

## Sakina Itoo, Javid Dar condemn Ganderbal killings, meet family of slain Dr. Shahnawaz

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**BUDGAM:** Minister for Education, Social Welfare, Health & Medical Education, Sakina Itoo and Minister for RDD and Agriculture, Javid Ahmad Dar today visited Naidgam Budgam to condole the demise of Dr. Shahnawaz, who had been killed in a terrorist attack at Gagangir in Ganderbal on Sunday evening. They strongly condemned the killing of Dr. Shahnawaz, and other 6 persons, victims of the recent terrorist attack in Ganderbal. This heinous act has sent shockwaves throughout the community, and the minis-



ters extended deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of the deceased. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time," said the Ministers. The Ministers

visited the deceased's family to pay respects and offer support. During the visit, the Ministers prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul, seeking peace and solace for those affected by

this tragedy. The Ministers assured the family of Dr. Shahnawaz that the government will provide necessary support during this challenging time.

## DC, SSP pay tribute to Martyrs on Police Commemoration Day at DPL Baramulla

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**BARAMULLA:** On the occasion of Police Commemoration Day, a solemn ceremony was held at District Police Lines (DPL) Baramulla to honor the police personnel who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. The event was attended by the Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Mingsha Sherpa and Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Baramulla, Mohammad Zaid Malik, SP Baramulla Feroz Yehya and other senior police officers. The ceremony commenced with the laying of floral wreaths, by the DC, SSP and other officers, paying tribute to the brave souls who have dedicated their lives in ensuring peace, integrity and

protecting the nation. Speaking on the occasion, the DC highlighted the selfless service of the police personnel who have laid down their lives to protect citizens and maintain the sovereignty of the nation. He reaffirmed the administration's commitment to supporting the families of the martyrs and honoring their memory. SSP Baramulla expressed deep gratitude for the supreme sacrifices made by the fallen heroes, emphasizing that their legacy would continue to inspire future generations of law enforcement officers. The event concluded with a ceremonial guard of honor and a pledge to uphold the values of duty, honor, and service that the martyrs exemplified.



## DC Shopian reviews winter preparedness

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**SHOPIAN:** The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Mohammad Shahid Saleem Dar today chaired a meeting of officers to take an elaborate review of the winter preparedness of departments in view of approaching winters. The meeting involved deliberation by officers about their department wise Action Plans to tackle the winter related eventualities. 21 Snow clearance machines are stationed at Control Rooms manned by adequate staff for quick snow clearance in the district, apprised Mechanical engineering department head. A buffer stock of transformers, timely repairs and replacement of distribution transformers, proper adherence to the power schedule shall be ensured, apprised Ex-En KPDC. The DC reviewed the availability of ration, water, healthcare facilities and was apprised that advance ration shall be distributed for winter in the month of December besides all healthcare fa-



cilities shall be taken care of and men mobilized to tackle any health emergency. DC instructed the Jal Shakti department to ensure uninterrupted water supply throughout the district during the cold season. The DC also reviewed Plans of MC Shopian for snow clearance, provision of facilities to citizens, and also took stock of readiness of R&B, PMGSY, and other departments. Fire and Emergency, Disaster Management Authority, SDRF, and others were also instructed to remain prepared to tackle any eventuality. DC directed all concerned officials to coordinate among themselves and en-

sure no laxity in preparations and stressed that all departments must remain vigilant to prevent any disruption during the winters. During the review, DC directed for establishing the District, Sub-Divisional, Tehsil and Sectoral Control Rooms to respond to eventualities and their publicity for the benefits of the general public for grievances redressal. The meeting was attended by ADDC, Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone, ACR, CMO, DPO, DIO, AD FCS&CA, DIO (Informatics), Ex-EN of KPDC, Jal Shakti, R&B Zainapora, Shopian, PMGSY, Dy.SP, Incharge SDRF, CEO MC, MS DH and other concerned officers.

## Shutdown for 33 KV Kupwara Old, HOT & MES Line rescheduled

**SRINAGAR:** The office of Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDC, today announced revised schedule of shutdown for 33 KV Kupwara Old, HOT and MES Line. As per the schedule, in order to carry out branch cutting/repairing/maintenance work of sub-division Kupwara, the shutdown of 132/33KV Arampora Grid Station shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Krusen, Sogam, Machil, Khumriyal, Tikker, Galizoo, Drugmulla and MES shall remain off on 24 October from 10:00 am to 04:00 pm instead of 19th October, while power supply to the Krusen, Sogam, Machil, Khumriyal, Tikker, Galizoo, Drugmulla and MES shall remain affected. Meanwhile in a separate communication, the Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDC office has informed cancellation of shutdown of 33KV Cheshmashahi-Brein-Nishat-Shalimar-Harwan Line, which was scheduled for shutdown on 24th October, 2024. Also, the shutdown of 33KV Wanganpora-Soura line which was scheduled on 22nd October, 2024 has been cancelled.

## Power Shutdown

**SRINAGAR:** According to the Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDC, in order to carry out branch cutting, the shutdown of 33KV Nehalpora-Markundal line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Markundal, Naidkhai, Shahgund and Aglar shall remain off, while power supply to the Markundal, Naidkhai, Sumbal, Chandangar, Ankhul and Gandboon areas shall remain affected on 23 & 27 October from 09:00 am to 04:00 pm. Also, to carry out clearance of TTIC punch points of pending works like CT replacement of line bay, installation of arcing horns of Ptr, gantries lights installation, and 11KV isolator interlocking, the shutdown of 33KV Chadoora Panzan line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Station at Panzan shall remain off while power supply to the Panzan area shall remain affected from 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 22nd October, 2024.

## Mission YUVA: One-Day Capacity Building Program organized at Shopian

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**SHOPIAN:** One-day capacity building program for stakeholder departments was organised today under the ambitious Mission YUVA (Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan) in the Conference Hall of the Mini Secretariat, Shopian by the District Employment & Counselling Centre, Shopian. The program was inaugurated by District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Mohammad Shahid Saleem Dar. Speaking on the occasion, DDC stressed upon all department heads to avail the opportunity of this Capacity Building program, for further motivating the people to register for the scheme and emphasised on conducting massive IEC activities for the larger benefits of the public. The DDC also enumerated the importance of entrepreneurship in focus and sunrise sectors spurred



by the scheme for local economic growth and job creation. The program comprised four sessions, during which speakers focused on the framework of Project YUVA, its implementation modalities and the roles and responsibilities of departments and stakeholders involved. The day-long capacity building program focused on enhancing the knowledge of the YUVA scheme, aimed to support unemployed people to develop small enterprises, MSMEs, and the acceleration of existing enterprises.

Subject matter experts and resource persons delivered insightful presentations on start-up incubation, business plan development and access to credit, interest subvention through different government initiatives. The capacity building program concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where the participants had the chance to know about the scheme. The program was also addressed by Nida Yousof, AD Employment Department who enumerated the vital features of the Mission.

## NEP-2020 comprehensive roadmap for transforming education: KU VC

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**SRINAGAR:** To delve deeper into various facets of the National Education Policy (NEP) – 2020 and its influence on the future of management education, the University of Kashmir (KU) Monday organised a workshop focused for management programmes here. Several academic leaders attended the event organised by the Department of Management Studies, KU who underlined the transformative potential of NEP-2020 in re-shaping management education. On the occasion, KU Vice Chancellor, Prof Nilofer Khan, highlighted the NEP's progressive reforms and further encouraged participants to leverage the policy's provisions to equip students with practical skills and a global perspective. "The National Education Policy-2020 presents a comprehensive roadmap for transforming education in the country. It encourages academic institutions to embrace flexibility, interdisciplinary approaches and innovation in their programmes," Prof Khan said. Keynote speaker, Dean and Director, Department of Management Studies, Maharshi Dayanand Uni-



versity, Rohtak, Haryana, Prof Pradeep Kumar Ahlawat, provided an in-depth analysis of NEP's impact on management education. "The shift towards competency-based learning, strengthened industry partnerships and the integration of technology are crucial steps towards transforming education under the NEP framework," he asserted. Dean, Academic Affairs, KU, Prof Shariyudin Pirzada, emphasised NEP-2020's central role in transforming the academic landscape across disciplines. "The policy promotes inclusivity, creativity and skill development. It aligns with KU's vision to produce well-rounded graduates who are capable of meeting contemporary challenges," he added. KU Registrar, Prof Naseer Iqbal,

highlighted the varsity's administrative and logistical readiness to implement the policy's (NEP) guidelines. "We are committed to integrating the key aspects of the policy, especially in promoting holistic and competency-based education. The Department of Management Studies will serve as a model in this regard," he reiterated. Dean, School of Business Studies, Prof Mushtaq Ahmad Darzi, discussed the opportunities presented by NEP-2020 for management programmes. "There is a need to rethink curricula to incorporate experiential learning, entrepreneurial initiatives and a global outlook," he said while emphasising the policy's potential in creating forward-looking

educational models. Head, Department of Management Studies, Prof Bashir Ahmad Joo, in his welcome address, outlined the objectives of the workshop. "The NEP framework will play a pivotal role in aligning management education with evolving industry needs. Our goal is to ensure that students are well-prepared to navigate the dynamic global environment," he said. Senior faculty, Department of Management Studies, Prof Ajaz Akbar Mir, proposed the formal vote of thanks. The workshop marks the beginning of a series of sessions aimed at delving deeper into various facets of NEP-2020 and explore the implications of the policy for management education at the varsity.

## KPDCL advises domestic consumers to adopt Solar Panel, Power Amnesty Schemes

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**SRINAGAR:** Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDC) has once again urged its domestic consumers to adopt the Grid-connected Roof-Top Solar (RTS) plants under the heavily-subsidized PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Scheme, launched by the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy earlier this year. It has also advised consumers with long-standing power dues to immediately apply under Government's Amnesty Scheme to claim waiver on late payment surcharge, after paying principal amount in one go or installments. Sharing details, a KPDC spokesperson today stated that 152 solar roof tops with total installed capacity of 600.59 kW stand already installed across Kashmir valley, with Srinagar topping the list. "Over 1,000 consumers have selected empanelled Solar PV Vendors and we are hopeful for spike in figures of installation of RTS plants," the spokesman hoped. KPDC has received 3,116 formal applications on the National Portal and with scheme gaining popularity, the figure is likely to rise. "Central subsidy of 119 beneficiary consumers stands already redeemed with 46 consumers having received subsidy



into their accounts in DBT mode," he added. Beneficiaries of solar rooftops up to 3 kWp are eligible for subsidy of Rs.94,800/- thereby making PM Surya Ghar Scheme subsidized up to 60% of the project cost of Rs.1.59 lakh. "They become eligible after KPDC Technical Teams issue inspection and commissioning reports which are uploaded on the Designated Portal," he stated. Under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, UT Government is providing additional subsidy of Rs. 3,000 for 1 kWp, Rs. 6,000 for 2 kWp & Rs.9,000 for 3 kWp plant, which takes maximum ceiling of subsidy from Rs.85,800/- earlier to Rs.94,800/- for a plant up to 3 kWp under the Scheme. "Government has

sanctioned Rs.27.07 crore for 44,000 beneficiaries of Kashmir Division as UT share of subsidy, which shall be spread over financial years 2025-26 & 2026-27, till 31.03.2027," he added. Highlighting the benefits under UT Government's Power Amnesty Scheme, the spokesman once again urged domestic consumers with huge outstanding to come forward and settle their opening balances. "Beyond March 31, 2025, the Power Amnesty Scheme shall not be available to domestic consumers," he informed. So far, 1.07 lakh beneficiaries have settled their claims by paying principal amount to KPDC to the tune of Rs.156.38 crore, he said, adding that the Government has forfeited its claim over Rs.56.00 crore on account of late payment surcharge.

## DC flags-off Boys Trekking Team from Shopian

**SHOPIAN:** The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Mohammad Shahid Saleem Dar today flagged-off a group of boys of District Shopian for five (05) days trekking expedition from Mini Secretariat, Shopian. The trekking camp, organized by District Youth Services and Sports Office, Shopian aims at promoting adventure sports and youth development. The said event will see participation of 78 boys from different Higher Secondary Schools of the district. Addressing the gathering, DC emphasized the importance of such initiatives in fostering teamwork, discipline, and physical fitness among youngsters. DYSSO Shopian on the occasion briefed about the trekking route, safety measures and activities planned for the camp. The flag-off ceremony was attended by District Youth Services and Sports Officer and District Social Welfare Officer, other dignitaries/officials and trekking participants.

## 2 drug peddlers held in Sopore; Contraband substance recovered

**SRINAGAR:** To eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police in Sopore have arrested two drug peddlers and recovered contraband substance from their possession. A Police party of Police Station Sopore headed by SHO PS Sopore under the supervision of SDPO Sopore, at a checkpoint established at Adipora Crossing, apprehended two persons identified as Junaid Ahmad Mir son of Ghulam Hassan Mir and Riyaz Ahmad Parra son of Mohammad Maqbool Parra, both residents of Adipora Sopore. During search, officers were able to recover 7 grams of Heroin from their possession. Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 230 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Sopore & investigation has been initiated. General Public is requested to cooperate with police in curbing the menace of drugs from the society. We reassure the community members that police will act tough against the criminals as per the law.

## SSP Baramulla hosts public interaction meeting

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**BARAMULLA:** Police in Baramulla facilitated a public interaction program at Community Marriage Hall Old Town Baramulla. The meeting was chaired by SSP Baramulla Shri Mohammad Zaid Malik-JKPS. The interaction meeting was also attended by SP Ops Baramulla Shri Feroz Yehya-JKPS, SP Hqrs Baramulla Shri Syed Yasir Qadri-JKPS, DySP Hqrs Baramulla, SHO PS Baramulla, IC PP Old Town and other officers/officials of District Police Baramulla. Public from all corners of Old Town Baramulla and other adjoining areas including respectable citizens, social/sports/cultural activists, Imams, Traders & Transporters attended the public interaction. On the occasion, participants highlighted various issues of public importance, and they were assured that their genuine grievances pertaining to Police will be resolved on priority and that of civil administration will be taken up with the concerned departments for their early



redressal. While speaking on the occasion, it was reiterated that policing at grassroot level in the district would be revamped to enhance proficiencies of the cops and to develop confidence among the people. Public interaction is a bridge between Police and Public and also to hear and redress the grievances of common

masses. Referring to the criminal activities in the area, it was stressed upon the officers/general public to brace up with a missionary spirit to fight against drug abuse and eradicate other social evils from the society and to take a pledge to serve the society with missionary spirit and maintain the dignity of force.