

# GGM Science College Jammu organises poster making competition as part of Vigilance Awareness Week 2024

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: As a part of ongoing Vigilance Awareness week celebration from 28th October to 3rd November 2024 to commemorate the birthday of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel - the first Home Minister of the country, the Grievance Redressal and Vigilance committee of GGM Science College Jammu organized Poster Making Competition on the theme "Corruption Free India" under the patronage of worthy Principal Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta and overall supervision of Prof. NP Sharma, Convener and Prof. Surinder Singh Co-convener Grievance Redressal and Vigilance committee.



Participating students posing with Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta and other faculty members.

well-connected and compact manner. Students through their posters depicted corruption syndrome in different spheres and importance of transparency, honesty and responsibility as check mechanism for controlling corruption.

While addressing the students, Principal Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar emphasized on the importance of education in incul-

ating moral, ethical values so that newer generations can imbibe values of integrity.

He also laid stress on the fact that although India is getting corruption free but is still behind from being entirely corruption free country so the role/responsibility of young generation in weeding out the corruption from the society is very crucial.

The competition was adjudged by panel comprising of Dr. Devinder Sharma (Associate Prof. Physics), Prof. Kiran Bala (HOD Biotechnology) and Dr. Devi Dass (HOD Electronics).

Geetika Manhas of Semester 1st bagged 1st position; Arooj Shakil of Semester 5th bagged 2nd position; Mohd. Sohail of Semester 3rd and Sneha

Sharma of Semester 1st shared 3rd position.

Besides Tanisha Choudhary, Sania Mirza and Gunmanvi Kour secured 1st, 2nd and 3rd consolation positions respectively.

The event was coordinated by Dr. Neha Mahajan, Assistant Professor in Department of Biotechnology assisted by other committee members including Dr. Arun Sharma, Dr. Sheetu Raina, Dr. Gourav Gupta, Prof. Vishal Sharma, Dr. Amecq Rehman, Dr. Rajeev Kumar, Prof. Sahil Bangotra and Dr. Mohd. Maqem.

Dr. Vandana Khajuria, HOD English was also present during the occasion. Principal of the college appreciated the efforts of the organizing committee and encouraged the students to participate in more such activities in future.

# NZCC, JKAACL host 'LokVirasat' festival

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The North Zone Cultural Centre (NZCC), Patiala, under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in collaboration with the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL), Jammu organized LokVirasat - A Festival to celebrate Vanishing Folk Art Forms here on Monday in K.L. Saigal Hall. The event was inaugurated with a special message from Mohammad Furqan Khan, Director NZCC, Patiala, who highlighted the importance of preserving and promoting India's rich and diverse cultural heritage. "It is our responsibility to ensure that the unique folk traditions that form the backbone of our cultural identity are passed down to future generations. This festival serves as a platform to showcase and revitalize these treasured art forms," said M. Khan. Secretary JKAACL Harvinder Kour, in her message, expressed her delight at the collaborative effort, stating, "The LokVirasat festival is a step towards protecting our intangible cultural heritage. This scheme,



Dignitaries at Lok Virasat Festival celebration.

launched in 2013 by the Zonal Cultural Centres, aims to bridge the generational gap between folk art masters and young learners, thus ensuring the continuity of these art forms. She further announced that JKAACL will also be launching the Gurushishya Parampara scheme in Jammu & Kashmir to foster mentorship and skill transfer in traditional arts.

The highlight of the event was the performances by the artists who were recipients of the Gurushishya scheme for the year 2022-23. The audience was captivated by a range of presentations, including V.D. Surishta from Udhampur; performing Geetru; J.R. Sharma from Jammu, showcasing Folk Dances of Jammu; Rakesh

Kumar from Jammu, presenting Dogri Folk Dances; Ramesh Kumar from Jammu, performing Folk Lore and Folk Songs; Kuldeep Sapru from Jammu, with Sufi & Folk Music; Vijay Dhar from Jammu, performing Folk Theatre and Prem Nath Radhey with Chinjann Dogri Folk. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of Padma Shri Rumalo Ram, an acclaimed Dogri Folk artist, who served as the Chief Guest. He was felicitated by Jarnail Singh, Assistant Director Program, NZCC and Dr. Javaid Rahi, Chief Editor (Gojri) of JKAACL, for his invaluable contributions to folk culture. The proceedings of the function were conducted by Sat Pal Singh.

# 7,000 new DTs under RDSS to boost KPDC's commitment on reliable power supply

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: In a major step set to transform the LT network at Distribution periphery, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDC) is in the process of installing 7,000 new Distribution Transformer substations across Kashmir valley under the Centre's premier Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS).

All 13 packages under RDSS-LR (Loss Reduction) works have been awarded in Kashmir Division and are in various stages of completion.

In a statement issued here on Monday, a KPDC spokesperson stated that installation of new DT Substations shall substantially improve quality and reliability of electricity

supply in all 10 districts of Kashmir Division. "While 05 packages are being executed by KPDC, 04 packages each in North and South Kashmir, are being executed by NTPC & PESL as PIAs, at a total cost of Rs 2,316 crore" he said, adding a large number of DT substations have already been erected and charged under the 05 RDSS packages in Srinagar, Budgam & Baramulla districts.

While KPDC is executing RDSS works in ED I, II & III Srinagar, Baramulla & Budgam districts, NTPC has ED IV Srinagar, Ganderbal, Bandipora districts in its charge. PESL is executing works in Pulwama, Shopian, Kulgam and Anantnag Districts. "Besides increasing carry-

ing capacity, these works shall also saturate consumer demands for installation of new DTs, especially in rural districts of Kashmir valley," he stated.

The spokesperson further stated that with smart metering works under RDSS to begin soon and installation of new steel tubular poles and LT-AB cable, KPDC is targeting extension of reliable and quality power supply to its consumers, with improved billing efficiency and reduction in AT&C losses. "While feeder metering of 1485 at 11 kV level has already started, around 6.85 lakh consumer smart meters and 40,670 DT meters shall also be installed under RDSS," he added.

KPDC is also targeting laying of 15,000 km LT-

AB (Aerial Bundled) cable and 1.5 lakh new steel tubular poles to transform the LT network at Distribution level. "With LT-AB cable installed, KPDC shall substantially reduce AT&C losses over the next 02 years, which shall enable the corporation to provide uninterrupted power supply to its consumers," he promised.

Urging the consumers to cooperate, the spokesperson stated that approved shutdowns especially on 11 kV feeders are mandatory to execute RDSS-LR works. "KPDC is notifying shutdowns in advance through print and electronic media so that the consumers are informed beforehand. This is crucial to safeguard the lives of men working at sites," he added.

## Power shutdown



**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDC, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Roop Nagar, Rajinder Nagar, New Subash Nagar, Muthi and adjoining areas will remain affected on November 05, 07 and 09 from 7 am to 1 pm.

Meanwhile, the Superintendent Engineer (Distribution) JPDC, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Shiva Nagar, Kalibari, Janglote, Patel Nagar, Ward No.1, Ramneek Vihar, Sawan Chaek, Shastri Nagar, PHE, CTM, GMC, Hospital and adjoining areas will remain affected on November 05 and 06 from 7 am to 12:30 pm.

# DC Ganderbal reviews status of PMEGP Case Verification for subsidy release

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
GANDERBAL: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir on Monday convened a comprehensive meeting to assess the status of physical verification of Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) cases, aimed at ensuring the timely release of subsidies for beneficiaries in the district.

At the beginning of the meeting, the DC sought detailed reports on PMEGP cases approved by the relevant departments and the current status of their physical verification for subsidy release.

The ADDC informed the meeting that a total of 948 cases, due for subsidy as of October 2021, have been uploaded to the des-

ignated portal for third-party verification.

To streamline the verification process, the DC directed the ADDC to collect comprehensive data on all pending cases from the concerned departments. This consolidated data will be forwarded to higher authorities to obtain the necessary approvals for verification.

During the meeting, the Assistant Director Post Office highlighted that the physical verification process had already commenced in the district.

In response, the DC instructed the Assistant Director to accelerate the verification process while adhering to all prescribed guidelines to ensure the timely release of subsidies to the beneficiaries.

The DC emphasized the importance of collabora-

tive efforts and urged all concerned departments to work in unison to complete the verification process efficiently, enabling beneficiaries to receive their subsidies without delays.

The meeting witnessed participation from the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani, Chief Planning Officer, General Manager District Industries Centre (DIC), Assistant Director Employment, Lead District Manager, District Officer from the Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB), Assistant Director Post Office (quality checker), Inspector Post Officer Ganderbal, and other key officials.

# Secretary DLSA Ganderbal conducts surprise Visit to various institutions

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
GANDERBAL: On the instructions and supervision of Abdul Nasir, Chairman District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Ganderbal, the Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal, Sheikh Babar Hussain on Monday conducted a surprise visit to various institutions of District Ganderbal to assess their functioning and effectiveness in delivering services to the needy and underprivileged.

At first, Secretary DLSA inspected One Stop Sakhi Centre, at Wayil Ganderbal, thereafter Aahat e Waqar (Old Age Home), Wayil Ganderbal, Front Office, Munsiff Court Kangan and PAALASH, Kangan.

During the visit to one OSC, Wayil Ganderbal,



Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal, Sheikh Babar Hussain visiting Aahat e Waqar.

Secretary instructed the administrator of the centre to enhance support services for women in all cases. He also instructed to provide integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence, with the aim to facilitate immediate access to medical, legal, psychological, and

counseling support under one roof.

During a visit to Aahat e Waqar, Wayil Ganderbal, the Secretary assured the welfare and dignity of senior citizens. He directed the in-charge to identify cases of senior citizens having family and property, enabling the authority

to ensure social security to the old aged at an earliest.

Additionally, the Secretary emphasized the need for providing different equipment like hearing aids and walking sticks, to the old aged persons residing at Ahata e Waqar.

These instructions demonstrate a commitment to promoting the well-being and dignity of senior citizens particularly in District Ganderbal. By ensuring maintenance from family members and providing essential disability equipment, the authority aims to enhance the quality of life of these individuals.

The Secretary DLSA Ganderbal, conducted a review of the Front Office at Munsiff Court Kangan to ensure seamless access to justice for the public.

This effort aims to make legal services more accessible and efficient besides creating a more user-friendly environment for citizens seeking free and competent legal assistance.

Moreover Secretary DLSA Ganderbal, along with Mufti Nahida, Chairperson of Tehsil Legal Services Committee Kangan, also visited PAALASH Kangan, in order to assess the conditions of the children residing there.

During the visit, they interacted with the children and staff, taking note of their concerns.

All the institutions were made aware regarding providing free competent legal services to the children's, women's and the senior citizens from DLSA Ganderbal.

# Deputations, individuals met Rana; projects development issues, seeks speedy redressal

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Several deputations and individuals from across Jammu and Kashmir on Monday met Minister for Jal Shakti, Forests and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmad Rana, here and projected their issues and concerns while seeking speedy redressal of the same.

The deputations who called on the Minister included Employees of J&K State Forest Corporation (SFC), All J&K Rehbar-e-Janglat Employees Association (AJKRJE), Retired Opted (SFC) GLU Employees of Forest Department, delegations of Gujjar Bakerwal

Community from Jammu. The deputations from Gujjar Bakerwal Community from Jammu, raised key developmental issues of Jammu region including no hostel building for Gujjar Bakerwal PG Boys in Jammu, limited hostel seats, creation of post of Warden, Engagement of Security Guard, Cook, unemployment and other issues being faced by the youth of Gujjars Bakerwals.

Another deputation of Employees of Forest Development Corporation projected various issues regarding implementation of 7th pay Commission, DPC of remaining cadres and functioning of key

officers at Srinagar. They expressed hope that the government will consider redressal of their issues and concerns on priority.

A deputation of Advocates under banner of AJKRJE also highlighted their demands regarding delay in regularization of Rehbar-e-Janglat policy and other issues.

While interacting with the deputations, the Minister assured them that the government is committed to redress all their pending issues in a phased manner. He said that all their genuine demands and grievances would be examined and resolved on priority basis.

# DLC meeting for implementation of Model Solar Village held

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SHOPIAN: The District Level Committee (DLC) meeting was on Monday held at Mini Secretariat Shopian for the implementation of Model Solar Village under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana in the District.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Mohammad Shahid Saleem Dar chaired the meeting.

This scheme aims to establish "Model Solar Villages" having population size more than 2000, to support sustainable energy development by promoting local solar power adoption.

The meeting was informed that each selected village shall receive a grant of approximately Rs.1 crore to develop self-sustaining energy infrastructure.

Muft Bijli Yojana also aims to provide free electricity to households in India. Under the scheme, households will be provided with a subsidy to install solar panels on their roofs. The subsidy will cover up to 40% of the cost of the solar panels. The DLC oversees project implementation, with the role of mobilizing resources, coordinating with local vendors, and engaging panchayats for community awareness and adoption.

The selection process of villages shall involve a competitive mode where villages are assessed on their overall distributed renewable energy capacity, installed 6 months after the declaration of the potential candidate by district-level committee (DLC).

The DC on the occasion instructed the implementing department to conduct outreach programs across the district and desired that proper strategy and modalities shall be taken up to strengthen the provision of Solar Power infrastructure in the district. The overarching goal is to enable these villages to meet all their energy needs, from residential to agricultural, via solar power. The meeting was attended by ADDC Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone; DDC members, Fazil-Din-Deedat, M Maqbool Chopan; CPO, Ex. Engineer KPDC and other officers.

# DC Kulgam reviews performance of Social Welfare, ICDS, ICPS, OSC & DHEW

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KULGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan on Monday convened a review meeting here to evaluate the performance of the ICDS, Social Welfare Department, OSC, DHEW, ICPS and the implementation of various government-sponsored beneficiary and pension schemes in the district.

Social Welfare Officer, Muzaffar Ahmad presented a comprehensive progress report on various welfare initiatives.

He informed that 30379 cases have been sanctioned under the Integrated Social Security Scheme, while the National Social Assistance Programme has successfully met its set target of 5219 beneficiaries.

Additionally, he reported that under the State Marriage Assistance Scheme, 1716 cases received financial assistance during



dedication to ensure timely assistance reaches every corner of the district.

He emphasized the criticality of making the benefits of these welfare schemes accessible to even the most underserved communities.

He also reviewed the functioning of the One Stop Centre, District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW) and the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) in the district. The DC instructed officials to make these institutions more proactive and expand their reach to support and assist more victims effectively. The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Bashir Ahmad Wani; District Programme Officer, Abdul Rasheed; Joint Director Planning, Zahid Sajjad, Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs), TSWOs and other officials.

Khan urged the department to operate with utmost

dedication to ensure timely assistance reaches every corner of the district.

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# Group of 72 progressive farmers flagged off for inter-state training programme

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: A group of 70 progressive farmers from different districts of Kashmir division including Kupwara, Baramulla, Budgam, Bandipora, Ganderbal and Anantnag was on Monday flagged-off by Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal for an inter-state exposure cum training program to Punjab Agriculture University Ludhiana.

The seven days training program has been organized by Deputy Directorate of Agriculture (trainings) under NMAET (ATMA) 2024-25.

Chowdhury Iqbal while interacting with the farmers on the occasion, said that the training program has been organized for making the farmers aware of the latest technologies for

commercial farming, realtime trends in farming and cultivation of different agriculture crops on scientific lines.

Director said skilled human resource, capacity building of farmers are among the department's priorities.

He impressed upon the progressive farmers to interact with the agriculture scientists, experts, and extension functionaries to get acquainted with upto date methodologies in crop cultivation on scientific lines.

He asked the farmers to enhance their technical skills in the field of crop farming and to adopt the advanced technologies after learning from such training/ exposure visits.

Some senior officers of the department were also present on the occasion.

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# Expenditure reconciliation held for Bandipora, Sonawari, Gurez ACs

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BANDIPORA: Expenditure Observer (EO) for Bandipora district for General Elections to Legislative Assembly 2024, Sudeep Dabas on Monday conducted the expenditure reconciliation meeting for the Assembly Constituencies (ACs) of Bandipora, Sonawari and Gurez here in the conference hall of Mini Secretariat

Bandipora. Assistant Expenditure Observers (AEOs) of the three constituencies carefully reviewed the Expenditure Registers submitted by candidates in the General Election to Legislative Assembly, cross-referencing them with the Shadow Registers kept by the election authorities.

On the occasion, Expenditure Observer (EO)

said that this monitoring and reconciliation process is essential for ensuring transparency and promoting fair election practices in the district.

District Treasury Officer Bandipora, Sheikh Abid Manzoor; Liaison Officer Intiyaz Iqbal were present in the meeting while AEO Gurez attended the meeting virtually.