keep citizens informed tional to repair damaged through social media transformers within

public grievances redressal camp in Bhambla

**GMK NEWS NETWORK** 

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

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

Secretary of their grievances and demands seeking an early redressal to the same. The issues raised inter alia included infrastructure development, healthcare facilities, staff shortage in health department, construction of bridge near Kalidhar temple, completion of pending roads,

# **Secy Planning chairs**

The locals apprised the school upgradation, fresh

# J&K Resident Commission inks MoU with NYHT

civil discourse both during

and after the election pro-

Animal Husbandry, Horticulture and Social Welfare, set up their stalls to raise awareness among the people about the central and Jammu and Kashmir government schemes.

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

He mentioned the LG Mulakat programme as an effective platform for people to directly raise grievances with the Lieutenant Governor, encouraging the public to use the platform to get their genuine concerns redressed. This unique initiative is one of his many programs aimed to infuse accountability and transparency in the system making the governance more people centric, he added. Secretary said that the Sports department and the J&K Sports Council would soon conduct a survey to identify suitable land for playgrounds



**GMK NEWS NETWORK** 

**NEW DELHI:** Aimed at facilitating the stay of residents of J&K in Delhi, the Jammu and Kashmir today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Youth Hostel Trust (NYHT).

The MoU, which has been inked as part of ongoing endeavours of Resident Commission of

at Chanakya Puri. The initiative would ing and lodging facility. help the stay of residents of J&K in Delhi who visit the capital city due to various reasons like entrepreneurship, education and medical. Mohammad Shafi

Pandit, who has recently

been elected as the new

Chairman of National

Youth Hostel Trust, wel-

The infrastructure of 190 beds (including dormitories and individual rooms) with facilities like TV and fridge in AC rooms with attached bathroom, complimentary breakfast shall be available for J&K House as part of this MOU. The Principal Resident

Commissioner mentioned that this initiative has

been undertaken as a part

of "Hello J&K" component

which was launched by

PMGSY and Telecommunication Service providers. He instructed Mechanical

Engineering Department, PWD (R&B) and PMGSY for simultaneous snow clearance to ensure all roads remain open for connectiv-

stipulated time besides instructed to ensure restoration of power supply lines in case snow causes any disruption.

While addressing the meeting, Div Com enjoined all the officers to remain and synergy with District available in the field to Administrations

survey of PMAY, monkey regarding the maintenance works being executed to restore services. For smooth execution of plans, Div Com asked all the concerned departments to work in close coordination

menace, ambulance availability, school building repairs, low voltage in certain areas and construction of a playground in the area. Various government departments, including Agriculture, Health,

J&K under "SAMBHAAV UTSAV", was formally signed by Principal Resident Commissioner, Dr. Rashmi Singh and NYHT's OSD and Officiating Secretary, J S Walia in presence of Chairman NYHT, Mohammad Shafi Pandit,

comed the proposal from J&K House to meet the growing demand for accommodation and also for sharing the catering arrangement. With signing of this

Lieutenant Governor of J&K on 13th, February, 2024 while inaugurating "SAM-MOU, the National Youth BAAV UTSAV" at Jammu Hostel Trust shall give & Kashmir Resident Compreference to requests mission, New Delhi.

NUMBER PLATE LOST

I Showket Hussain Bhat S/O Mohd Yousuf

Bhat, resident of Mufti Bagh, Harwan,

district Srinagar, have lost the back side

number plate of my vehicle (Renault Triber)

with registration number JK01AN-3375.

Now, I want to apply for the duplicate of the

same. Anybody' if having any kind of objec-

tion in this regard may file the same at RTO

Office Srinagar, within 7 days of period from

the date of publication of this notice.

# Secy Health chairs STF meeting on **Pulse Polio Immunization**

#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

SRINAGAR: Secretary Health and Medical Educa tion, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah Friday underscored that every child under 5 years of age must be administered Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) on National Immunization Day (Pulse Polio) on March 3.

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

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

The meeting was attended by Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K. District Development Commissioners of J&K, **Director School Education** 

Kashmir, Director School Education Jammu, Director AYUSH J&K, Director Health Services, Jammu, Director Health Services. Kashmir, Chief Medical Officers, State Immunization Officer, J&K, Deputy CMO's of J&K. District Immunization Officers (DIOs) of J&K. All outstation officers attended the meeting via video conference.

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

While chairing the meeting, Secretary Health & Medical Education said that maintaining polio free status is a prime responsibility for all stakeholders. He said that effective implementation of pulse polio immunization programme

three days of immunization is necessary to safeguard our future generations from this disease

He called upon all the concerned departments to ensure active indulgence and take leadership roles in making this immunization programme successful so that no eligible child is left

behind without vaccination. He said that some districts have peculiar geographical challenges and they should put in place a meticulous and in-depth plan in this regard. He said that slum areas brick kilns, construction sites, hard to reach areas and other vulnerable areas should be given utmost attention during the immunization day and proper surveillance must be maintained in such areas.

Secretary Health also directed the DIOs to maintain adequate supply of vaccine at all locations while emphasising the criticality of cold chain maintenance. He said that Chief Medical Officers/District Immunization Officers Shall ensure all vaccinators and supervisors have undergone orientation as and when required. He said that they should make supervisory visits to sub district levels to review preparedness and monitor implementation.

He called upon the health department to continue to

maintain a highly sensitive surveillance system for polio and any case of Acute Flaccid Paralysis in children are picked up by the polio surveillance network and properly investigated.

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

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

### **OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR, KHANPETH GENERAL NOTICE**

Subject: Application of Nazir Ahmad Dar, son of Mohd Issac Dar, resident of Rakhi - Duslipora, Tehsil Singhpora for issuance of death certificate in favor of his wife Shugufta

It is inform to all the general public that my wife namely Shugufta W/o Nazir Ahmad Dar R/o Rakhi Duslipora has passed on 18-12-2017 at her home. Now i want to obtain Death Certicate. If anyone has objections to the issuance of the death certificate, he/she may visit the office of the undersigned within seven days from the date of this notice. After this period, no objections will be accepted.

Naib Tehsildar, Khanpeth

# OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (DISTRIBUTION), ELECTRIC DIVISION BIJBEHARA, KASHMIR POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED

Sd/

Contact No/ Fax: - 01932-234398 E-mail:- exenedbij@yahoo.in

#### NIT: - EDB/e-tender/90 of 2023-24 Dated: - 16-02-2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir UT, e-tenders are hereby invited from Registered Electrical Suppliers/ authorized dealers / Contractors authorized to supply the following items

S. No	Name of Work A		Adv. Cost. (Rs. In Lacs)	Treasury Receipt/ Challan (Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit @2%	
		Supply, Installation, Testing and commissioning of laptops.     1.50		200	(Rs) 3000	
	1 Publishing Date & Time			16/02/2024 [1700Hrs)		
	2	Document Download / Sale	Start Date & Time	16/02/2024 (1700Hrs)		
Г	3	Seek Clarification Start Dat	e & Time	16/02/2024 (1700Hrs)		
	4	4 Seek Clarification End Date & Time		23/02/2024 (1300Hrs)		
	5	5 Bid Submission Start Date & Time		16/02/2024 (1700Hrs)		
	6	6 Bid Submission End Date & Time		23/02/2024 (1300Hrs)		
	7	7 Bid opening date & Time		24/02/2024 (1300Hrs)		
	8	Venue of opening Bids		Electric Division Bijbehara		
Please Read Document Carefully						

#### Position of Funds: Available

The tender document is available on website http://iktenders.gov.in. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table above. The Quoted rates shall be Firm, inclusive of all taxes and duties, WCT, freight, transportation up to working sites. The rates shall include costs, if any attracted towards mandatory inspections / testing by the designated agencies and the department will not be required to pay / reimburse anything over and above the price quoted. All the bids must be supported by the Instrument of EMD of the exact amount as mentioned in the above table and shall have been issued post tender publication date. Moreover, any deviation in the EMD amount is liable for rejection.

No: -EDB/TS/5932-39		Sd/-
Dated:-16/02/2024	DIPK-NB-5727-23	Executive Engineer,
	DT: 16/02/2024	Electric Division Bijbehara



EDIT

SRINAGAR | Saturday-17-February-2024



# Morning Kashmir

# Young Population

hat an amazing world we live in! The governments in countries like South Korea, Japan and Italy are giving monetary incentives to their population for having more than one child. Italy in particular is a case to ponder. The ageing population of the country is wreaking havoc with its demography and economy both. Same goes for a lot of first world countries almost every one is headed that way. The world is looking towards countries like Bangladesh, India, Nigeria and Indonesia which have youthful population and a great labour force. Our country in particular is a country with a huge army of English-knowing youth which gives us a due and definite edge. Our country is poised to become a ten trillion dollar economy by as early as 2034. Some estimates even suggest that this magical figure may be achieved even before 2034. The 20 something youth will have to chip in and play a pivotal part in this. By not focussing on demography the first world countries made a huge mistake. Ageing population is not a revenue generating population but instead a huge chunk of GDP has to be incurred on their welfare. There are lesser number of revenue generators and increasingly greater part of population seeking benefits and freebies. This can wreak havoc with any economy no matter how strong that economy is.

All eyes are on Indian economy. Manufacturing sector is one sector which can shape the course of Indian economy. How this youthful population can be skilled and then employed at various stages of production is of great significance. Our country needs human resources and skill management institutions which can help channelised the energies of these millions and millions of youth in the right direction. We can hope and pray that the youth of the country should come forward to improve the standard of country's economy.

### Deep **Dive**

# Pakistan - An Ailing Democracy



#### DR. RIZWAN RUMI

or decades, Pakistan has grappled with the elusive dream of stable democracy. Despite periodic transitions of power, the nation's democratic journey has been marred by corruption, mis-governance, and a pervasive sense of disillusionment among its populace. As we dissect the layers of Pakistan's democratic experiment, it becomes evident that the roots of failure run deep, intertwined with historical

legacies, political dynamics, and societal challenges.

#### Historical Context and Democratic Oscillation

Pakistan's political landscape has been marked by a seesaw between military rule and civilian democracy. The military, often viewed as a bastion of stability, has intermittently intervened in governance under the guise of restoring order and combating corruption. However, each military junta, despite promising reform, has perpetuated a cycle of authoritarianism, stifling dissent and curtailing civil liberties.

Conversely, civilian governments, heralded as beacons of hope for democratic consolidation, have repeatedly faltered under the weight of systemic corruption and patronage politics. The transition from military to civilian rule, while symbolically significant, has failed to translate into substantive change, leaving the electorate disillusioned and disenchanted.

#### Dynastic Politics and Patronage Networks

A pervasive feature of Pakistani politics is dynasticism, where political power is inherited and perpetuated within elite families. Dynastic politicians, entrenched in patronage networks, wield disproportionate influence over electoral outcomes, perpetuating a cycle of nepotism and cronyism.

The nexus between dynastic politics and patronage extends beyond rural constituencies, infiltrating urban cen-



ters and perpetuating a culture of clientelism. While the specter of dynasticism looms large, recent shifts in urban demographics and redistricting efforts offer a glimmer of hope for diminishing its stranglehold on Pakistan's political landscape.

#### **Erosion of Democratic Institutions**

The failure of democracy in Pakistan is compounded by the erosion of key democratic institutions, including the judiciary and electoral bodies. The judiciary, entrusted with upholding the rule of law and ensuring accountability, has often succumbed to external pressures, compromising its independence and integrity. Similarly, electoral bodies, tasked with overseeing free and fair elections, have been marred by allegations of rigging and manipulation, undermining the legitimacy of electoral outcomes and eroding public trust in the democratic process.

> Societal Challenges and Democratic Deficits

Beyond institutional malaise, Paki-

stan grapples with deep-seated societal challenges that undermine democratic norms and values. A burgeoning middle class, often hailed as a bulwark against democratic backsliding, remains fragmented and politically disengaged, failing to mobilize effectively against entrenched power structures.

Moreover, the proliferation of social media platforms has exacerbated divisions within society, perpetuating echo chambers and echo chambers and facilitating the spread of misinformation. The youth, disillusioned by the failures of governance and disillusioned by the failures of governance and marginalized by traditional power structures, are susceptible to radicalization and extremism.

#### **Toward a Path Forward**

The failure of democracy in Pakistan is not a foregone conclusion but rather a call to action for meaningful reform and renewal. A robust and independent judiciary, bolstered by constitutional safeguards, is essential for upholding the rule of law and ensuring accountability. Similarly, electoral reforms aimed at enhancing transparency and inclusivity are paramount for restoring public trust in the democratic process. Civil society, buoyed by grassroots activism and civic engagement, must serve as a watchdog against abuse of power and advocate for the rights of marginalized communities.

Above all, the success of democracy in Pakistan hinges on a collective commitment to democratic values and principles, transcending narrow political interests and personal agendas. Only through inclusive dialogue and genuine consensus-building can Pakistan chart a course toward democratic renewal and national reconciliation. The failure of democracy in Pakistan is a multifaceted challenge that demands collective action and unwavering resolve. As the nation grapples with its democratic deficits, the pursuit of a more inclusive and equitable future remains within reach, anchored in the resilience and determination of its people.

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# Ahlan Modi - A Message Of Friendship And Mutual Respect





ascend as a global power, Modi's strategic foresight and emphasis on soft power, technological innovation, and cultural exchange will undoubtedly continue to shape its trajectory on the world stage. In this era of geopolitical shifts and evolving international relations, Modi's approach offers valuable lessons in the art of diplomacy, underscoring the importance of building relationships that are rooted in mutual respect, understanding, and shared aspirations for a prosperous future. A notable aspect of Modi's leadership, as highlighted in his speech, is his recognition of the Indian diaspora as an integral part of India's global narrative. By acknowledging their contributions and celebrating their successes, Modi demonstrates a profound understanding of the diaspora's potential in strengthening India's ties with the world. This approach not only enhances India's soft power but also instils a sense of pride and belonging among Indians worldwide, further solidifying his reputation as a leader who values and uplifts his citizens, irrespective of where they reside. Moreover, Modi's adept utilization of cultural diplomacy during his address is a strategic manoeuvre that underscores the essential role of cultural ties in cementing diplomatic relationships. The strategic partnership between India and the UAE, enriched by Modi's visit, is a clear indication of India's emerging role as a key player in the global arena. The comprehensive strategic partnership, covering a wide array of sectors including energy, defence, trade, and culture, not only amplifies the bilateral relationship but also sets a precedent for India's future diplomatic endeavours. This partnership is a reflection of Modi's broader vision for India - a vision of a nation that is not just a regional power but a global influencer, capable of shaping international policies and contributing to global peace

and stability.

Prime Minister Modi's focus on economic, energy, and technological collaboration with the

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#### PROF. JASIM MOHAMMAD

rime Minister Narendra Modi's speech at the 'Ahlan Modi' conclave in Abu Dhabi was a masterstroke of diplomacy and outreach to the Indian diaspora and the UAE leadership. Modi, who is on a twoday visit to the UAE, addressed a crowd of over 50,000 people at the Zayed City sports stadium, where he received a rousing welcome and chants of 'Bharat Mata Ki

Jai' and 'Ahlan Modi'. The entire speech was a blend of emotion, gratitude, pride, vision and a powerful message of unity and harmony. In an era where global dynamics are increasingly influenced by economic partnerships, technological advancements, and cultural exchanges, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent address in Abu Dhabi emerges as a seminal moment, which elucidates the multifaceted nature of India's foreign policy under his leadership.

The ties between India and the UAE can be traced back to the ancient times, when the Indus Valley Civilization had trade and cultural links with the Mesopotamian and Arabian civilizations. The trade and cultural exchange continued through the medieval and early modern periods, when the Arab traders, merchants, and sailors visited the Indian ports and cities, and the Indian traders, merchants, and sailors visited the Arabian ports and cities. The trade and cultural exchange also involved the exchange of goods, ideas, religions, languages, and people. The trade and cultural exchange also led to the establishment of Indian communities in the Arabian Peninsula, especially in the coastal areas of the present-day UAE. The Indian communities played an important role in the economic and social development of the region, and also contributed to the cultural diversity and harmony of the region.

The India-UAE relationship is one of the most important and multifaceted bilateral relationships in the region and the world. The two countries share historical, cultural, and civilizational ties that date back to centuries. Both countries also have strong economic, energy, security, and people-to-people linkages that have grown exponentially in the last decade. Both countries have elevated their bilateral ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership, and have signed several agreements and MoUs in various sectors, including energy, defence. trade, investment, space, and culture. The two countries have also enhanced their cooperation on various regional and global issues, such as counterterrorism, maritime security, climate change, and renewable energy

However, During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's tenure, the relationship between the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and India has witnessed significant growth and strengthening across various domains. Prime Minister Modi's proactive diplomatic outreach and emphasis on economic diplomacy have played a pivotal role in fostering closer ties between the two nations. The UAE has emerged as a key strategic partner for India, particularly in the realms of trade, investment, and security cooperation. High-level visits and exchanges between leadership from both countries have served to deepen mutual trust and understanding.

The burgeoning relationship between India and the UAE, as depicted in Modi's speech, holds significant implications for the geopolitical landscape of the Global South. It exemplifies a model of south-south cooperation that is based on mutual respect, shared cultural values, and a joint commitment to economic growth and technological advancement. Under Modi's leadership, India is increasingly seen as a pivotal player in the Global South, forging partnerships that challenge the traditional hegemony of the Global North and advocating for a more equitable global order. This approach not only elevates India's status on the world stage but also offers a blueprint for other nations in the Global South seeking to navigate the complexities of 21st-century diplomacy.

The speech of Narendra Modi at the 'Ahlan Modi' event was a remarkable example of how a leader can use rhetoric and diplomacy to inspire and influence the audience, and to project India's image as a rising and responsible power in the region and the world. His visionary leadership has not only strengthened India-UAE relations but also redefined India's role in the global arena, particularly within the Global South. As India continues to UAE further highlights his pragmatic approach to harnessing the benefits of international cooperation for national development. By aligning with the UAE, a pivotal energy partner, and engaging in technological collaborations, Modi is steering India towards becoming a hub of innovation and sustainable growth. This strategic alignment with the UAE's advanced technological and energy sectors is indicative of Modi's foresight in leveraging international partnerships to fuel India's growth trajectory and to ensure its energy security.

Moreover, Modi's emphasis on counter-terrorism and maritime security cooperation with the UAE resonates with his commitment to ensuring regional and global peace. This aspect of the bilateral relationship is crucial, considering the strategic geopolitical location of both nations. By strengthening ties in these critical areas, Modi is not only safeguarding national interests but also contributing to the stability of the region.

In essence, the entire address was a holistic showcase of his diplomatic acumen, visionary leadership, and the strategic depth of India's foreign policy. His ability to intertwine the threads of cultural diplomacy, economic cooperation, and shared security concerns into the fabric of India-UAE relations exemplifies a nuanced understanding of international relations. As India positions itself more assertively on the global stage, Modi's approach to diplomacy-rooted in mutual respect, cultural appreciation, and strategic collaborationoffers invaluable insights into the evolving dynamics of global leadership and international cooperation.

Author is Professor in Comparative Literature and the Chairman of Centre for Narendra Modi Studies (CNMS), New Delhi. He can be mailed at modistudies@ gmail.com

IDEAS, OPINIONS AND VIEWS EXPRESSED IN ARTICLES PUBLISHED ARE WRITERS' OWN AND MAY NOT BE FOUND N ACCORD WITH THOSE OF GOOD MORNING KASHMIR



## **ATTENTION**

SRINAGAR | Saturday-17-February-2024

# 149 Experts Call To Find All TB To Stop TB



SHOBHA SHUKLA BOBBY RAMAKANT

ne hundred and forty nine delegates of 78th National Conference of Tuberculosis and Chest Diseases ( NATCON) have endorsed a global call to find all TB to stop TB, which has 1 key ask: Stop missing TB cases, by taking 2 actions:

Replace smear microscopy 100% with WHO recommended molecular tests as soon as possible, along with a paradigm shift from a labcentric to a fundamentally peoplecentric model to find TB, leaving no one behind

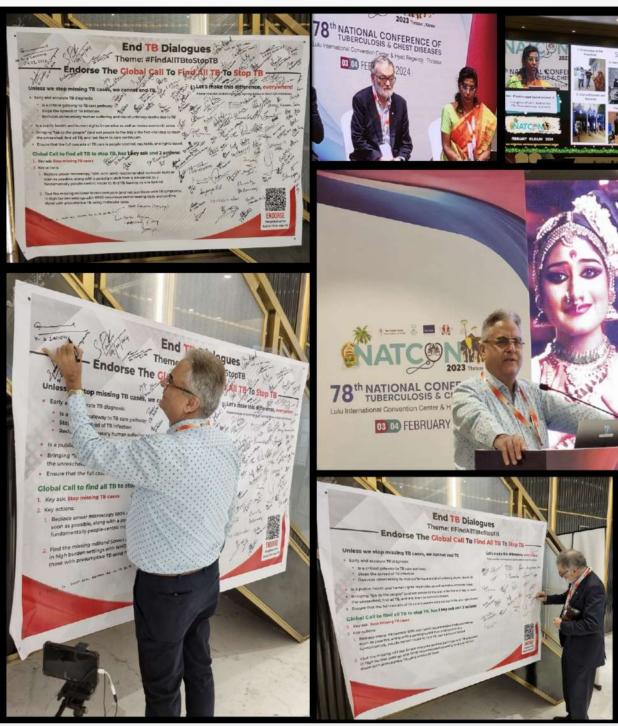
Find the missing millions! Screen everyone (and not just those with TB symptoms) in high burden settings with WHO recommended screening tools and confirm those with presumptive TB using molecular tests.

### Break the chain of TB transmission

Injustice and inequality mars global health too. On one hand we have few countries that have broken the chain of TB infection transmission but on the other hand we have many high TB burden countries which have failed to stop the spread of TB infection, said Professor (Dr) Guy Marks, noted respiratory medicine expert

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r Guy Marks . had visited NIRT-ICMR and posted on X: "As prevalence survey shows 55% of prevalent, microbiologically confirmed TB do not report symptoms, this will require annual mass screening, regardless of symptoms, with aim of finding at least 80% of prevalent infectious cases."



"Ensure all the TB cases found are linked to TB care. Sustain this [Find all TB, treat all TB] for ten years until TB rates drop below 50 per 100,000 population."

Dr Guy Marks added that "main beneficiaries are not the people with TB who are found [by active screening and upfront molecular testing], but those who are protected from getting TB infection and TB disease." Disease (The Union) and currently leads Molbio Diagnostics as President - Chief Medical Officer.

### Change paradigm of cascade of care

Dr Sachdeva rightly pointed out that cascade of TB care begins not from diagnosis but much earlier when active case finding is happening - it begins from willingfindings show that 42.6% TB patients would have been missed if they were not screened by an x-ray (and followed up with a confirmatory molecular test). "Use of ultraportable x-ray [as a screening tool] should be thought of at the community level," she said.

More importantly she said that "number of cases notified was way less than the number of TB cases shown by the prevalence survey." new TB cases were diagnosed in 2022 worldwide – highest ever in the age-old fight against TB (as per the WHO Global TB Report 2023). But, not able to find all TB cases continues to be worrisome.

In India, states like Uttar Pradesh have reported highest ever notification of new cases (around 625,000 as reported in news) in 2023 as more WHO recommended ultraportable x-ray screening and point-of-care and decentralised molecular test Truenat is being appropriately deployed at the block level across the state.

Of the 7.5 million new people who were diagnosed with TB in 2022 worldwide, only 47% were diagnosed using a WHO recommended molecular test. In India, as per the India TB Report 2023, only 23% of all TB testing was done on a molecular test. This is so unacceptable as we cannot afford to miss TB.

The WHO's highest level initiative – Find.Treat.All (first launched in 2018) - had called upon all governments to replace the old and poorly performing microscopy TB test with WHO recommended rapid molecular tests by 2027. World leaders at the 2023 UN High Level Meeting on TB had also re-echoed this call to completely phase out microscopy with upfront molecular test diagnosis for TB by 2027.

#### Upfront molecular testing for TB in India doubled in 2022

Despite glaring gaps, there is historic progress made in India too in fight against TB. India saw the largest-ever rollout of WHO recommended molecular tests across the nation. Molecular testing grew by 82% in India in 2022 as compared to the levels in 2021 – this is the largest jump in molecular testing figures so far (as per the data in India TB Reports of 2022 and 2023).

Point-of-care, decentralised, battery operated and laboratory independent Truenat is the most used molecular test in India. As compared to 2021, in 2022 India increased the rollout of Truenat by 90% (made by Molbio Diagnostics), and Gene Xpert by 67% (made by Cepheid). Microscopy increased during the same period by 68.1%. But when we look at absolute numbers, the rise in microscopy dwarfs the historic scale up of molecular testing in India in 2022.

Two Indian states (Goa and Lakshadweep) have completely phased out microscopy and transitioned to 100% use of molecular tests while one Indian state (Andhra Pradesh) is majorly using molecular tests (~70%) and has reduced microscopy. Most of the other Indian states have also increased the use of molecular tests manifold and are at different levels of scaling it up. Before coming to 78th NATCON, Scientia Professor (Dr) Guy Marks, met the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). "Excellent meeting today with the ICMR regarding evidence/ data-based interventions to end TB in India by breaking the chain of transmission. Need to find all, or nearly all. people with infectious TB (most of whom do not have symptoms)" he said on X.

and scientist from Australia, and President and interim Executive Director of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union).

He added: "TB is a communicable disease. There are 7 ways we can interrupt the cycle of being reinfected, out of which most effective way is to find all and treat all TB."

Dr Guy Marks shared an important study done in Ca Mau, Viet Nam where they screened everyone for TB (not just those with symptoms), and followed up with linkage to TB treatment and care for those who were found with the disease. TB rates declined by 72% in a four-years period. In communities where the TB rates declined in the adult population, TB rates halved among children too. "We need to break the chain of transmission," stressed Prof Guy Marks. "Find all (or nearly all) the  $\operatorname{TB}$  cases. Most people with  $\operatorname{TB}$  are not in high risk groups," he said.

#### TB diagnosis is a critical

ness of healthcare workers to go closer to the communities or at

br at Dr Padmapriyadarsini recombr at mended that to make TB case



#### entry-point to TB care continuum

"Early and accurate TB diagnosis is an important and critical entry-gate to the TB care pathway. It not only helps in reducing TB-related human suffering but also helps in stopping the spread of infection. To end TB, we need to find all TB cases, diagnose all of them by using WHO approved molecular tests upfront and link them to the full cascade of effective treatment, care, and support services," said Dr Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva, former head of India's TB elimination programme (former deputy director general of TB at Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, government of India). Dr Sachdeva was also the Director for Southeast Asia region of International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung

the doorstep of people to find all TB. Cascade of care does not end with cure, instead it ends after a couple of years of a person being cured of TB. "If we do passive case finding [for new TB cases], we will never find all the TB cases," said Dr Sachdeva.

#### Verbal screening for TB is not enough

Dr Padmapriyadarsini Chandrasekaran, Director of National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis (NIRT), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), stressed upon the importance of screening everyone (not just those with symptoms) with WHO recommended and evidence-based tools and offering WHO recommended molecular testing to those with presumptive TB. India's National TB Prevalence Survey 2019-2021 finding more efficient, we need to scale up x-ray screening and offer upfront molecular testing to all those with presumptive TB. She also underlined the importance of screening all those with TB risk factors, such as those with diabetes, malnourishment, tobacco or alcohol use, HIV, among others.

Dr Guy Marks had visited NIRT-ICMR and posted on X: "As prevalence survey shows 55% of prevalent, microbiologically confirmed TB do not report symptoms, this will require annual mass screening, regardless of symptoms, with aim of finding at least 80% of prevalent infectious cases."

#### Progress happened but is it enough?

Globally, we could find a record number of new TB cases in a single year - historically. Over 7.5 million

#### Endorse the global call to find all TB: www.bit.ly/ findalltb

The global call to find all TB to stop TB demands a paradigm shift from a lab-centric to a fundamentally people-centric model to find TB, leaving no one behind. It also reinforces the science-based call to "reach the unreached" by using WHO recommended point of care tools to screen and diagnose TB. If we act upon this key ask, imagine the difference it will make when no TB case is missed, and all people with TB are brought in the care fold in a rights-based manner. A people-centric approach to find all TB, treat all TB, and prevent TB is critical to end TB. Endorse the global call here: www.bit.ly/ findalltb

Shobha Shukla and Bobby Ramakant co-lead the editorial of Citizen News Service and on the governing board of Global Antimicrobial Resistance Media Alliance (GAMA) and Asia Pacific Media Alliance for Health and Development (APCAT Media). Follow them on Twitter @shobha1shukla and @ bobbyramakant)



NEWS



# **DC Bandipora Reviews Functioning Of Revenue Deptt**

ect aims to bring locally

sourced, farm-fresh milk

directly to the doorsteps of

residents in the surround-

monly known as milk ATM, equipped with

refrigeration and storage

facilities, will traverse

neighborhoods and com-

munities, offering resi-

dents convenient access to

high-quality milk.

Milk dispensers com-

ing areas.

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

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

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

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

RAther stressed upon revenue officials to meet the timeline of online services as per the Public Service Guarantee Act and ensure that no service is provided in offline mode which is available on the online portal. He also warned that strict action shall be taken against officers and officials not adhering to the PSGA timelines.

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

### Launches Mobile Milk ATM Initiative **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

sponsored schemes of the Department.

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandi-He said the schemes propora, Shakeel Ul Rehman vided by the Government are Friday launched the meant for sustainable busi-Mobile Milk dispenser Van ness and profitable enterinitiative at Animal Husprise and emphasized on bandry Complex, here. more awareness in the upper This innovative projreaches of the district.

The DC said schemes under the Animal Husbandry Department have the potential to provide self-employment in addition to providing direct or indirect sources of income to others.

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

He also handed over

to be engaged under Govt under IDDS Scheme. Chief Animal Husband-

> ry Officer Bandipora, Gh. Ahmad Lone informed the DC that Bandipora is selfsufficient in milk production with per capita availability of 1000ml, which is double the National Average

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

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

He said the department also achieved a 100 percent target of establishing dairy and poultry units in the district.

# Paytm QR, Soundbox, Card Machine To Work **Beyond March 15**

#### IANS

**NEW DELHI:** Leading payments and financial services company Paytm on Friday reassured its users that its mobile app, including the widelyused Made in India QR code, Soundbox, and Card Machine will remain operational without interruption even after March 15.

This comes after a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) was released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday, which confirmed that its merchant payment devices will remain unaffected and work normally.

The company also announced that it has transitioned its nodal account to Axis Bank by opening an Escrow Account to ensure uninterrupted merchant settlements. This arrangement is expected to seamlessly replace the nodal account previously used with the



Paytm Payments Bank.

Following the FAQs, the company ensures continuing payment services for its millions of users and focuses on business growth with strict compliance of the regulatory guidelines. "We are committed to

providing seamless service to our merchant partners, with focus on compliance and regulatory guidelines. We assure our users that the Paytm app, and our pioneering devices like Paytm QR, Soundbox, and Card Machine will continue to work as always," said a Paytm spokesperson in a stock exchange filing. "The shift of the nodal

account to Axis Bank (by opening an Escrow Account) will ensure seamless merchant settlements as before. We strive to continue to empower Indians, contributing significantly to the country's financial inclusion journey," the spokesperson added.

Paytm's Founder and CEO, Vijay Shekhar Sharma, took to X to reassure its vast user base.

"Paytm QR, Soundbox, and EDC (Card Machine) will operate as usual, even after March 15," he said. He urged also the

users not to be swayed by rumours and to continue supporting Digital India.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE .....

## Weatherman Predicts

thunder, lightning at many places on February 18.

On February 19 and 20, Director MeT said that there is a possibility of intermittent light to moderate rain with thunder, lightning in plains of Jammu with light to moderate snowfall over higher reaches with heavy snowfall over isolated higher reaches of Ramban, Poonch, Doda and Kishtwar

"Intermittent light to moderate snow and rain is expected over many places till late afternoon, evening and gradual improvement thereafter on February 21," he said.

The weatherman has, however, issued an advisory, saying that the system may lead to temporary closure of roads of higher reaches and important passes like Sinthan pass. 🕂 📶 Mughal Road, Sadhna & Razdan pass, Zojila and others

He advised the travellers to plan accordingly.

Moreover, the Director MeT advised the farmers to withheld irrigation and fertilizer application & drain out excess water from Orchards and fields during the above period. Significant drop in day temperature during

the above period is expected, he said.

Meanwhile, the Mechanical Engineering Department (MED) Kashmir has urged people not to park their vehicles on the roadside.

Kaplesh Pandita, a senior officer at MED Kashmir told KNO that the department is all geared up and has made all arrangements to ensure smooth snow clearance from the roads. "A mock drill has already been done, all men and machinery are ready. We urge people not to park their vehicles on the road sides during the snowfall," he said. Another senior official looking into the functioning of the provincial control room said that they have activated 22 control and sub control rooms across the valley and that all men and machinery are on standby mode. "There are around 300 machines available with the mechanical and hospital engineering department and they are already stationed in all districts." officials said. He said that in district Srinagar alone, they have stationed over 40 machines to address any issues arising from the forecast weather conditions The official also said that in order to ensure no or least damage chances to the roads during snow clearance they have procured high tech snow clearance machines with plastic cartilage snow blades. Moreover, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri convened a meeting of Deputy Commissioners & Head of Civil Departments wherein he directed all the departments to keep men, material and machinery ready to tackle any exigency that may emerge from the expected snowfall. He also directed officers to mobilize their field staff for effective & timely response to any emergency—(KNO)

including Kulgam."

He said that naka checking has been increased in Kulgam and vehicles and bikes without number plates are being seized.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit Jammu on February 20 and will inaugurate various projects including AIIMS Jammu, world's highest railway bridge over Chenab, and north India's first river rejuvenation project — Devika river project — in Udhampur.

## **Pak Quadcopters**

Indian territory in Balnoi-Mendhar and Gulpur sectors, they said.

They said a search operation was launched in both the sectors to ensure there was no dropping of weapons or narcotics by the quadcopters.

Officials said troops noticed two quadcopters entering the Balnoi area of Mendhar around 6.30 am and opened fire but the remotely controlled machines returned.

Similarly, a couple of quadcopters hovering over Gulpur sector around the same time returned in the face of firing by Indian troops, they said.

Army Opens Fire After Suspicious Movement Near LoC In J&K's Poonch

Earlier on February 12, Army troops had fired on an enemy drone after picking up its movement in Mankote area of Mendhar sector.

their collective and community issues, ranging from power and water supply to various utility services.

Rana said that all the issues raised will be taken up at appropriate levels for earnest redressal. He also referred to the initiatives taken by the BJP in getting the public issues resolved, which were projected during the public hearings and public outreach programmes from time to time.

## Houseboat Owners

operated boats, which is going to ply on Jhelum.

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

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

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

"Relocating us to safer places is neces-sary to protect our livelihoods and preserve

decreased to 6,514. Overall, in 2022. 150.713 tourists explored Kokernag, compared to 146,830 visitors in 2023.

Approximately 800,000 tourists visited Daksum and Sinthan Top in 2023 alone. As of this month, around 3,000 tourists have visited Kokernag, with approximately 1,000 visitors exploring Daksum and Sinthantop.

While tourist footfall at Daksum and Sinthan Top has begun to decline with the waning of snowfall, residents said the area has untapped tourism potential. They mentioned Breng hamlet, which they said could contribute to revenue generation and employment opportunities if developed properly.

Although the government has initiated some measures for the development of tourist spots in the area, locals say more efforts are needed.

Officials said all tourist destinations are undergoing development, with necessary arrangements in place to facilitate tourists. They said they are anticipating a further increase in tourism flow in the region-(KNO)

## Education Sector

past five years, the academic days in schools of Jammu and Kashmir have increased by over 30 percent. "Prior to 2019, due to unrest, the average number of working days for which Schools remain functional was 128-150.<sup>3</sup>

Speaking on the occaand other blocks. sion, the DC stressed upon concerned officers from the keys of milk distributing Animal Husbandry Department to identify more youth vans among beneficiaries

## PM Modi To Launch

Mahanpur (Kathua), Neeli Nallah (Udhampur), Sunderbani (Rajouri) and Kokernag (Anantnag), among others.

The prime minister will lay the foundation of 124 projects, including development of nine new industrial estates spread over 2210 kanals with large investment and employment opportunities, and 2,816 flats for Kashmiri migrants at nine locations in Anantnag, Kulgam, Kupwara, Shopian and Pulwama districts, according to the advertisement.

The prime minister will lay the foundation stone of data centre. disaster recovery centre for integrated command and control centre for Jammu smart city, upgradation/ revamping of transport nagar at Parimpora in Srinagar, and construction and upgradation of 62 road projects and 42 bridges at a cost of Rs 891.53 crore

## **Security Heightened**

Pakistan is using drones to drop narcotics and weapons in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Jammu and Kashmir Police recently announced a cash reward of Rs three lakh to anyone providing information about drones flown from across the border with a purpose to drop weapons and narcotics.(Agencies)

## PM's Visit Will Give

empowerment of all due to landmark decisions taken in last four years.

Interacting with deputations and delegations during weekly public hearing at the BJP headquarters here, here along with Mrs Veena Khanna BJP State Secretary Rana referred to the enthusiasm among the people about the visit, saying this reflects their confidence about things moving in right direction, given the track record of the BJP led government at the Centre in steering India to new heights on the global landscape, be it serving the humanity with much needed assistance during pandemic and crisis like situations or bringing about economic stability on the face of slow down across the world.

"India graduated to fifth slot as economic prowess and Modiji's guarantee to make the nation third economic power in the world during his third successive term is for real and not just a slogan", he said, adding that the Prime Minister has fulfilled all the promises of immense national importance during his two consecutive terms and the third term will be a game changer.

Rana said peoples' trust in the leadership of Prime Minister Modi is a driving force for the BJP to devote and dedicate itself for realizing his vision of making India Vishwaguru. Not only Indians but the people in other countries are also looking towards him during contingencies and crises, making him the world leader. The brass tacks in Bharat becoming the world leader are already in place, which is discernible by the warmth he is getting the world over, he said and referred to Yashasvi Modi ji's recent visit to Abu Dhabi and Qatar. He said Indians across the globe are now feeling a sense of pride and are energized to contribute towards global progress as per the spirit of Sanatan Dharma's Vasudeva Kutumbkam. The continents across the world are keenly watching India's journey towards progress and development with rapt attention. This has become possible due to strong leadership, active support of the people in consonance with Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Pravas, he added.

During the public hearing the delegations and deputations besides individuals flagged the beauty of our heritage, as our Houseboats are not in the condition to handle such high tide and disturbance in the water," he added—(KNO)

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

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

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

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

## **SED Directs To Replace** Department to switch over to e-office mode

with immediate effect and complete the whole process as per the directives," it reads.

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

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

## Sinthan Top

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

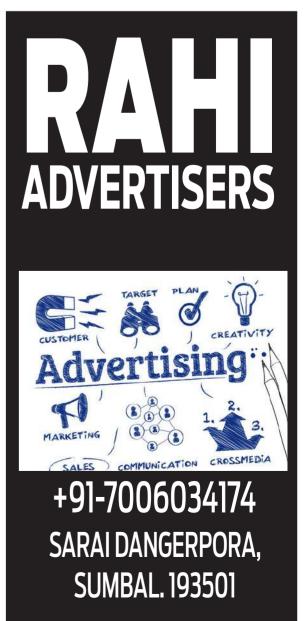
Due to the absence of snowfall in December and January in Kokernag's main town, there was no increase in tourist flow in that area, officials said.

In January 2023, 7,310 tourists visited Kokernag, while in January 2024, the number

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

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

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





## **NATIONAL**

SRINAGAR | Saturday, 17, February 2024

# **Satellite Cartosat-2** successfully re-entered **Earth's atmosphere: ISRO**

#### IANS

CHENNA; ndia's cartograph satellite Cartosat-2 launched in 2007 successfully re-entered the Earth's atmosphere over the Indian Ocean, said Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Friday.

'Cartosat-2, ISRO's high-resolution imaging satellite, bid adieu with a descent into Earth's atmosphere on February 14, 2024, as predicted. ISRO had lowered its orbit from 635 km to 380 km by early 2020," the Indian space agency said.

"This strategic move minimised space debris and underscores ISRO's commitment to sustainable space exploration," ISRO added.

Weighing 680 kg at launch, the Cartosat-2 was operated in a Sunsynchronous Polar orbit at an altitude of 635 km. Until 2019. it provided high-resolution imagery for urban planning.

Initially, the satellite was expected to take about 30 years to naturally deorbit. However, ISRO opted to lower its perigee using



2024

leftover fuel to comply with international guidelines on space debris mitigation.

This involved reducing collision risks and ensuring safe end-of-life disposal, following recommendations from organisations like the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UN-COPOUS) and the Inter-Agency Space Debris **Coordination Committee** (IADC), ISRO said.

ISRO's System for Safe 130 km altitude. ISRO then and Sustainable Space tracked the satellite by

Operations (IS4OM) team its multi-object tracking at ISRO Telemetry Trackradar at its rocket port in ing and Command Net-Sriharikota.

work (ISTRAC) predicted The final prediction Cartosat-2's atmospheric placed Cartosat-2's re-entry re-entry for February 14, over the Indian Ocean at 3:48 pm IST on February 14. Electrical passivation

Analysis indicated that all major spacecraft components would demise during atmospheric reentry. Cartosat-2's successful de-orbiting at its end-oflife represents a significant step for ISRO in ensuring the long-term sustainability of outer space activities.

#### FUNDS FREEZING MATTER

# HC raps Delhi child rights body for 'irresponsible allegations' against authorities

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi High Court on Friday criticised the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) for its "irresponsible action" in filing a petition against the alleged freezing of its funds by the authorities.

IANS

In January, Lt Governor V.K. Saxena had filed an affidavit saying that no order was issued to halt the funding of the DCPCR. Justice Subramonium

Prasad criticised the DCPCR for relying on a purported press release to accuse L-G of withholding funding, calling the response "wishywashy" and said that allegations against a constitutional authority must be made with the utmost responsibility.

The court said that the DCPCR's reliance on a nonexistent press release was unacceptable.

Justice Prasad said that the office of the L-G cannot be undermined in such a manner. During the hearing, the

petitioner's counsel argued that the press release was widely reported by prominent news outlets, some of which attributed the infor-

mation to L-G's office. However, the court dismissed this argument, stating that the issue of press reporting was irrelevant to the present petition. Furthermore, the court noted that the alleged "press release" lacked an official

logo and questioned its authenticity.

The counsel for the L-G pointed out that the response filed by the peti-tioner was by a person who was no longer a member of the commission, further adding to the court's concerns.

The court adjourned the matter for further hearing on February 29 and directed the DCPCR to file a reply by someone currently in the office of the petitioner.

Earlier, L-G's counsel had submitted that the press release mentioned in the petition, indicating the action to stop funding pending an inquiry, was never issued by L-G's office.

The affidavit also stated that no press release dated November 9, 2023, was issued or signed by the L-G or his secretariat, as being claimed.

The counsel had last time stressed on the seriousness of the matter, saying that the press release in question was not

authentic. Justice Prasad had directed the counsel to

On January 10, the court

had asked the L-G for his

stance on the panel's peti-

tion, challenging the with-

holding of funds pending

an inquiry and special

audit over alleged misuse

of government funds. Jus-

tice Prasad had noted that

certain portions of the

press note on the action

ordered by L-G against the

child rights body took a

"political colour" and had

asked the L-G's counsel to

tion mentioned that DCP-

CR's former Chairperson,

Anurag Kundu, and six

members were politically

affiliated with the Aam

Aadmi Party (AAP) and

had expressed concern

about the potential politi-

cal motivations behind

the action. Saxena's coun-

sel had stated that the

action was taken based

The press note in ques-

seek instructions.

an affidavit.

on the recommendation of other state authorities and requested time to seek submit his statements on instructions. Last year, Saxena

approved an inquiry and special audit into the alleged misuse of funds by DCPCR, directing a halt to further fund allocation until the completion of the inquiry.

The DCPCR's senior advocate informed the court that the allocation of funds to the child rights body had stopped.

This petition was transferred from the Supreme Court, where on December 15, the apex court had instructed the DCPCR to present its grievances before the Delhi HC.

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, representing the DCPCR, had argued in the Supreme Court that the funds of the commission should not be frozen, stressing the impact on the services provided to six million children in the city.

## 'No change in exam schedule': CBSE warns against fake notice



IANS

**NEW DELHI:** The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Friday said that there is no change

He said that all this is done to mint money from the students. "These persons, groups and agencies intend to fleece the gullible students and parents

## Marriages between NRIs, Indian citizens must be registered: Law panel

IANS

was completed on Febru-

ary 14th, and tracking con-

frames confirmed success-

ful passivation, with the

satellite reaching about

The final telemetry

tinued until re-entry.

**NEW DELHI:** The 22nd Law Commission, chaired by Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi (Retd), has recommended that all marriages between Non-Resident Indians (NRIs)/Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) and Indian citizens should be compulsorily registered in India.

The commission said that there has been a rapid rise in legal issues arising out of inter-country marriages taking place between NRIs and foreign citizens of Indian origin on one hand and Indian citizens on the other. In its report, the panel observed: "The rising laboration with the Nationoccurrence of fraudulent marriages involving NRIs marrying Indian partners is a worrisome trend. Several reports highlight an increasing pattern where these marriages turn out to be deceptive, putting Indian spouses, especially women, in precarious situations. Deceptive practices like false assurances, misrepresentation, and abandonment are commonly associated with these fraudulent unions, causing distress to the Indian partners.' It said that the intercountry nature of these marriages further intensifies the vulnerability, making it challenging for affected individuals to pursue legal remedies and support.

the proposed law should include provisions on divorce, maintenance of spouse, custody and maintenance of children, serving of summons, warrants, or judicial documents on the NRIs and OCIs.

Also, the panel recommended that requisite amendments be introduced in the Passports Act, 1967 in order to mandate the declaration of marital status, the linking of a spouse's passport with the other and mentioning of the Marriage Registration Number on the passports of both the spouses

'The Government, in col-

#### electricdivisionrnb@gmail.com

### Government of Jammu & Kashmir **OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) ELECTRIC DIVISION KASHMIR. ENGINEER**

SRINAGAR RAJBAGH, NEAR SILK FACTORY SRINAGAR- 19000S.

#### **NOTICE INVITING TENDER** E-NIT No. 59/R&B/Electric Division Kashmir of 2023-24 issued under Endorsement No: ERB/3274-82 DATED:15-02-2024

For and on behalf of the LT. Governor, J&K (U/T) e-tenders (in Double cover system) are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/ UT/ Central Government Departments for the

SI. No.	Name of Work	Estimate d. Cost (In Rs.)	Cost of Tender/ Doc. (In Rs.)		2% Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time of Comple- tion (Calendar Days)	Class of Contract	Major Head of Account
01	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of High Mast lights at Main Road Ziyarat Zain Din Wali Aishmuqam.	Rs. 2.25/=			Rs. 4504/=	15 Days	"AAY" Class Electrical	Administrative Approval ac- corded by DDC Anantnag Kasi mir vide order no. 04-DDCA C 2024 Dated: 02-012024.
02	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of High Mast lights at Main Road Sun Temple Martand Mattan.	Rs. 2.25/=	Rs. 200/=		Rs. 4504/=	15 Days	"AAY" Class Electrical	Administrative Approval ac- corded by DDC Anantnag Kas mir vide order no. 04-DDCA ( 2024 Dated: 02-012024.
03	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of High Mast lights at Public Road Gurduwara Chittisinghpora Achabal.	Rs. 2.25/=	Rs. 200/=		Rs. 4504/=	15 Days	"AAY" Class Electrical	Administrative Approval ac- corded by DDC Anantnag Kas mir vide order no. 04-DDCA ( 2024 Dated: 02-012024.
04	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of High Mast lights at Main Road Baba Hyder Reshi (Reshi Mool) at Reshi Mohalla Anantnag.	Rs. 2.25/=	Rs. 200/=		Rs. 4504/=	15 Days	"AAY" Class Electrical	Administrative Approval ac- corded by DDC Anantnag Kas mir vide order no. 04-DDCA 2024 Dated: 02-012024.
05	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of High Mast lights at Main Road Baba Naseer ud din Gazi Bijbehara.	Rs. 2.25/=	Rs. 200/=		Rs. 4504/=	15 Days	"AAY" Class Electrical	Administrative Approval ac- corded by DDC Anantnag Kas mir vide order no. 04-DDCA 2024 Dated: 02-012024.
06	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of High Mast lights at Main Road Ziyarat Kabamarg Shahabad.	Rs. 2.25/=	Rs. 200/=		Rs. 4504/=	15 Days	"AAY" Class Electrical	Administrative Approval ac- corded by DDC Anantnag Kas mir vide order no. 04-DDCA 2024 Dated: 02-012024.
07	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of High Mast lights at Main Road Ziyarat Khiram Dachinipora.	Rs. 2.25/=	Rs. 200/=		Rs. 4504/=	15 Days	"AAY" Class Electrical	Administrative Approval ac- corded by DDC Anantnag Kas mir vide order no. 04-DDCA 2024 Dated: 02-012024.
	e of Issue of Tender Notice				2.2024			
Period of downloading of bidding documents Bid submission Start Date				16.02.2024 from 09:00 AM				
				16.02.2024 from 09:00 AM 23.02.2024 upto 04:00 PM				
5 Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)				24-02-2024 at 02.00 PM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Electric Division Kashmir, Engineering Complex Srinagar Rajbagh.				
Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online) osition of AAA= Accorded					To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.			



in the examination schedule and also issued a stern warning against the fake notice over re-scheduling of exams in wake of farmers' protests.

"The misguiding notice has been issued on fake letterhead of CBSE. Such notices are completely fake. There is no change in the class X and XII board exams," the CBSE said.

Earlier, Controller of **Examinations** Sanyam Bhardwaj has said that it has been observed in the past also that during exam time certain unscrupulous elements make an effort to spread rumours on social media platforms about paper leak and claim to have access to question papers of exams.

"Miscreants also circulate fake links of sample papers with the claim that questions will be from these sample papers," Bhardwaj said.

as they demand money in return. Such irresponsible activities also create confusion and panic among the students and public," he

said. Bhardwaj said that if anyone comes across any such news, the student or the parent must inform the CBSE on e-mail ID info. cbseexam@cbseshiksha.in The CBSE annual exami-

nations of class X & XII have started from 15 February.

The Board has said that it is vigilant and active in identifying and taking action against those spreading fake news and rumours.

"CBSE is closely monitoring the situation with the help of law enforcement agencies to take stern action against persons involved in circulating fake news on social media platforms under various provisions of IPC and IT

Act," an official said.

Pitching for a comprehensive central legislation, the commission said that al Commission for Women and the State Commissions for Women in India and the NGOs and Indian associations abroad, should conduct awareness programs for women and their families who are about to enter into marital relationship with NRIs/OCIs," the commission said. The Centre in February 2019 introduced the Registration of Marriage of

Non-Resident Indians Bill, 2019 in the Rajya Sabha and the said Bill was referred to the Committee on External Affairs for examination and report submission

The Ministry of External Affairs through the Ministry of Law and Justice requested the Law Commission of India to conduct an in-depth study of the law concerning inter-country marriage, including the NRI Bill. 2019

Position of funds= Available / Committed.

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, drawings, bill of quantities (BOO), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the departmental website www.iktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

Note:- The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the E-NIT carefully before uploading soft's copy. Any short fall found in the softcopy will tender the Bid rejected.

As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Secretariat Finance department vide No. OM No. A/24(2017)-651 dtd.07-06-2018whichreadsasunder:

- Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the a) Bidder who's declared 1st Lowest (L-I) after opening of financial bids.
- The Cost of tender document should be collected by introducing Treasury Challan (Receipt).
- 1.1. The successful Bidder has to produce Performance Security Deposit @5% of contract value in the shape of CDR/ FDR within 02 days after opening of Bids which shall be released after successful completion of work with DLP. The EMD @2% of successful bidder will be released only after the submission of 5% performance secondary deposit.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an 2. e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Electric Division Kashmir, Srinagar (Tender receiving authority).
- 3. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
- The earnest money (EMD) shall be released in favour of unsuccessful bidders only after submission of Treasury Challan
- The earnest money may be forfeited if:-5.
- Any bidder/ tendered with draws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the a. bid.
- Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit. b.
- Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
- The tender/bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT. 23
- All other terms & conditions shall be as are as per the SBD/ Contract Agreement. 24

No.ERB/3274-82		SD/"
DATED:-15 -02-2024	(r&B)	Executive Engineer,
DIPK-16518-23		Electric Division Kashmir
DT: 16-02-2024		Engineering Complex Srinagar Rajbagh

## IANS

**NEW DELHI:** The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has filed an application before the Supreme Court saying that it has not encroached on the land allotted to the Delhi High Court and the premises was officially allotted to it by the Delhi government in May 2015.

The application said that such allotment of office space for official party work is an essential element of public funding of elections in India and is designed to level the electoral playing field.

(Aam Aadmi Party) has risen to become a national political party. This change in the applicant's character and status has further enhanced its need for, as well as its entitlement to, office spaces in the New Delhi Municipal Area, at par with the 5 other nation-

al parties each of which are enjoving, at least, similar allotments in similar locations. Referring to the guidelines issued by the Union government's Land & Development Office, the

tled to two office spaces It added: "The applicant - one for its National Unit and another for its Delhi State Unit.

Not encroached on the land allotted to

the Delhi High Court, AAP tells SC

However, as of now. it said that it has been allotted office space only for its Delhi State Unit.

"Far from being an instance of 'encroachment', the Subject Premises were officially allotted to the Applicant (Aam Aadmi Party) by the government of NCT

of Delhi on 31.12.2015 for its State Unit Office. This was strictly in accordance with the applicant's entiruling party in the national tlement as (at that time) capital said that it is entia State Party under the

dated 14.10.2015," said the intervention application filed on Friday. The application asserted

Office Memorandum

that the Aam Aadmi Party has been occupying the premises since 2015 way before it was earmarked for extending the Rouse Avenue Court Complex.

The party led by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Keiriwal said that it has no cavils about relocating its State Unit Office to an alternative space as it is cognizant of the necessity of judicial infrastructure for the welfare of citizens of the national capital.

♦CMYKΦ





SRINAGAR | Saturday, 17, February 2024

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

#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

JAMMU: "Jammu and Kashmir has an opportunity to be the torchbearer of Viksit Bharat", said Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh. The Minister was deliv-

ering the inaugural address at the first-ever 3-day International Conference on Traditional Medicine and Phytopharmaceuticals. and the 11th International Congress of the Society for Ethnopharmacology at CSIR-IIIM here.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, it is for the first time since independence that J&K's unexplored resources like Aroma and lithium are being tapped to boost India's economy. It is evidenced in the Aroma Mission and Purple Revolution which were born in J&K, with the cultivation of lavender in the townships of Bhaderwah in Doda and Gulmarg in the Kashmir Valley. He said bio Himalayan resources like these will add hugely to the country's economy in the next two decades

Dr Jitendra Singh

recalled that Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi had spoken extensively on



the significance of laven-India-made vaccines saved der farming in Bhaderwah lakhs of lives across the in his Mann Ki Baat proworld. He said India is no gramme to encourage its more a country to be led by cultivation.

others, rather, it is a nation The Union Minister said which has taken the mantle following the Prime Minto lead the world. Dr Jitendra Singh said, ister's call, States such as

India has earned recogni-Himachal Pradesh, Uttaration as a propagator and a khand and Nagaland have also adopted the model of brand ambassador, with its lavender cultivation, which traditional medicines and practices like Yoga becomshows that J&K is proving to be an example whose ing a panacea, adding that innovations and best pracoriental methods of disease management and preventices are being emulated by other States of the country. tion are no more the only

In the same way, India way for cure. has made a name for itself The Union Minister said. at the recent G20 Summit the world over, with its sucheld in India. Prime Mincess stories in the form of the indigenously developed ister Modi proposed estab-COVID vaccine and muchlishing a Global bio alliance talked about Chandravaan to promote collaboration Mission, Dr Singh stated. and sharing of best prac-When the whole world was tices among the nations. calamity-hit by the pan-PM Modi is India's brand ambassador who has popudemic, Dr Jitendra Singh larised Yoga, millets and explained that it provided India an opportunity to traditional Indian remedies emerge as a messiah for across the world, he said. the global community as Dr Jitendra Singh under-

lined that it was the initiative of the Prime Minister to have the UN declare the International Day of Yoga and the International Year of Millets. He said India has shed the tag of a fragile economy, and has now emerged as a fertile economy, adding that it is on its course to become a third largest economy in the world

Calling for collaboration among the emerging agristart-ups and the industry, Dr Jitendra Singh said now is the time for greater integration, adding that the era of silos is over. He reasoned that India success stories. including Covid vaccine, Chandrayaan Mission and Aroma Mission, are the by-products of collaborative efforts between the StartUps and the industry, producers and the market. The Union Minister said the government has created an enabling ecosystem which must be optimised, he suggested.

## **CHARGING CAPITATION FEE** Edu Deptt asks Doon School chairman to explain its position

#### AGENCIES

**SRINAGAR:** Following the violation of section 13 of Right to Education (RTE) Act by a private school of Srinagar, School Education Department Friday ordered the chairman of the institute to explain its position within three days. Director of School Edu-

cation Kashmir (DSEK) in an order said that it has come to the notice of the directorate that Doon School Srinagar is charging developmental charges at the time of admission.

tion 13 of Right to Education Act 2009 clarifies that no school or person shall while admitting a child, collect any capitation fee. It also said that any school or person, if in contravention of the provision of sub-section(1), receives capitation fee, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to ten times the capitation fee charged.

It is pertinent to mention here that capitation fee means any kind of donation, admission fee or con-

DSEK said that the sectribution or payment other than the fee notified by the school.

DSEK has already issued circular instructions in this regard in December-2023 In a letter to chairman of Doon School Srinagar, DSEK has said, "It clearly shows that you are violating the provision of RTE Act and circular instructions issued by this directorate as well by FFRC in this regard." "Therefore, before any action is initiated against your school, you are asked to explain your position within three days as to why provisions of RTE Act and circular instructions issued by this directorate are being violated by your institution, reads the DSEK order.

DSEK informed the chairman of the Doon School Srinagar that if it failed to explain its position, it shall be presumed that he/she have nothing to say in his/her defence and action under rules will be initiated against the school which may include fine and even de-recognition of the school—(KNO)

# Alochi Bagh residents protest scarcity of water

#### MUBASHIR ALAM WANI

SRINAGAR: Scores of residents mostly women from Alochi Bagh Srinagar on Friday protested against the "non-availability" of potable water supply in their area.

The agitated protestors said that despite paying their usage charge on time, they are facing water scarcity issues in their area from a long time now.

"It has been months now we are facing water scarcity issues and nobody in the PHE department is bothered. How can we live without water. PHE department is not listening to us", the protestors said. The agitated protestors

accused the PHE department of not even sending the water supply tankers in their area, saying that even far flung areas are getting facilities, they are deprived of

even adequate water supply. A senior official from

the Jal Shakti PHE department Kashmir told KNO that the water supply in the particular area is being maintained in "Shifts", due to the low water charge in the water bodies.

"It is not like there is no supply in that area, but due to the low water charge in water bodies,



aftermath of prolonged dry spell, several areas in the valley complained of a shortage in water supply in their areas. The officials had previously

It is pertinent

to note that in the

expressed concern supply is being maintained over several water bodies in shifts", the official said. experiencing a partial The official also said drying effect, creating that they have proposal a potential threat to the in line up for which they

water supply. Officials earlier stated that due to prolonged dry spell in the valley, 20 percent of the portable water supply had got "badly affected" in the region-(KNO)

## **Pulwama villagers** - demand potable water

#### JAHANGEER GANAIE

PULWAMA: The residents of Dalipora area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district are up in arms against the Jal Shakti department for failing in providing potable drinking water supply to them.

The residents of Dalipora in Pulwama town staged a protest against

the reason behind it was the contaminated water being supplied to them.

"We are getting water from the water supply scheme but it is all full of dirt," said Maroofa, a local resident.

Locals said that despite the availability of several water supply schemes in the area, authorities have failed in ensuring potable water to the area.

# "Royi Hovegi" Sagar Bhatia creates symphony of emotions with his latest track

#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

**NEWS DELHI:** Renowned Qawwali singer, composer, producer, Sagar Bhatia is set to mend all heartstrings with his latest soul stirring track 'Rovi Hovegi'. Known for his ability to create music that resonates deeply with

SAGAR BHATIA'

global recorded music company that has on its roster a rich and storied history of iconic artists like Beyonce, Michael Jackson, Shakira, Mariah Carey and Britney Spears and today's superstars like Harry Styles, Camila Cabello, Travis Scott and Khalid,

pan-Indian pop sensation

AKASA, new age artists

like OAFF-Savera, Aditya

A, Talwiinder, Simran

Choudhary, QK and South

## Guldasta-e-Jammu Wa **Kashmir concludes**

### Over 450 artists participate in cultural festival

#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

are discussing modali-

ties to augment the water

supply in that area, and

that is likely to happen by

March with a likely supply

arrangement through a dif-

ferent connection.

JAMMU: A two-day Jammu and Kashmir cultural Festival "Guldasta-E- Jammu Wa Kashmir, Naya daur Nayi Umeed" concluded here Friday at Abhinav Theatre Jammu. The Festival was inaugurated by Manoj Sinha,

JKAACL is very devoted for the promotion of art and culture in the entire length & breadth of the Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir and JKAACL is giving its best to take the culture to every household so that the younger generation gets known by its roots.

While addressing the students of Bishnah Degree

the department today morning.

Locals said that they are getting contaminated water due to which they are facing immense hardships.

"In absence of a potable water facility, they are being forced to drink contaminated water, which can lead to the water-borne diseases," said Manzoor Ahmad, a local resident.

He added that their children and elderly people in the area often fall sick and

## **JKAACL** showcases 'Ek Shaam Veeroon Ke Naam'



#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

**SAMBA:** To pay tributes to the martyrs and to show soliditary with the brave soldiers, J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages Friday presented a mesmerising Music & Dance programme titled 'Ek Shaam Veeroon Ke Naam', here at Veer Bhoomi Park, Samba

Addressing the gathering, Sanjeev Gupta, SOCA, Kathua of J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages stated that JKAACL always tries to showcase a variety of events in the samba district. Today's event 'Ek Shaam Veeroon Ke Naam' is the bouquet of different forms of culture of Jammu region. The programme was conducted under able guidance of Bharat Singh, Secretary, J&K Academy of Art, Cul-

They said that if authorities continue to provide them with the contaminated water, water-borne diseases can break anytime.

Locals said that they have brought this issue into the notice of higher ups several times but to no avail.

They requested higher ups to look into the matter at an earliest so that they could heave a sigh of relief—(KNO)

ture & Languages.

The programme was

started with the vibrant

Dogri folk by Amit Kumar

& Party followed by folk

dogri singing by Rakesh

Kumar & Party. The stage

was further taken by

Raman Salathia who left

everyone stunned with

his power packed singing

skills. The programme was

further culminated with

the presentations by Milan

Cultural and Social Organ-

isation who presented Pun-

jabi songs, Rakesh Kona

& Party who showcased

Dogri Dance Form 'Phum-

niyaan' and Razia Akhthar

& Party who staged Dogri

folk Dance. All the artists

received repeated applause

from the august gathering.

ably conducted by Megha

Choudhary and coordi-

nated by Sanjeev Gupta,

SOCA Kathua.

The programme was

the audience, this heartfelt ballad takes the listeners on a journey of emotions exploring the intricacies of love, loss, and the ultimate

path to acceptance. 'Royi Hovegi's' lyrics, combined with a soothing melody, coupled with Sagar Bhatia's musical prowess offer a unique, immersive and unforgettable experience that tugs at the heartstrings. It delves into the complexities of human emotions, the journey of

letting go while holding onto cherished memories. The song is a testament to Sagar's Midas touch in every note, weaving together heartfelt narratives that resonate with a wide range of emotions.

Sharing his inspiration on the release, Singer-Songwriter Sagar Bhatia shared, "'Royi Hovegi' is

Royi Hovegi a deeply personal experience and a reflection of my journey that I am sharing with the world. I believe that music has the incredible power to speak to the heart and soul, that heals and connects us all across

boundaries. I hope this song resonates with the listeners in a meaningful

'Royi Hovegi' is a jour-

way.

ney that unfolds through the power of music. Whether it's a personal journey of heartbreak or just appreciating the beauty of emotions, this track promises to be a memorable addition to your playlist.

www.youtube.com/ watch?v=UyRMz\_hJVMI About Sony Music:Sony

Listen Here - https://

Music Entertainment is a

India's biggest acts like Anirudh, A.R. Rahman, GV Prakash, Yuvan Shankar Raja, Devi Sri Prasad, Thaman S, Vivek-Mervin, Darbuka Siva and Ghibran including several decadeslong relationships with Dharma Productions, Maddock Films, Red Chillies Entertainment, Vishesh Films, Madras Talkies, Raaj Kamal Films International. Seven Screen Studio ,The Route, Mythri Movie Makers, Vyjayanthi Movies and SVCC among others. On offer is a vast catalogue that comprises some of the most important recordings in history spread across multiple genres, languages, and geographies.

Lieutenant Governor of UT of J&K yesterday in presence of Suresh Kumar Gupta, Principal Secretary, Department of Culture and Bharat Singh, Secretary, JKAACL.

The festival was organised by J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages in collaboration with Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi and North Zone

Cultural Center, Patiala. More than 450 artists participated in the Festival which featured various folk traditions of Jammu and Kashmir like Kud Dance. Kashmiri Rouf, Dhambali Dance, Bhand Pather, besides Dogri, Gojri and Pahari Dances

The Secretary, JKAACL said that these festivals help in preserving the rich cultural traditions of Jammu and Kashmir and help in reviving these age old traditions. He added that

College, Govt. College For Women, Parade and MAM College, Jammu, he stated that it's everybody's moral responsibility to let youngsters know about their art, culture and history and this kind of events helps the student to remain stress free and to keep distance from drug abuse.

The students were enthralled by the splendid performance by the artists. One of the student, Shriya, said that she has seen such performances for the first time. Another student Romi said that we came to know about rich culture of Jammu.

One can easily find the representation of JKAACL in almost every event happening in J&K. This two day Jammu and Kashmir Festival was one such example where we tried to showcase our dying culture tradition of Jammu region.

## DC Srinagar reviews functioning of Revenue Department

#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

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

the DC Office Complex. Besides, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, Dr. Khalid Hussain, Additional Deputy Commissioner. Sved Ahmad Kataria, the meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner(Revenue). Assistant Commissioner Nazool, SDM East, SDM West and all Tehsildars of the District.



of Migrant offline/online grievances and Online public services delivery system

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

ances to ensure their time bound, prompt and quality

The DC also reviewed the process of online public services delivery mechanism. He said not a single application should be beyond the stipulated period under PSGA.

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

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

## Dir Agri visits Khanmoh, **Balhama** areas

#### **GMK NEWS NETWORK**

SRINAGAR: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal Friday visited Kanmoh, Balhama areas of Srinagar district and inspected Vermicompost Units, Borewell and Packhouse units established under Holistic Agriculture development programme (HADP) in these areas. Speaking to the farmers at different places, Director Agriculture highlighted the importance of HADP and said that it will have a long term impact on agriculture and allied sectors in the region.

Director Agriculture asked the farmers to

take advantage of all the projects under HADP. He underscored the importance of coordinated efforts among the agriculture and allied departments for the successful implementation of all the projects under HADP.

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

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

aged Massavies, Status

At the outset, the

Deputy Commissioner took

a detailed review about the

working and functioning of

the Revenue Department at

grass root level and coordi-

nation of Tehsildars with

the progress of all Tehsils

of the District on various

Revenue matters including

progress on digitization of

Jamabandis/ Girdawari,

Reconstruction of dam-

The DC also reviewed

the field Revenue staff.

**<b>♦**€М¥K⊕

disposal.