

# Parikrama to mark start of Tawi Trekkers' activity in March

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** Tawi Trekkers J&K, the biggest trekking club of J&K, would continue to give more thrust to adventure picnics and short treks to unfrequented and lesser known beauty spots especially heritage and pilgrim sights of Jammu in order to bring them on the tourism map of Jammu.

Accordingly, this year the club's activities shall commence with circumambulation (parikrama) of Trikuta Hills (Vaishno Devi Shrine), a 3 days trek from Katra to Katra via Tote, Sukhalghati and Jangle Gali in the first week of March.

It was announced by Ram Khajuria, president of the Club, while highlighting the detail of activities included in the Calendar of Activities of the Club for the year 2022, which was released in a simple function held at Press Club of Jammu.

Patron of the Club, Rahul



Tawi Trekkers J&K members during a meeting at Jammu.

Sharma, Chairman, Sprawling Buds ICSE School, Bantalab, here released the Calendar of Activities along with Ram Khajuria, Sakshi Magotra (joint secretary) and senior members, Vivek Chauhan (Principal, Oriental Academy Senior Secondary School, Jammu); Sumit Khajuria, Narinder Singh and Sunil Chakharria.

Highlighting the activities to be undertaken by the Club this year, Ram Khajuria mentioned that last year most of the activities could

not be undertaken due to Covid 19 and therefore have been included in this year's programme.

Accordingly, the Club shall organize two trekking expeditions in Dhauladhar Range in Himachal Pradesh including one to Triund (10000ft) for Junior members and another from Dalhousie to Chamba exclusively for senior citizens. Besides, a Heritage Trekking Programme in Kangra area of Himachal Pradesh shall also be organized for about 200 students between

October and December, 2022.

However, the Club is also focused on a prestigious international expedition to Mount Elbrus, the highest peak of Europe in Russia. Subject to opening up of international flights and finalization of all other arrangements, the club has planned to depute a three member team to this unique expedition in May, 2022.

To spot the talent in sport climbing at the grass root level and to groom it for future competitions, the Club

has an ambitious plan of conducting regular coaching camps and monthly competitions for Sport Climbers including physically and visually challenged ones. Besides an Open Union Territory level Sport Climbing competition shall also be organised in October, 2022.

However, the Club has not so far been able to identify the area for the conduct of this year's Himalayan Trekking Programme for school children during summer vacations and the same shall be announced as and when finalized.

While interacting with the members, Rahul Sharma congratulated them for honouring 11 Everesters of Jammu in a unique function. He also lauded the sincere efforts of the members that despite Covid 19 the club could conduct four short treks and an exhaustive reconnaissance of Ladakh area for smooth conduct of a future trekking expedition.

# JU felicitates its Alumnus Padma Shri Prof Vishwa Murti Shastri

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** A felicitation Programme was organized by the Department of Sanskrit, University of Jammu, in honour of Prof. Vishwa Murti Shastri for being conferred with the Padma Shri award in recognition of his distinguished contribution in the field of Sanskrit literature and education, for the year 2021 by the Government of India.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Manoj K Dhar, Vice-Chancellor, JU congratulated Prof Vishwa Murti Shastri for his glorious and outstanding achievement.

Prof Dhar said Prof Shastri's life is a teaching in itself that a person who starts his life from a small village in Ramban and was recognized by the nation for his outstanding contribution in the field of Sanskrit literature and education.

Prof Dhar also directed the Head, Department of Sanskrit to organize lectures of Prof Shastri for the students of Jammu University from time to time.



VC JU, Prof Manoj K Dhar felicitating Padam Shri Prof Vishwa Murti Shastri.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Shastri offered gratitude to the Government of India, for conferring him with Padma Shri. He appealed to the teachers of the nation to make some arrangements to free the youth from any kind of addiction and train the youth with value added education system. Prof Arvind Jasrotia, Registrar, University of Jammu also congratulated Prof Shastri on the occasion.

Earlier, Prof. Sushma Devi Gupta, Head, Department of Sanskrit presented a welcome address. Dean, Faculty of Arts, Prof Shivdev Singh Manhas also offered best wishes to Prof.

Shastri on behalf of Faculty of Arts. Prof. Rannika Jalali read the citation. Dr. Pratibha remembered the touching account of many aspects of Prof Shastri greeted him with Sanskrit shlokas. Prof Laxmi Dutt Shastri, a famous Sanskrit scholar from Jammu province, while presenting a congratulatory message, recalled many memories related to Prof Shastri and the incidents of his struggle and hard work.

Dr. Satyapriya Arya conducted the proceedings of the programme and the vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Vidyadhar Singh.

# NSS unit of GGM Science College holds workshop on World Cancer Day

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** NSS unit of Government Gandhi Memorial Science College under the patronage of Principal Dr. Ravender Tickoo and guidance of NSS PO, Dr. Deepali Mahajan as a part of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav organized amass awareness workshop on the World Cancer Day on Friday on theme 'Close the Care Gap'.

Cancer is the second leading cause of death globally. The day aims to prevent millions of deaths each year by raising awareness and education about cancer.

NSS volunteers made posters and spoke on the raising awareness and education about cancer. About one out of six people worldwide die from cancer, which's more than HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria combined, they said. "Every one of us has the ability to make a difference, large or small, and that together we can make real progress in reducing the global impact of cancer," they said.



# DPS Jammu students excel in Int'l GK Olympiad

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** The students of Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu, namely Arya Bhalla, Jagrit Rajpal, Shivansh Rana and Ruhani Bains excelled in International General Knowledge Olympiad organized by the Science Olympiad Foundation (SOF) on 13th and 14th November, 2021, the result of which was declared recently.

Arya Bhalla from class VII-H won International Bronze Medal by securing first rank at school level, second at zonal level and the third rank at international level. She was also rewarded with gifts worth Rs. 1000 and a Certificate of Outstanding Performance.

Jagrit Rajpal from Class VIII-G stood first at the school level, seventh at the zonal level and secured the 46th rank at international level, winning gifts worth Rs. 500, a Medal of Distinction and Certificate of Distinction.

Shivansh Rana from class VII-A stood second at school level and 113th at zonal level whereas, Ruhani Bains from class II-A secured first position at school level and 71st position at zonal level.

The winners were awarded certificates, medals and other rewards by the Science Olympiad Foundation.

Principal DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chhabra congratulated the students for their extraordinary



results.

Headmistress, Meemu Gupta also appreciated the children for their zeal and brilliant performance in the Olympiad.

President RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, PVC Ritu Singh and Director S.S Sodhi extended their best wishes to the participants and wished them more success in the future.

# ICA president appreciates Rajesh Gill

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** Former Indian cricketer and President of Indian Cricketers Association (ICA), Ashok Malhotra appreciated former Ranji player; Rajesh Gill for his contribution towards promotion of cricket in Jammu and Kashmir.

In a letter addressed to Gill, Malhotra said, "I am happy to note your selfless contribution towards the promotion of cricket in J&K. This letter is in appreciation of your contribution to cricket post your playing days. By organizing various tournaments in J&K and in nearby states, as also tours and camps for various sections of society, including the underprivileged and physically Challenged, you have done all of us proud. Keep up the good work and the game of cricket

needs more people like you."

It is pertinent to mention that Rajesh Gill, an Apex Council Member of JKCA has been instrumental in organizing over 100 tournaments under the aegis of J&K Police and in his individual capacity as well. He organized various tournaments for youth of J&K which includes 50 cricket tournaments for senior players and College students, 20 such events for School children of under-12-19 age, Cricket tournament for Rural Youths, two Cricket mega events of PP CPL at Srinagar and at Jammu on

the pattern of IPL involving cricketers from all age groups.

As also 12 Cricket tournaments for Girls, five Cricket exposure tours for youth under-15 and under-16 boys to other prominent cricket academies at Amritsar, Jalandhar, Noida and Chandigarh, two cricket events for Slum living and orphan Children, 10 such events for Physically Challenged players at National level and around 15 exposure trips for Physically Challenged players to other states. He was instrumental in holding cricket tournaments on all major festivals with the objective to promote communal harmony among all masses.



# Court directs registration of FIR in fraud case with Solan-based firm

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** In a 'chilling fraud' worth a web-series or crime patrol episode, a con-man of Jammu namely Rajneesh Thapa and his accomplices / gang duped a senior citizen namely Kamal Singh Dhiman, who is a partner in an electrical contract company namely M/s Dhiman Electrical Company of Nalagarh, District Solan in Himachal Pradesh on name of AIIMS Jammu.

The Sub Judge - Special Mobile Magistrate, Susheel Singh after hearing Adv Aseem Sawhney and chilling story as how a while-collared fraud was committed with complainant Kamal Singh Dhiman and his company, directed SHO Police Station Gandhi

Nagar to register an FIR against the con-men Rajneesh Thapa, resident of village Dera Badhori PO Smailpur Kartholi, Bari Brahmana, J&K, account holder of M/s Abhishek Trading in Grameen Bank HO Narwal Jammu or other accomplice/ accused involved in fraud.

Adv Aseem Sawhney submitted before the Court that the complainant is a senior citizen of 75 years of age and an Electrical Contractor by profession. Complainant is a partner of M/s Dhiman Electrical Co and has been a victim of fraud, cheating, cheating by forgery and impersonation at hands of the accused namely Rajneesh Thapa who had duped the complainant of an amount

of Rs 10,17,590. When the complainant asked for return of the money, the accused stopped attending calls and adopted dilly-dallying tactics with the complainant thus making it clear that he has actually defrauded the complainant on the name of getting a contract of under construction -AIIMS electric work orders. Accused with an intention of cheating the complainant from the very beginning, had knitted a cunning plan thinking that the complainant being a senior citizen from a far-off place, will not be able to legally pursue the matter and accused will have the benefit of swallowing lakhs of hard-earned rupees of complainant by deceit. Under a well devised conspiracy, the accused induced the complainant saying that he was from a consultancy and has many

big projects in J&K and asked if the complainant could take contracts for some projects. On this the complainant asked the accused to send the BOQ (tender) documents of projects. Thapa sent the BOQ documents of a project on WhatsApp to the complainant. Later, the complainant sent filled-up tender / BOQ documents of amount of Rs 5,18,60,920-plus GST 18 per cent (Rupees Five Crore Eighteen Lakh, sixty thousand, nine hundred twenty one plus 18 per cent GST). On October 28, 2021 at 10.32 AM, accused told complainant that tender must be brought below Rs 5 crores, on which complainant revised BOQ/ tender and sent the new BOQ quoting rate of Rs 4,95,34050 (Rs. Four Crores ninety five lakhs thirty four thousand and



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha during meeting with artists from J&K.

fifty only). The accused kept inducing and weaving a web around the complainant and kept negotiating the modalities of payments for getting the work order and finally demanded if 1 per cent of quoted amount would be paid in cash i.e., Rs 5 lakhs, the work order would be issued in favour of complainant's company. On this the complainant visited Jammu on November 9, 2020 and met the accused at his office located at 11A Extension Gandhi Nagar and handed-over a cash amount of Rs 5 lakh to him. On the same day, the accused revealed that the project of electrical contract which he was managing was of AIIMS Jammu which is being built on NH of Samba through Alhwalia Contracts (India) Ltd. He further assured the complainant to wait for 3/4 days and he

would manage the work order in favour of the complainant's company - Dhiman Electrical Co. In the same pattern, he cheated the complainant numerous times.

Judge Susheel Singh after hearing submissions of Adv Aseem Sawhney observed that the averments made in the application prima facie constitute serious allegations and are cognizable by Police but Police has failed to register an FIR and thus the SHO Police Station Gandhi Nagar Jammu was directed to lodge FIR and investigate the matter in terms of section 156 (3) of CrPC and in light of Supreme Court Judgments in Lalita Kumari and Priyanka Srivastava's judgments and Court directed the order and copy of application be sent to the Police Station for compliance.

# Republic Day: CISF adjudged best marching contingent among CAPFs



CISF personnel taking out R-Day Parade at Rajpath.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**NEW DELHI:** The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has been adjudged the best marching contingent among CAPFs and auxiliary forces during the Republic Day parade held here on January 26. This is the seventh time that the force has been bestowed with this honour, a spokesperson for the paramilitary force said on Friday. A contingent of 99 personnel led by Assistant Commandant Mohish Bagree, followed by the force band, had marched on the Rajpath on January 26. Contingents of other central armed police forces and other forces like the CRPF and the Delhi Police also participated in the annual Republic Day parade that rolls down from the seat of power atop Raisina Hill to India Gate and beyond. A government statement added that the CRPF contingent received maximum votes from the public on the MyGov government portal under the same category of best marching contingent among the CAPFs and auxiliary forces. "CISF Director General Sheel Vardhan Singh has congratulated senior officers and instructors involved in the training of the contingent. "The selection of the squad, including the contingent commander, is made through a tough selection process," the spokesperson said.

The about 1.62 lakh personnel strong CISF guards 64 civil airports of the country at present apart from securing a number of vital infrastructure in the government and private domain under the control of the Union Home Ministry.

# All unconnected habitations of above 1,000 population provided road connectivity under PMGSY

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** Central Government's unstinting support in accelerating the pace of development in Jammu and Kashmir has resulted in the transformation of Union Territory on all fronts.

The transformation in every sector has brought economic enabling the UT to march towards a golden future as the government is making every effort to ensure that benefits of development reach all sections of the society.

With an aim to improve the physical infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir, the government has accelerated the pace of execution of Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP) projects. Official data suggests that the expenditure has reached upto Rs.34,653 crore ending October 2021 resulting in fast moving improvement of physical infrastructure here. As per the data, 21 major projects have been completed/substantially completed and nine projects are likely to be completed by this financial year.

In another significant achievement, J&K has achieved 100% household electrification under Saubhagya scheme before the target date and 3,57,405 beneficiaries have been covered.



The government has also embarked on path of smart metering and around 20 Lakh consumers shall be covered under Smart Metering Programme. As of now, the Installation of two Lakh meters is already under way and installation of another six lakh is being finalized under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme.

Further to improve the power infrastructure as well as distribution in Jammu and Kashmir; Government is committed to increase power generation of J&K as the UT is vast potential for Hydroelectricity. Power projects with 3500 MW capacity are going to solve most of the power woes in Jammu and Kashmir.

Moreover, in Jammu & Kashmir; all the rural Anganwari centres, Schools and Health institutions have been provided with functional tap water connections. It is worthwhile to note that two districts, Srinagar and Ganderbal have provided 100% functional tap water connection to all households.

UT is targeting provision of 100% functional tap water connection to all households by 15th August 2022.

To provide good all-weather road connectivity to unconnected

Habitations, all habitations over 1000 population (as per 2011 census) have been provided road connectivity and the habitations with 500 population will be provided roads by ending 2022.

In respect of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), J&K has moved in overall ranking in the country from 9th place in 2016-17 to 3rd position in 2020-21. Dedicated policy for maintenance of road infrastructure has been approved by UT government during 2021-22. Defect Liability Period (DLP) of 3 years has been made mandatory wherein the contractor associated with the project has to maintain the road during the DLP and the contractor has been made liable for the same.

Significant improvement has been achieved in the status of National Highway-44 thereby reducing the time from 10 hours to 6 hours, owing to opening of Navayug Tunnel and completion of different stretches under the four laning of NH-44 project.

To provide livelihood opportunities to weaker sections of society, 21000 Certificates of Vending (CoV) have been issued by government to street vendors under Street Vendors

(Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014, giving them assured right of vending at specified places without any hindrance.

For the cleaning and restoration of Dal Lake, massive cleaning operation of Dal Lake has been started and as a result, more than 10 sq. Kms. of area has been cleared of weed both manually as well as mechanical means. The Committee of Experts constituted by Honble High Court of J&K recommended that LAWDA will engage DMRC (Delhi Metro Rail Corporation) for design, development, manufacture, transport and commissioning of Lake Cleaning Machines in Dal Lake.

In short it can be said that the government with the help of central government has boosted the infrastructure as well as other developmental aspects in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. In coming years the Union Territory will be transformed both in terms of development as well as economic means as large number of projects and schemes are under way here which will change the entire economic landscape of Jammu and Kashmir.