

DC Akshay reviews arrangements for Shab-e-Qadr, Eid-ul-Fitr, Novroz & Navratri

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SRINAGAR: In order to review the arrangements for the upcoming auspicious religious occasions of Shab-e-Qadr, Eid-ul-Fitr and Novroz, Navratri in the District, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo chaired a meeting here on Saturday at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadir Fareed, Superintendent of Police, Zaheer Ahmad, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, SDM West, Irfan Bahadur, SDM East, Zubair Ahmad and senior Officers of Revenue, Food safety, PDD, SMC, PHE, Health Services, FCS&CA, Animal & Sheep Husbandry, Fire & Emer-

gency Services and other concerned Officers attended the meeting. The meeting focused on ensuring coordinated preparations and arrangements ahead of the major religious events expected during these occasions. During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner directed all departments to ensure meticulous planning and close coordination so that people face no inconvenience on these auspicious occasions. He stressed that adequate arrangements must be put in place for traffic regulation, parking management, sanitation, street lighting, drinking water & power supply and medical facilities, especially around major Masjids, Shrines, Temples and other congregation places where large



gatherings are expected.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed assessment of the arrangements being made by

all line Departments on the auspicious occasions of upcoming Shab-e-Qadr, Eid-ul-Fitr, Novroz, Navratri including availability of es-

sential supplies and services, sanitation measures, traffic and parking management. The DC directed the Officers of all the line Departments to ensure that all necessary arrangements are put in place well in advance so that devotees do not face any difficulty during the observance of the holy occasions. The DC directed the PDD authorities to ensure uninterrupted supply of power during Shab-e-Qadr and Eid-ul-Fitr, Novroz and Navratri, while the PHE Department was asked to ensure adequate water supply to the people during the auspicious days. The Department was also directed to deploy water tankers at prominent Shrines of the city so that people do not face any difficulty in performing ablu-

tion. Similarly, the SMC authorities were asked to ensure proper sanitation and cleanliness arrangements across the City besides installation and repairs of the street lights at important religious places where large congregations are expected to be held. SMC officers were further asked to take adequate measures to contain dog menace in the city particularly around prominent shrines, masjids and temples. The DC also stressed for ensuring adequate transport and parking facilities at Hazratbal and other prominent masjids, shrines and temples for the devotees on the auspicious days. He asked the concerned authorities to prepare a comprehensive route plan, besides creating temporary additional parking slots for better traffic regulation.

11 civil services aspirants from University of Kashmir's CCCP clear JKCCE-2024 exam

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SRINAGAR: In a notable achievement, 11 candidates from the Centre for Career Counselling, Coaching and Placement (CCCP), University of Kashmir (KU), have qualified the Jammu & Kashmir Combined Competitive Examination-2024 (JKCCE), as per the results declared by the Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission (JKPSC) on March 13. The successful candidates include Dawood Bin Salam (Rank 11), Syed Zeeshan Nisar (14), Mir Mujeeb (24), Aamir Hassan (26), Muhtashim Ishaq (29), Faizan-ul-Haq (30), Aarif-ul-Asad (35), Khalid Bashir (70), Naveed Shareef (72), Talib Zargar (80) and Imtiyaz Poswal (89).

Vice-Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, congratulated the successful aspirants and described the achievement as a reflection of their dedication and perseverance. "The success of these candidates highlights the importance of focused guidance and sustained academic support in preparing for competitive examinations. We hope they will serve society with commitment and integrity," she said. Prof. Khan also acknowledged the efforts of CCCP faculty, team and coordinators for providing mentorship and academic support to civil services aspirants. She further appreciated the role of the CCCP Overseeing Committee for their guidance and coordination in strengthening the programme.

Theme-Based Painting Competition held under AVYAY Scheme at Abhedananda Home

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SRINAGAR: A Theme-Based Painting Competition was successfully organized under the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) Scheme at Abhedananda Home, Srinagar, aiming to encourage creativity, awareness, and intergenerational engagement among participants. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from residents, staff, and students who showcased their artistic talents through vibrant paintings reflecting themes such as respect for elders, healthy ageing, community har-

mony, and the importance of care and dignity for senior citizens. The competition was organized as part of ongoing activities under the AVYAY Scheme to promote the well-being, social inclusion, and active engagement of elderly citizens. Participants expressed their thoughts and emotions through art, highlighting the values of compassion, respect, and social responsibility towards older persons. The atmosphere at Abhedananda Home was filled with creativity and enthusiasm as partici-

pants used colours and imagination to convey meaningful messages about ageing with dignity and building a caring society. Organizers appreciated the efforts and creativity of all participants and emphasized that such activities help promote mental well-being, confidence, and community bonding among residents. Winners of the competition were felicitated with appreciation certificates and tokens of encouragement. The program concluded with a message of love, respect, and care for Senior Citizens regarding their dignified life.

SWD holds Anti-Drug awareness programme at Baramulla

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BARAMULLA: Social Welfare Department (SWD) Baramulla today held an awareness programme under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan at Kashmir University North Campus, Delina to raise awareness about the growing menace of drug abuse and to encourage collective efforts towards building a drug-free society. The programme was presided by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Baramulla, Altaf Hussain Musavi as the Chief Guest and was attended by Director North Campus, University of Kashmir, Vice Principal GDC Boys' Baramulla, ASP Headquarters, District Social Welfare Officer Baramulla, Sajad Ahmad Bhat, District Information Officer other officers and resource persons. During their addresses,



the speakers highlighted the serious threat posed by drug abuse and emphasized the need for collective efforts from government depart-

ments, educational institutions, and the community to combat the menace. The resource persons also discussed the harmful physical, psychological, and social consequences of substance abuse and stressed the importance of awareness, prevention, and rehabilitation. The speakers collectively called for coordinated action to make District Baramulla a drug-free district, urging youth and the general public to actively participate in the fight against drug abuse and support the objectives of the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan. Meanwhile, on the sidelines of the programme, the guests also participated in a signature campaign and a plantation drive under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan and they pledged their commitment to actively support the mission of creating a drug-free society.

BIS-FOSS summit at NIT Srinagar highlights innovation, secure digital ecosystems

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SRINAGAR: The Department of Computer Science and Engineering at National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar on Saturday organised the "BIS - FOSS NIT Srinagar - Open Standard Summit". It brought together experts, industry professionals, and students to deliberate on the role of open standards and open source technologies in strengthening India's digital ecosystem. The event was organised in collaboration with the Institute's FOSS Club and featured technical talks, interactive sessions, and hands-on activities aimed at familiarising students with national standards frameworks and the evolving architecture of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI). In-charge Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Roohie Naaz Mir, said the summit provided students with valuable exposure to technology-driven innovation, quality certification frameworks, and the growing relevance of open standards in India. She said such initiatives help students understand how globally accepted standards shape innova-



tion and ensure reliability, interoperability, and quality across technologies. "It is a very good step for students to learn about standards, which are extremely important not only for building software but for developing all kinds of technologies and systems that we use in our daily lives," Prof. Roohie said. She added that students must look beyond conventional learning and explore how standards, innovation, and open technologies can be used to develop solutions for real-world problems. In his special technical talk, S. Yasser Kazmi, founder of MYASA Network Solutions, shared insights into the evolution of internet and communication technologies in Jammu and Kashmir. "Standards are extreme-

ly important because they make technologies scalable and applicable to larger markets. India has already demonstrated this through platforms like Aadhaar for identity, DigiLocker for document management, and UPI for digital payments," Kazmi said. "There is a vast scope for developing new digital applications, especially in regions like Kashmir. Students here have immense potential and can play a key role in creating innovative applications that serve local needs while also meeting global standards," Mr. Kazmi added. A hackathon was also conducted by the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, NIT Srinagar, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu, under the Informa-

tion Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Phase III initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India. Winners of the competition were awarded cash prizes in recognition of their innovative ideas and contributions. The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Scientific Officer NIT Srinagar, Er. Mustafa Zargar, who expressed gratitude to the institute's leadership and organisers for making the summit a success. He extended sincere thanks to Prof. Roohie Naaz, Director-in-Charge of NIT Srinagar, Dr. Ahsan Chisti, BIS Coordinator from the Department of CSE, Dr. Shaima Qureshi, Head CSE, and Dr. Shabir Sofi, HOD IT, for their institutional support and encouragement. Er. Zargar further thanked Mr. Yaseer Qazmi for delivering an insightful technical talk and sharing valuable knowledge with participants. He also acknowledged the contributions of Dr. Pramod and Dr. Sparsh from the Department of CSE for their support and role in ensuring the successful conduct of the programme.

JKEDI Pulwama organizes Industrial Visit for 2nd Batch of ESDP trainees

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA: In continuation of the successful launch of the 2nd batch of the Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) scheme, the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), Pulwama, today arranged an insightful industrial visit for the participants to the Industrial Estate Chatpora, Pulwama. The visit aimed to provide the trainees with firsthand

exposure to real-world industrial operations, practical business environments, and entrepreneurial activities in the region. The experiential learning component is designed to complement the classroom training by offering participants a direct glimpse into functional MSMEs, thereby enhancing their understanding of business management, production processes, and market dynamics. During the tour, the ESDP trainees visited the various prominent units. The industrial visit proved highly beneficial for the trainees, who

gained valuable insights into operational strategies, quality control, and day-to-day challenges and opportunities in running successful ventures. The visit was led by Nafia Nazir Senior Manager P&A and Range Officer (South Kashmir), JKEDI, along with Raiyees Manzoor, District Nodal Officer (DNO), JKEDI Pulwama. All stakeholders, including the trainees, JKEDI officials, and unit owners, hailed the initiative as a meaningful step towards bridging theoretical knowledge with practical application.

Anantnag: Rs 3.05 Lakh fine imposed on FBOs in Food Safety Cases

ANANTNAG: Additional Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, Adjudicating Officer under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 imposed a penalty of Rs 3.05 lakh on various Food Business Operators (FBOs) for violating various provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006/Rules & Regulations, 2011. The penalties were levied following the adjudication of cases concerning non-compliance with provisions related to Food Safety, Labeling, Hygiene, and Licensing requirements. The actions were initiated based on complaints and inspection reports submitted by the Food Safety Officers during routine surveillance and enforcement drives. The Adjudicating Officer emphasized that maintaining safety and quality standards in food products is a collective responsibility and that strict enforcement measures will continue against erring FBOs to safeguard.

MP Mian Altaf Ahmad chairs DISHA Meeting at Anantnag; Reviews progress of CSSs

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG: Member of Parliament Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency, Mian Altaf Ahmad today chaired a meeting of the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) at Dak Bungalow, Anantnag to review the progress of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) being implemented in the district. The meeting was attended by MLA Pahalgam, Altaf Ahmad Wani, MLA Bijbehara, Dr. Basheer Ahmad Shah (Veeri), MLA Shangus (Anantnag East), Reyaz Ahmad Khan, District Development Commissioner (DDC) Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohiud Din Bhat, Principal GMC Anantnag, ADC, SES PWD, KPDCI & PHE, GM DIC, DPO, CPO, ACR, ACD and other district and sectoral officers of con-

cerned departments and engineering wings. At the outset, the DDC briefed the chair through a detailed Presentation about the status and progress of various flagship programmes and developmental works being executed across the district. During the review, the meeting was informed that under Jal Jeevan Mission, against the target of 1,32,915 Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs), 1,23,516 connections (around 93%) have already been provided across the district. The meeting also reviewed the implementation of housing schemes including Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U), where emphasis was laid on timely completion of sanctioned houses and ensuring that eli-



gible beneficiaries receive the benefits under the schemes. Progress under RDD sector including initiatives like MGNREGA and PMAY(G) was also reviewed, with focus on livelihood generation, creation of durable assets, construction of houses for the eligible and development works in rural areas. The chair further reviewed

the progress of road connectivity projects under PMGSY R&B, BRO and NHAI and stressed to expedite road construction works to enhance connectivity to far-flung and rural areas of the district. Similarly, implementation of health and sanitation programmes including National Health Mission (NHM),

Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) and Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) was also discussed with emphasis on strengthening healthcare services and sanitation infrastructure. The chair further directed for construction of public amenities under SBM while ensuring regular maintenance in places lacking such facilities. Taking the review of government initiatives like Dharti Abha JIGA, KGVBS, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal and Sheep Husbandary Programs, the MP said these are directly related with the welfare of the tribal population. The programs need to be implemented in a holistic and sustainable manner with proper community awareness, he remarked. The progress of livelihood and financial inclusion ini-

tiatives such as National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), PMSBY, PMJJBY & Mudra which aim to promote financial empowerment and insurance coverage were also reviewed. While reviewing the progress, the MP emphasized the need for timely completion of developmental works and adherence to quality standards especially in PHE, Irrigation & Flood Control, PWD, PMGSY, KPDCI and other sectors. He directed the concerned departments to expedite the pace of ongoing projects, remove bottlenecks and ensure proper inter-departmental coordination for effective implementation of these projects. Main Altaf expressed satisfaction on implementation of PMMVY, NSAP, PM Poshan and PM Vatika besides other

schemes of the ICDS, Social Welfare and Education. He was further briefed about the performance of PM SRI Schools which are running as per the National Education Policy-2020. The MP stressed that the benefits of flagship programmes such as HADP, Mission YUVA and PM SGRBY must reach every eligible beneficiary and underscored the importance of strengthening public service delivery in Health, Education and Social Welfare Departments and addressing genuine issues of the people. He called for enhancing grassroot awareness of all these initiatives so that the eligible people in remote areas receive the benefits. The MP assured the committee that the issues regarding JJM, R&B, Health, Education Agriculture and other important areas will be taken up with the concerned

authorities. He asked the concerned departments to draft proposals in consultation with the elected public representatives and in accordance with the relevant rules & guidelines. The MP said that genuine issues raised by the MLAs will be discussed at proper forums. He further directed the departments to explore the possible solutions to problems faced by the public regarding drinking water, irrigation, road connectivity, horticulture, agriculture, health and education and put in place the alternative arrangements for public convenience. The meeting concluded with directions from the chair to all departments to ensure transparency, accountability and improved coordination for successful implementation of public welfare and developmental initiatives in the district.