

# DIPR playing important role by offering new ideas, perspectives: LG

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday launched Inspire Gen-Z and 'The Beats of J&K', two contemporary digital shows created by the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) to engage, entertain and inspire the youth of J&K.

The Lt Governor also inaugurated the Study Lounge and Reference Library and dedicated DIPR Auditorium, Srinagar as 'Pandit Bhajan Sopori Auditorium' in the honour of the Santoor Maestro.

The Lt Governor congratulated the Information & Public Relations Department and the talented youth of the UT of J&K. New initiatives of DIPR are like windows that open up to an infinite world of ideas, imagination, wisdom and culture, said the Lt Governor.

From communicating Government programmes and policies to the public to disseminating cultural tradition, the Information Department is playing an important role by



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha posing for a photograph with Government officials and artists during launch of a digital show.

offering new ideas and perspectives, he added.

Youth is the hope of our nation. Young generation of J&K wants to drive social progress, contribute to the economic growth and a better future for the society and the nation. Our effort is to ignite their dreams and aspirations and to ensure they realise their true potential of changemakers', the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor further observed that the dreams and aspirations of people can be truly realised only in conditions of peace and terrorism is one of the gravest threats to

peace.

"I call upon the young generation to come together to foil the efforts of elements disrupting normal life and economic progress of J&K," the Lt Governor added.

There is a need to counter deliberate dissemination of falsehoods, propaganda with the intent to cause harm to the society. We also need to safeguard press freedom. A large number of newspapers, TV Stations & digital users reflect the vitality and vibrancy of our media and democracy, the Lt Governor said. The Lt Governor also urged all

departments and common citizens to purchase local products. On this Diwali, we must strengthen the resolve of self-reliant J&K and Vocal for Local campaign by giving preference to local products and empower youth, women associated with the self help groups, he added.

Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary to the Government, Information Department, while speaking on the occasion, congratulated the Department and everyone associated with the new initiatives.

With the new shows launched today, we are aiming

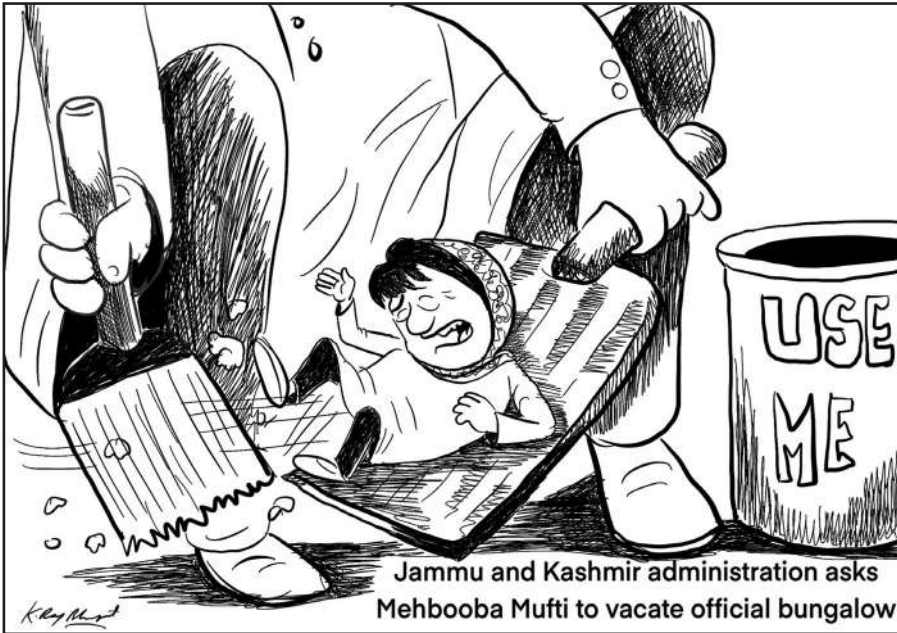
to take the talent of J&K to the national and international level in digital, contemporary and modern forms and show the world what the youth of the UT are capable of, he added.

Akshay Labroo, Director, Information & Public Relations, J&K, in his welcome address, provided an insight into the new initiatives and programmes of the department to showcase the inspirational stories of change makers and providing a platform to the talented youth of the UT.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor honoured Prof. Aparna Sopori, wife of Santoor Maestro Pandit Bhajan Sopori. He also felicitated the winners of National Anthem Round-2.

Live performances by the renowned artists of J&K including Gulzar Ahmed Ganai, Kusha Sharma, Chinmaya Sharma, Irfan and Bilal remained one the major highlights of the evening.

Short videos highlighting the objectives and vision of the initiatives were also showcased.



Jammu and Kashmir administration asks Mehbooba Mufti to vacate official bungalow

## Sufi-Rishi thought strength of our diverse peaceful society: Dr Darakhshan

Leads Poshak-Bandi celebration at Charar-e-Sharief Shrine

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: J&K Waqf Board Chairperson, Dr Darakhshan Andrabi on Friday led the revered Poshak-Bandi celebration at the shrine of Hazrat Nooruddin Noorani (RA) at Charar-e-Sharief ahead of the upcoming annual Urs.

This was for the first time that the Waqf Board managed the celebration after recent reformist changes in the functioning of shrine management throughout J&K.

Waqf Board members Dr Ghulam Nabi Haleem & Syed Mohammad Hussain Haqqani were also present in addition to the Board Magistrate Ishtiyak Mohiuddin & other senior officials of Waqf Board & the J&K government. The local Rishis & prominent citizens were also present.

Dr Andrabi met the large number of devotees there who were all praise for the reformatory decisions taken by the Waqf Board led by Dr Darakhshan.

Addressing people & the media fraternity, Dr Darakhshan said that radicalization of our youth for more than three decades fetched us



J&KWB Chairperson, Dr Darakhshan Andrabi during visit to shrine of Hazrat Nooruddin Noorani at Charar-e-Sharief.

misery, sorrow, backwardness & bad name only.

"Sufi-Rishi thought is the strength of our diverse and peaceful society and in the changing Jammu & Kashmir we all need to put in efforts to replace radicalism by the spiritual Sufi practices so that we become harbingers of peace and tranquility here in J&K and also spread this all-encompassing message to whole of the world," said Dr Darakhshan.

While speaking about the message of Alamdar Nooruddin Noorani (RA) she said that he being the ambassador of our spiritual excellence, spirit of inclusiveness & the epitome of co-existence will continue to lead our generations to the greater good,

peace & excellence in life.

Dr Andrabi & the Waqf Board members & authorities also attended the function at Alamdar Waqf Higher Secondary School Charar-e-Sharief where in her address Dr Andrabi said that we need to inculcate the universal visions in the eyes of our young boys and girls and make them ready to lead a peaceful, prosperous and morally gifted future of us all.

"I have great faith in the new generation. These boys & girls are gifted with talents and we all need to create an atmosphere where they are able to exhibit their capabilities for their glory in future so that they bring laurels to us all in the days to come," said Waqf Board Chairperson.

# Police Commemoration Day observed across Jammu region



ADGP Jammu Zone, Mukesh Singh and other police officers paying tributes to martyrs at Gulshan Ground, Jammu.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: National Police Commemoration Day was observed on Friday with full ceremonial tradition across the Jammu region as senior police officers led their personnel to pay rich tributes to those who laid down their lives in the service of the nation.

The day is observed every year in memory and honour of Sub-Inspector Karam Singh and his 10 compatriots of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) who on October 21, 1959, had sacrificed their lives while holding the attack by Chinese forces at Hot Spring in Ladakh at a height of 4,681 metres above sea level.

Impressive functions were organised in all the 10 districts of Jammu zone where a large number of senior police and civil officers, retired personnel, civil society and family members of slain personnel partici-

pated, a police spokesman said.

He said the main function was held at Gulshan ground in Jammu city where Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Jammu zone, Mukesh Singh took the salute of the commemoration day parade.

He paid rich tributes to all those who laid down their lives for the unity and integrity of the country during the past one year, the spokesman said.

ADGP also interacted with the kin of slain policemen and heard their grievances, assuring time-bound redressal.

Mukesh Singh read out the name of 264 brave martyrs of the country which includes martyrs from Police Organizations and PMF like BSF, CRPF, ITBP, CISE, SSB, NCB, NDRF and FS, CD & HG.

While lauding the role of brave martyrs, he said J&K Police has been rendering yeo-

man service to the Nation and the society under most difficult and challenging circumstances at the cost of their personal safety and comfort.

He prayed for the heavenly peace of the departed souls and also for the prosperity and welfare of their families.

Earlier all the Jammu based GOs assembled at Police Martyrs Memorial at Railway Station where rich tributes were paid to all the Martyrs.

A blood donation camp was also organized by Police in collaboration with Team Jammu in which senior Police officers /officials and volunteers of team Jammu donated blood.

Moreover, another impressive function was organized again in the evening at Police Martyrs Memorial Railway Station, Jammu where a large number of Police/Civil families assembled to light candles and paid rich tributes to the Martyrs of

the nation.

Police commemoration day was observed at BSF frontier headquarters here as 'Smriti Parade' in memory of the CRPF personnel, who sacrificed their life in Ladakh on this day in 1959.

D K Boora, IG BSF laid the wreath at the war memorial and paid homage to the police and para-military personnel who laid down their lives in the line of duty.

He read out the names of martyrs and said during the last one year a total of 264 Police and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) personnel laid their lives in service to the nation, out of which 27 belong to BSF.

All officers and jawans were

## Special Lok Adalat held across J&K, Ladakh

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In order to build up a symphonious connection between the disputing parties, J&K and Ladakh Legal Services Authorities under the stewardship of Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey, Chief Justice and Patron-in-Chief, J&K and Ladakh Legal Services Authorities and under the guidance of Justice Tashi Rabstan, Executive Chairman Ladakh Legal Services Authority and Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Chairman, High Court Legal Services Committee on Friday organized a Special Lok Adalat throughout the UTs of J&K and Ladakh. This is the first Lok Adalat after Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey took over as Chief Justice of High Court of J&K and Ladakh. The idea behind organizing this Special Lok Adalat was not only to reduce the pendency but also to give solace to the litigants. As per the information received from the districts, out of a total number of 18,658 cases taken up by 113 Benches in the day long Special Lok Adalat at various courts across the UTs of J&K and Ladakh, 16,737 cases were disposed of and an amount of Rs. 8,17,37,009 was awarded as compensation/settlement amount in civil, criminal, labour disputes, electricity and water bill cases, land acquisition, family matters, cheque dishonor and bank recovery cases.

M K Sharma, Member Secretary, J&K and Ladakh Legal Services Authorities, expressed gratitude to all the participants including the Judicial Officers, Secretaries DLSA's, Advocates, representatives of insurance companies and banks, staff of courts and Legal Services Institutions besides litigants for their pragmatic approach in settlement of cases in such a large number:

present on the occasion. Addressing the gathering Boora said the sacrifice made by these martyrs for safeguarding the honour and pride of the country will certainly remain a source of inspiration for the coming generation.

BJP President Ravinder Raina also laid wreaths at the memorial and paid tributes to martyrs.

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# J&K Bank's Q2 net profit up 119 pc at Rs 243.49 Cr

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SRINAGAR: J&K Bank's net profit is 119% up Year-on-Year (YoY) at Rs. 243.49 Cr in September Quarter of current financial year when compared to Rs 111.09 Cr recorded for the corresponding quarter previous year, while as, its half-yearly (H1) profit rose 90% to Rs 409.46 Cr from Rs 215.41 Cr recorded for H1 last year.

The Bank announced its financial numbers on Friday after its Board-of-Directors reviewed and approved the quarterly and half-yearly numbers during a meeting held here at Corporate Headquarters.

The Bank's Net Interest Income (NII) is up 24% YoY at Rs 1204.12 Cr for the September quarter and 15% up at Rs 2238.35 Cr for the half year compared to corresponding periods of previous year, while the Operating Profit rose YoY by 56% and 29% for respective periods.

The Bank's NIM has also improved to 4.04% against 3.51% recorded for the corresponding quarter last year, while as the Return on Assets has improved to 0.71% for the quarter and 0.62% for the HY. The Bank's steadily moderating cost-to-income ratio has also come down to 64.19% for the Q2 from the above 70% levels recorded last year.

Commenting on the Bank's healthy growth, MD & CEO Baldev Prakash said, "Along with markedly improved bottom-line, our Q2 numbers do reflect Bank's ability to deliver on its commitments and to improve upon all its key financial indicators neces-

sary to redirect its focus on realizing the short-term business goal of Rs 2.2 Lac Cr by the end of current fiscal."

"While setting right tone for the future course of our action, I see these numbers heralding a new era of productivity and growth for the Bank and all its stakeholders", he added.

The Gross NPA Ratio has sharply come down 142 basis-points in sequential terms to 7.67% from 9.09% while as by 128 basis-points on Year from 8.95% recorded in September, 2021. The Net NPA ratio has also moderated by over 90 basis-points to 2.10% from 3.02% recorded a year ago. Provision coverage ratio (PCR) of the Bank has improved to 85.58% from 81.57% a year ago.

Expressing satisfaction over the Bank's asset-quality, MD & CEO said, "With single-minded institutional focus on improvement of asset-quality during the September quarter, I feel very proud that we have brought down the GNPA figure to below 8% mark - a feat achieved after seven years is like icing on the cake. And with proactive monitoring and management of SMAs, we are on course to deliver what we have assured to our stakeholders."

"With resolution process of NPAs gathering more steam post activation of the Bad Bank (NARCL) - our bank too has a significant share of above Rs 900 Cr in the NPA pie being assigned to NARCL in the first phase," he added.

Deposits and Advances of the Bank have grown by 9%

each on YoY basis to Rs 115714.57 Cr and Rs 74549.73 Cr respectively with an increase of 3% and 4% respectively over the June quarter, 2022. The Bank's overall business increased to Rs 190264.30 Cr against Rs 174609.19 Cr recorded last year. The Bank's Yield on Advances has significantly improved to 9.01% for the quarter from 8.34% while as the CASA is slightly down but still near the 55% mark.

"Despite single-digit increase in overall loan-book, we have maintained about 10% growth in advances in J&K and 15% in Ladakh, which form the bulk of our business", said MD & CEO while commenting on growth numbers, adding, "With improved operational parameters during the September quarter, I feel encouraged to believe that we will achieve our top-line growth numbers as envisaged in our business plan."

Capital Adequacy (CAR) of the Bank is slightly higher at 12.86% against 12.80% recorded last year. "As of now we are adequately cushioned in terms of capital. With an augmented capital (T1 & T2) by fresh infusion of Rs. 1100 Cr and total low-back of profit (Rs. 500 Crore) during last FY, our CAR for the September quarter is at 12.86% and CET-1 is at 9.99% without inclusion of the Profit after Tax (PAT) for the half-year, which if included would result in further improvement of 55 basis points in these ratios", remarked MD & CEO Baldev Prakash.