



Glimpses of Christmas celebration at Jammu on Monday.

## Div Com takes holistic review of Winter preparedness in Kashmir

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Monday convened a meeting to take holistic review of winter preparedness of all the departments in Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners (DCs) of Baramulla, Anantnag, Bandipora, Budgam and Shopian, Director Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Director Health Services Kashmir, Chief Engineer Mech and Hosp Engineering, Chief Engineers of R&B North and South Kashmir, C.E IOCL North, besides representatives of other DCs, KPDCL and PHE etc.

The chair reviewed department wise preparedness for winters to ensure smooth supply of essentials viz. ration, water, electricity, and medical care, besides timely road clearance to ensure smooth movement of vehicles etc.

Taking stock of supply position of essentials in snow



bound areas that remain cut-off during winters; the Director FCS&CA informed the meeting that there is no dearth of fuel in Kashmir and they have maintained sufficient stocks of it in snow bound areas, besides they have also made 100% stocks of ration at such places.

Officer from KPDCL informed the chair that the department is maintaining the curtailment programme while there are no distress cuts since additional 200 MWs of power. He further informed that they are providing round the clock power supply to 22 Feeders

where both smart metering and cabling has been done, and in addition they are extending the facility to more 8 to 10 Feeders.

In case of replacement of Damaged Distribution Transformers (DDTs), the Officer informed that in urban areas they are placing the DDTs within 48 hrs while in rural areas the exercise is completed within 1-2 days.

The Div Com directed the KPDCL authorities to ensure damaged DTs are replaced within timeframe as per the directions of Lt. Governor and common masses do not have

timely snow clearance on roads.

He further informed that they have also dumped fuel in Gurez and other snow bound areas to meet the demand and therefore are ready to meet any exigency.

Regarding road clearance measures in South Kashmir, the Chief Engineer R&B South informed the meeting they have made 350 machines available to cater road clearance besides man and material stands in place to meet any eventuality.

He further informed that they have tendered all 139 stages which also remain allotted.

The Chief Engineer R&B North informed the meeting that 126 stages have been tendered while 114 have been allotted so far, the remaining 12 stages shall be allotted shortly.

Officer from PHE also informed the meeting that they have all their schemes running properly supplying water smoothly to all the areas.

## Transformative Journey of VBSY continues to unfold in Pulwama Dist



ADDC Pulwama, Dr. Sheikh Abdul Aziz visiting a stall.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
PULWAMA: The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) is continuing making remarkable progress in District Pulwama, gracefully navigating the urban landscapes.

With its primary focus on saturating Government schemes and enhancing public awareness, the Yatra has gained momentum, ensuring widespread benefits.

A pivotal moment occurred as the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra reached the Municipal Committee Tral. The community's active participation turned the event into a joyous celebration, with Government departments taking the lead in elucidating their schemes and guiding citizens on how to leverage these opportunities.

The impactful message from the Prime Minister resonated deeply, capturing the audience's attention

and instilling a sense of commitment towards progress. The Sankalp pledge became a poignant declaration, with individuals expressing their dedication to the ideals upheld by the Sankalp Yatra.

Under the "Meri Kahani Meri Zubani" segment, beneficiaries shared compelling stories of how they have personally benefited from Government schemes.

Beyond informative sessions, the event offered essential services, ensuring immediate benefits for attendees. Cultural events infused vibrancy, reflecting the dynamic spirit of the Viksit Bharat Yatra.

Recognition extended not only to Government schemes but also to achievers, notably women, who were honored for their outstanding contributions.

The event witnessed the participation of ADDC Pulwama, Dr. Sheikh Abdul Aziz; ADC Tral and other District and Sectoral officers.

## Lecture on 'Empowering India: Decolonizing Indian Education System' organised

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Under the vision plan of Viksit Bharat @ 2047, the Department of English S. P. College Srinagar on Monday organised an online lecture on 'Empowering India: Decolonising the Indian Education System'.

At the outset, Principal SP College, Prof (Dr.) Ghulam Jeelani Qurashi highlighted the importance of the Viksit Bharat @ 2047 initiative and formally threw the programme open.

The programme was chaired by the head of the department, Prof Rabia Ahmad and moderated by Prof Jon Mohammad Bhat.

A large number of students across different semesters and faculty from different departments participated in the programme. Dr. Bilal Ahmad

Shah, senior Assistant Professor took the participants through the background and context of the programme and introduced the resource person.

Dr. Javaid Iqbal Bhat, the resource person from the department of English, South Campus, University of Kashmir while talking on the topic, laid bare the different facets of colonial legacy that once crept into the Indian Education System and unquestionably perpetuated its hold over it. He highlighted that due to erroneous policies and governance, the native Indian system of education paled into insignificance.

The resource person emphasised that it is a high time to get rid of the colonial jargon, the spectre of which still hovers over our minds. He reiterated that in order to regain the emo-

tional content and sense of self-esteem, we need to create a new set of values which would bring a holistic transformation in us.

For this, he pointed out, the whole system of education demands an overhaul and the initiatives like NEP-2020 and agendas like Viksit Bharat @ 2047 are some steps in the right direction. Dr. Javaid concluded by saying that India is positively emerging in many dimensions and the world is looking up to it for solutions to different global problems that pressingly beset it.

The lecture provided a deeper understanding of the topic and engendered a curiosity among the participants to explore the new possibilities in ameliorating the Indian Education System.

## VBSY brings positive change in Dooru, Anantnag

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
ANANTNAG: In a heartening endeavor to make government schemes more accessible in urban communities, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) joyfully kicked-off its Dooru urban expedition on Monday. This journey, extending across Dooru Sub division, is geared towards bringing government initiatives closer to citizens and fostering positive change.



VBSY Van reaching at Dooru Sub division.

ment services.

SDM Dooru passionately highlighted the Yatra's core objective, raising awareness about various government schemes and policies. Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi,

concerted efforts are being made to transform the nation into a well-rounded and developed entity, ensuring that citizens can readily avail themselves of the benefits of these schemes. The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a

nationwide initiative committed to enlightening and empowering citizens about Central Government's flagship schemes, has already forged deep connections among the masses in Anantnag District.

### DHEW-J conducts awareness campaign on Christmas Eve

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Mission Shakti, District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW) Jammu extended heartily greetings to the people of Jammu on Christmas.

On the occasion, the DHEW organised an awareness programme regarding the women centric schemes at Holy Spirit Pentecostal Church in the presence of Pastor Sunil Bhatia and other Church Members. The DHEW staff made the public aware about government Schemes and the process to avail the benefits.

The participants were assured to provide assistance with the help of the concerned Departments.

They specifically focused on the welfare schemes offered by the Government of India and stressed on the need of gender sensitivity to promote equality among genders. The Staff emphasized and imparted detailed information regarding the women centric schemes like scholarship schemes, SMAS (State Marriage Assistance Scheme for poor and needy girls), Pension schemes for old age, widow

and physically disabled persons, skill development course, various loan schemes etc.

Eligibility criteria for different pension schemes, procedure to avail the benefits and documents required for the enrollment were explained to the eligible persons. The people present were provided information about Ladli Beti and Sukanya Yojana, which offers financial security to the girls.

Emergency helpline numbers for women (181), child (1098), Elder line (14567) Drug De-addiction (14446) were also shared with the people present.

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