

Dr. Farooq extends Baisakhi greetings; greets people on Urs observances

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah Monday extended heartfelt greetings to the people on the auspicious occasion of Baisakhi. In his message, Dr. Farooq conveyed warm wishes to all, especially to the Sikh community, and expressed hope that the festival also marking the founding of the Khalsa Panth will be celebrated in its true spirit, reflecting the rich pluralistic culture of Jammu and Kashmir.



He further prayed that the joyous occasion brings peace, prosperity, and harmony to the region, strengthening the bonds of communal unity and brotherhood. Party rank and file also extended greetings to Sikh community on the joyous occasion of Baisakhi. He also extended warm greetings to the people on the auspicious Urs observances of Hazrat Zain-ud-Din Ali Dar Wali (RA), Hazrat Dawood Reshi (RA), and Fakir-e-Millat Hazrat Meerak Shah Kashani (RA). In his message, Dr. Fa-

rooq paid rich tribute to these revered Sufi saints, describing them as luminous beacons of spirituality, compassion, and humanism whose teachings have profoundly shaped the socio-cultural fabric of Kashmir. He noted that their message of love, tolerance, and selflessness has, for centuries, nurtured a spirit of mutual brotherhood and harmony, making Kashmir a land known for its inclusive and pluralistic ethos. Recalling their enduring legacy, Dr.

Farooq said that the teachings of these great saints continue to resonate across generations, guiding people towards a path of righteousness, humility, and service to humanity. He emphasized that in times marked by division and discord, their message remains more relevant than ever, offering a moral compass rooted in peace and coexistence.

He further urged the youth to reconnect with this rich spiritual heritage by learning about the lives and philosophies of these great saints. "It is imperative for the younger generation to draw inspiration from their timeless wisdom and imbibe the values of compassion, unity, and respect for all," he said, adding that such teachings have the power to transform individual outlooks and strengthen the collective conscience of society.

Dr. Farooq expressed hope that the Urs observances would serve as an occasion for reflection, prayer and renewal of the shared cultural and spiritual bonds that have long defined Kashmir's unique and historical identity.

DJMC IUST hosts GDC Anantnag students

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

AWANTIPORA: As part of academic outreach initiative, students from Government Degree College (GDC), Anantnag, visited the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (DJMC), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), on Monday. During the visit, the students were given a comprehensive tour of the department's I-Mac equipped Media Lab, Community Radio Station (CRS), Multimedia Studio, Smart Classroom and departmental library. The programme aimed at bridging the gap between academic learning and practical exposure. Welcoming the students,

Head of the Department, Dr. Rabia Noor, briefed them about the Master's programme, highlighting its focus on hands-on training and industry-oriented learning. She informed them that the curriculum has been framed in alignment with the National Education Policy, 2020. Dr. Monisa Qadri, Senior Assistant Professor, interacted with the students and spoke about career prospects in the field of media, encouraging them to explore emerging opportunities in journalism and communication. On the occasion, a departmental profile video was screened, and copies of IUST's news magazine, Times Echo were distributed among the visiting

students. The visit also featured a series of hands-on technical sessions. Dr. Mujeeb Liyakat, Coordinator CRS and Assistant Professor, DJMC, guided the students through the process of radio programme production, offering insights into recording and broadcasting. The students also participated in a short recording session. In the Multimedia Studio, Dr. Sayar Ahmad Mir, Assistant Professor, DJMC, familiarised the students with newsroom practices, along with the fundamentals of lighting and video editing. Zahoor Ahmad, Junior Technical Assistant, DJMC, conducted a session in the Media Lab, introducing students to basic camera operations

and media career prospects. In the Smart Classroom, Dr. Haifa Mohammad engaged the students in interactive activities designed to enhance their communication and news framing skills. As part of the visit, the students were also taken to the departmental library, where they were introduced to academic resources and research facilities. The programme concluded with a visit to the university's synthetic athletic track, giving the students a glimpse of the campus infrastructure. The visit provided valuable exposure to both the academic and practical dimensions of media education, enriching the students' understanding of the field.

100 days intensive 'Nasha Mukht Srinagar' program launched from Amar Singh College

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: As part of the on-going 100-Day 'Nasha Mukht Jammu and Kashmir' campaign launched by Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor J&K with an aim to eliminate the menace of drug abuse from society, the District Administration Srinagar on Monday organized a mega District-level inaugural event at Amar Singh College, which saw overwhelming participation from all senior Civil & Police officers, college students, youth volunteers and representatives from various civil organisations. The Deputy Commissioner of Srinagar, Akshay Labroo presided over the inaugural event while Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Dr Sandeep Chakraborty attended the event

as the Guest of honour. The event was attended by Joint Director Information, Syed Shah Nawaz Bukhari, Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Aadi Fareed, Superintendent of Police, Umar Shah, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Principal Amar Singh College, Prof Aijaz, Nodal Principal Colleges, Seema Naaz, Joint Commissioner SMC, Nuzhat Khurshid, Additional CEO SCCL, Suhail ul Islam, District Social Welfare Officer, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, Cultural Officer DIPR, Burhan Hussain, all senior Civil and Police Officers, faculty members and students of Amar Singh College.

During the mega anti-drug district-level programme, the DC administered the anti-drug pledge to all participants, urging

them to commit themselves to the fight against substance abuse. The DC along with SSP Srinagar also flagged off an anti-drug awareness rally, which saw enthusiastic participation from students and youth volunteers. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted the significance of the 100-Day 'Nasha Mukht Jammu and Kashmir' campaign, describing it as a focused initiative aimed at producing tangible results in safeguarding youth from the menace of drugs. He urged students to act as ambassadors of change and spread awareness within their communities. The DC emphasized the need for collective and coordinated efforts from all sections of society, including students, civil admin-

istration and police, to effectively address the challenge of drug abuse. He underlined stringent action against those involved in the narcotic trade. He further stated that drug addiction destroys lives and ruins families, urging students to carry forward the message of a drug-free society. Reiterating the importance of unified action, the DC called for sustained community participation to achieve the goal of a 'Nasha Mukht Srinagar'.

The DC also stressed the importance of treating addiction in a scientific and humane manner and highlighted the availability of medical support and treatment facilities through government healthcare systems, including Tele-MANAS and IM-HANS.

Government College of Education Srinagar inaugurates Samatvam

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Government College of Education (IASE), Srinagar, formally inaugurated "Samatvam: The Integrated Wellness Initiative", during a ceremony, held in the College Multipurpose Hall. Orchestrated by the Committee for Wellness and Student Counselling (CWASC), the initiative aims to institutionalize yoga, mindfulness, and mental health practices to foster a balanced, resilient academic environment for students and faculty. The proceedings commenced with a formal address by the Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Seema Naz, who underscored that physical and mental equanimity serves as the cornerstone for effective pedagogy and academic resilience. Prof. Lateef Ahmad Shah, the



event coordinator, provided a comprehensive briefing on the initiative's vision and the integration of wellness into the teacher-education curriculum. During a technical session, the Lead Resource Person, Dr. Mohd Jamal from Department of Ayush, Srinagar, elucidated the physiological and psychological benefits of the proposed wellness protocols. Additionally, Mohammad

Younis, Yoga Instructor addressed the participants, highlighting the transformative role of yoga and mindfulness in fostering emotional regulation and serving as a proactive, evidence-based intervention in curbing substance abuse. A practical session was also conducted wherein all participants actively engaged in the practice of various yoga asanas under the guidance of the expert team.

Chowdry Ramzan urges coordinated push to showcase NC Govt's good governance at grassroots

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Additional General Secretary and Rajya Sabha MP Chowdry Muhammad Ramzan, held an extensive interaction with various delegations and party functionaries at the party headquarters, Nawa-e-Subha. The visiting delegations and party leaders warmly greeted him on assuming office and expressed confidence in his leadership and commitment to strengthening the party at the grassroots level. Among those who called on him were Chief Spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq, MLAs Ali Muhammad Dar, Shaameema Firdous, Muhammad Shafi, and Ahsan Pardesi, Provincial President of the Women's Wing Sabiya Qadri and Provincial President of the Youth National Conference Mir Mushtaq. During



the interactions, a wide range of organisational matters and public issues of pressing concern were discussed in detail. Chowdry urged party functionaries to work in close coordination and reinforce grassroots outreach so that the dividends of good governance under the lead-

ership of Omar Abdullah percolate to every doorstep across the region. He reiterated the party's unwavering commitment to addressing people's concerns, strengthening democratic institutions, and ensuring inclusive development across Jammu and Kashmir.

Drive held to ensure safety of school buses in Bandipora

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA: On the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, the Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) today conducted a comprehensive enforcement and inspection drive across the district to ensure safety, compliance and roadworthiness of school buses. During the drive, a total of 47 school buses belonging to various educational institutions were thoroughly inspected at multiple locations across Bandipora. The inspection focused on key parameters concerning student safety and legal compliance. Officials verified essential documents including registration certificates, insurance, fitness certificates and driving licenses of drivers. Special emphasis was laid on the availability and functionality of safety features such as emergency exits, fire extinguishers, first-aid kits, proper seating arrangements and speed gov-

ernors. The mechanical condition of vehicles, including tyres and braking systems, was also examined. Furthermore, adherence to prescribed norms such as standard yellow colour coding, proper display of school name and installation of safety grills was checked. Drivers and conductors were sensitized about safe driving practices, avoidance of overloading and strict adherence to traffic regulations, particularly while transporting school children. During the drive, minor deficiencies were observed in some vehicles and on-the-spot instructions were issued for immediate rectification. Necessary action was also taken against violators under relevant provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act. The Motor Vehicles Department reiterated that such drives will be conducted regularly to enforce compliance and strengthen road safety awareness among all stakeholders.

DC Kulgam presides over Orientation Programme under Mission YUVA

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM: District Administration Kulgam today organised an Orientation Programme under Mission YUVA at DE&CC Kulgam as part of the "100-Day Programme themed, 'From Reintegration to Entrepreneurship.' The programme was held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam who emphasized the importance of proper counselling, timely guidance, and effective handholding of youth beneficiaries to ensure the successful implementation of Mission YUVA across the district. During the session, the Deputy Commissioner directed the BHD and SBDU staff to ensure comprehensive counselling of beneficiaries so that they are fully aware of the opportunities, benefits, and support mechanisms available under Mission YUVA. He further instructed officers and field staff to maintain regular follow-up with beneficiaries, address bottlenecks on priority, and ensure that no eligible youth is left out of the scheme. Officers and officials from the concerned departments, BHDs, SBDUs, and Mission YUVA implementation teams participated in the programme.

Awareness session under Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan held at GDC Bandipora



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA: Under the able guidance of the Principal GDC Bandipora, Prof. Suresh Kumar Dogra, the college organized an awareness session during the morning assembly as part of the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan. The programme aimed at sensitizing students about the harmful effects of substance abuse and encouraging them to adopt a healthy and responsible lifestyle. The session commenced with insightful introductory remarks by Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Parey, Head of the Department of Education, who highlighted the growing menace of drug addiction and emphasized the role of educational institutions in shaping a drug-free society. This was followed by a brief

yet impactful address by Dr. Mubashir Hamid Mir, Head of the Department of Physics, who elaborated on the physical, psychological, and social consequences of substance abuse. He urged students to remain vigilant and make informed choices to safeguard their future. The programme concluded with the pledge ceremony, wherein Prof. Irfan Ahmad Wagay, Convener of the College NSS Unit, administered the pledge to the students, reaffirming their commitment to stay away from drugs and to contribute actively towards building a Nasha Mukht Bharat. The session was both enlightening and motivating, leaving a lasting impression on the students and reinforcing the collective responsibility towards a healthier and addiction-free society.

Altaf Thakur greets Sikh community on Baisakhi

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Senior BJP leader Altaf Thakur today extended warm greetings to the Sikh community of Jammu and Kashmir and across the country on the auspicious occasion of Baisakhi. In his message, Thakur described Baisakhi as a festival of joy, prosperity, and gratitude, mark-

ing both the harvest season and a significant moment in Sikh history. He said the festival reflects the values of unity, resilience, and faith, which continue to inspire generations. "On this occasion of Baisakhi, I convey my heartfelt greetings to our Sikh brothers and sisters. May this festival bring happiness, prosperity, and peace to every household," he said. Thakur also lauded the Sikh community for its invaluable contribution to the country's progress, emphasizing their role in strengthening social harmony and national unity. He urged people to celebrate the festival with traditional fervor while upholding the spirit of togetherness and mutual

respect. Highlighting the importance of communal harmony in Jammu and Kashmir, he said such occasions serve as a reminder of the region's rich cultural diversity and shared heritage. He expressed hope that the festival would further reinforce bonds of brotherhood and usher in peace and prosperity for all.

Residential property acquired through drugs attached in Pulwama

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA: Continuing its intensified drive against drug trafficking, Police in Pulwama has attached a double storey residential house valued at Rs 32,19,000 as per the valuation schedule of the R&B Department, 2022 in Lalhar area of Kakapora, belonging to a convicted narcotics offender.

The action pertains to case FIR No. 42/2018 under section 8/22 of the NDPS Act registered at Police Station Kakapora. The property belongs to Ab Hamid Bhat @ Hamid Puj son of Mohd Ismail resident of Lalhar Kakapora, who stands convicted in the said case. The accused has already been sentenced to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment along with a fine

of Rs 1 lakh by the Hon'ble Court of Principal District & Sessions Judge Pulwama. During the course of investigation and subsequent legal proceedings, the property was established as being acquired through proceeds of illicit drug trade. Accordingly, the same has been attached under Section 68-F of the NDPS Act, 1985, following due legal formalities.

CEO SSCL convenes meeting to realign Public Transport Routes to ease Traffic Congestion

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: In a major initiative to decongest key traffic corridors and enhance urban mobility, Faz Lul Haseeb, Chief Executive Officer, Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), chaired a meeting with representatives of transport operators and the Private Operators Association to deliberate on the realignment and optimization of transport routes across Srinagar. The meeting was attended by Ajaz Ahmad, Senior Superintendent of Police, Traffic City Srinagar, along with senior officers of Srinagar Smart City Limited. The deliberations focused on rationalizing existing routes to reduce congestion along major arteries and ensure smoother vehicular movement across the city. Comprehensive discussions were held on restructuring transport routes, improving oper-



ational efficiency, and enhancing commuter convenience through better coordination between public and private transport stakeholders. The need for data-driven planning and synchronized implementation was also emphasized. The CEO underscored the importance of a collaborative approach, stating that effective coordination between government agencies and transport operators is essential for achieving a streamlined, efficient, and

commuter-friendly urban transport system. He reiterated that the proposed measures are aligned with the broader vision of sustainable and smart urban mobility for Srinagar. The meeting concluded with a reaffirmation that the route realignment and optimization exercise is being carried out under the supervision of a multidisciplinary committee on traffic, aimed at ensuring effective implementation and long-term traffic decongestion in the city.