

# 'Lavender cultivation emerges top choice for local farmers'

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**BHADARWAH:** Under the aegis of Ministry of Science and Technology, a one day training-cum-awareness programme on "Cultivation, Processing, Value Addition and Marketing of Lavender" was organized by CSIR, Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, (IIIM) under CSIR-Aroma Mission-2 in Jammu and Kashmir's additional district Bhadarwah on Wednesday.

The day long programme was held at Community Hall, Kotli.

Beside training programme, three distillation units installed by CSIR-IIIM, Jammu under Aroma Mission Phase-2 located at village Drudhul, Sungli and Dandi areas of Bhadarwah were also inaugurated by Dr. Sagar D. Doifode, Deputy Commissioner, Doda and Er. Rajneesh Anand Chief Scientist IIIM, Jammu.

More than 300 farmers, entrepreneurs and other stakeholders from different areas of Chenab valley participated in this programme.

Chief Guest Dr. Sagar Dattaray Doifode said, "today is a historic day for Bhadarwah as we have inaugurated three lavender oil dis-



DDC Doda Dr. Sagar D. Doifode inaugurating distillation unit.

tillation units in one day. This will be of great help to the farmers and will further increase Lavender cultivation in the region."

"I am sure that income of the farmers will increase many folds by adopting cultivation of Lavender and other aromatic crops," DC added saying that district administration will construct sheds on all the three distillation units under MGNREGA.

Dr. Sumeet Gairola, Nodal Scientist, CSIR-Aroma Mission (IIIM, Jammu) conveyed directorial message of Dr. D. Srinivasa Reddy, Director, IIIM Jammu.

While delivering his lecture, Dr. Reddy encouraged participants to take advantage from this opportunity being provided under CSIR

Aroma Mission.

Er. Rajneesh Anand, Chief Scientist, IIIM, Jammu suggested that the farmers should follow guidelines on aromatic crops for uplift and support the youths for their economic development and employment generation in their endeavours.

ADC Bhadarwah Rakesh Kumar said that administration will support farmers in every possible way to increase Lavender cultivation in the Bhadarwah region.

Dr. Sumeet Gairola while conducting the programme informed farmers about various aspects of CSIR-Aroma Mission. He informed that IIIM under Aroma Mission Phase-2 will install two more distillation units in Bhadarwah area within six months.

Dr. Qazi Parvaiz, Principal Scientist, IIIM, Jammu discussed about history, achievements and future of Lavender cultivation in Chenab Valley.

The progressive lavender farmers and young entrepreneurs from Chenab Valley were also felicitated in the programme. The young entrepreneur award was given to Touqeer Bagban, JK Aroma for promoting Lavender cultivation in Chenab valley. Bharat Bushan received Master farmer award for adopting outstanding farming practices in the field of Lavender cultivation. Anil Kumar received Innovative Farmer Award. The progressive farmers Faizullah Sheikh, Abhay Katal, Abhinesh Kumar, Om Raj, Nek Chand, Roshan Lal, OM Nath, Rajat Raina and Bal Kishan received appreciation award in recognition of their hard work and dedication to make Lavender cultivation successful in Jammu division.

The programme was attended by many dignitaries including Chandra Shekhar, DFO Bhadarwah, Shafqat Mehmood Malik, Touseef Bagban, Maloop Singh and others.

# Ohitaksh Mahajan clears JEE Mains

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**KATHUA:** Ohitaksh Mahajan (Class 12th) of Spring Dales English School Changran, Kathua has brought laurels to his school and parents by qualifying J E E



Mains 2021, India's largest Engineering Entrance Exam for IITs/NITs etc. with 99.81 Percentile. As per the results declared by National Testing Agency, Lohitaksh has scored 99.82 percentile in Physics, 99.45 percentile in Chemistry and 99.77 percentile in Mathematics. Director, Prof. R.K. Gupta congratulated Lohitaksh and his father Mr. Deepak Kumar Gupta for the outstanding achievement.

In the past, Lohitaksh Mahajan had also brought laurels to his school and parents by qualifying for the scholarship test of National Talent Search Examination (NTSE-2019) conducted by NCERT under General Category.

He was amongst the 1069 students of General Category in the entire country to receive this scholarship.

# Narayana Hospital performs 9-hr long surgery of rare tumor

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**KATRA:** Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Super Speciality Hospital at Jammu has performed one of the rarest Gastro Intestinal surgery on a 32-year old man to remove a tumor and gave him a new lease of life.

Gurvinder, was diagnosed with a rare neuroendocrine tumor, which is one of the rarest form with an incidence of 0.5% of all tumors. He had to undergo a very complicated procedure.

The patient was initially told that he requires chemotherapy. But he decided to get a second opinion at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Super Speciality Hospital. The patient consulted Dr. Rajeev Saini, Senior Consultant Medical Oncology. Dr Saini evaluated the patient and ordered for some tests including a PET scan, after which he concluded that the patient needed a surgery rather than chemotherapy as the tumor was localized to the small intestine, the 2nd part of Duodenum. The patient was then referred to Dr. Abhinav Choudhary, Consultant Surgical Oncology who confirmed the above opin-



Patient along with team of doctors.

ion.

Explaining the procedure, Dr. Abhinav Choudhary said that the procedure they were planning was known as Whipples procedure and carried high risk of morbidity and mortality in the best of centers. It's a procedure involving resection of multiple organs followed by multiple anastomoses.

Dr. Abhinav Choudhary decided that two teams will perform the surgery to minimize fatigue and prevent any compromise in the quality of the surgery. Accordingly Gastro Intestinal Surgery team led by Dr. Suhail Khuroo and Dr. Ajaz Wani joined for the procedure. They were ably assisted by Dr. Vikas Heer, Consultant Surgical Oncology.

The Patient tolerated the surgery well and so his recovery

was smooth. He starting taking food by the seventh post operative day and was discharged on the 10th day of the surgery.

It is yet another example of successful multidisciplinary approach at Sri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana hospital.

Dr. JP Singh, Clinical Director at the hospital said "Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Super speciality hospital is equipped with world class infrastructure and equipment which helps the faculty of the hospital to perform rare surgeries which were never performed in the state earlier."

He also mentioned that the highly qualified dedicated and professional team of doctors and support staffs are available round the clock at SMVDNSH which helps saving lives every day.

# Director (Technical) NHPC visits Kishtwar

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**KISHTWAR:** Y. K. Chaubey, Director (Technical), NHPCL Limited along with A.K. Choudhary, Managing Director; Chenab Valley Power Projects Pvt. Ltd. (CVPPL), Keshav Deshmukh, Executive Director; NHPCL and Rajan Kumar, Regional Head of NHPCL, Jammu reached Kishtwar on a three-day visit on Wednesday. Nirmal Singh, General Manager (in-charge), Dulhasti Power Station and P.K. Jain, Chief General Manager, Pakaldul Hydroelectric Project, S.P. Puri, General Manager (in-charge), Kavar Hydroelectric Project welcomed the dignitaries by presenting bouquet on their arrival at Chenab Bhavan premises of Dulhasti Power Station.

On this occasion, on 10 March 2021, the CISF Unit presented the Guard of Honor to Y. K. Chaubey, Director (Technical) at the Chenab Bhavan premises of Dulhasti Power Station. Further, Y. K.

Chaubey, Director (Technical), A.K. Choudhary, Managing Director, CVPPL, Keshav Deshmukh, Executive Director; NHPCL and Rajan Kumar, Regional Head of NHPCL, Jammu planted saplings. Moreover, the Director (Technical) visited the dam complex of Dulhasti Power Station and inspected the maintenance and operation of the dam complex.

Moreover, Y.K. Choubey, Director (Technical) also visited the Hydropower Projects of CVPPL and the proposed site of Dulhasti-II Hydropower Project.

On this occasion, Dr. Nisha Sharma, General Manager (Medical Services), R.N. Sharma, General Manager (Civil), G.C. Sinha, Deputy General Manager (Electrical), Bidya Dhar Moharana, Deputy General Manager (Electrical), Vidya Nand Das, Deputy General Manager (IT) including officers and staff of Dulhasti Power Station and CVPPL were also present.

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**POONCH:** District Police Poonch in collaboration with Pritam spiritual Trust concluded three days long free artificial limb fitment and distribution camp at Kamsar Poonch under Civic Action Programme of J&K Police. The camp was inaugurated by Ramesh Kumar Angral SSP Poonch on March 8, 2021.

Speaking on the occasion SSP stated that in addition to their bounden duties, J&K Police is also fulfilling its social responsibilities for overall development of the society. He said that after artificial limb fitment, the specially abled persons will be able to work with more comfort in their day to day activities. In addition to fitment few pairs of crutches, wheel chairs, walking sticks and hearing aids were also provided to the needy during this camp. Number of other people also participated for



Police officials, Trust members along with beneficiaries.

the repair and service of their old limbs. On the occasion concession fare travelling card have also been distributed amongst the divyang persons.

The concluded function was attended by Rahul Yadav Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Punit Doval, commander 93 Brigade Poonch.

Rahul Yadav appreciated the role of police in providing necessary help to physically challenges persons and best wishes to all those who

got benefited during this camp. Punit Doval eulogized the role of district police Poonch for organizing such activities especially for the victims of border firing, militancy, mine blast, accidental besides tackling crime, law and order effectively and for good liaison with the general populace of the district. Large numbers of prominent citizens drawn from all walks of life were present during the closing ceremony

S. Jagbir Singh President

# Artificial limb fitment, distribution camp concludes

# JU's Udhampur Campus organises online webinar

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**UDHAMPUR:** Udhampur Campus, University of Jammu organised a National Webinar on the topic "Innovative Pedagogical Methodologies and tools for effective learning in science, social science- humanities, commerce and management education" on Wednesday under the Rectorship of Professor Parikshat Singh Manhas who is determined to impart knowledge and learning in innovative style. There were 86 participants for the webinar from various colleges and universities of different parts of the country.

The webinar began with an introduction by Dr. Neetu Kumari, co-ordinator, Department of Commerce, Udhampur Campus University of Jammu. Dr. Neetu welcomed the participants and gave an overview of the webinar whose main

objective was to discuss about recent and innovative trends pedagogies in the field of education. She emphasised that the webinar is sought to determine the impact of use of improvised instructional materials on students and ability to link classroom content to improvised materials.

Dr. Rudra Rameshwar, an eminent professor from Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology (Deemed to be University), Patiala, Punjab, India was the resource person for the webinar who spoke about the use of innovative methods in educational institutions not only to improve the level of education but also to empower people, strengthen governance and galvanize the efforts to achieve human development goal for the country.

Dr. Neetu Kumari, webinar coordinator presented a vote of thanks. She thanked Professor Parikshat Singh Manhas, Rector, Udhampur Campus, University of Jammu who guided and supported to take an initiative to start Udhampur Campus Capacity Building Series (UCCBS). Special thanks to Prof. Manoj Kumar Dhar, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu, patron of the webinar for his continuous support and guidance. Teaching faculty present during the event included Manita Sharma, Taruna Dubey, Vinod Kumar, Dr. Ritika Sambyal, Dr. Kamani Dutta, Dr. Shilpa Gupta, Nikhil Khajuria and Dr. Ajay Salgotra.

# Safaikaramchari's strike enters day 10

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**U D H A M P U R :** Safaikaramcharis of Municipal Council Udhampur (MCU) on Wednesday suspended their routine work for tenth consecutive day and went on strike in Udhampur.

Safaikaramcharis led by District President Papu and Girdhari Lal suspended their routine work and went strike in the premises of the Udhampur. Taking the serious cognizance of the ongoing strike being observed by the Safaikaramcharis, several councilors of MCU extended support to them and also sat on Dharna.

Protestors raised slogans against the Govt. and

Director Local Body Jammu. They said that for the last couple of months they have not been paid their regular salary. They alleged that local administration and higher ups of local body department are not paying due heeds towards demands. Protestors urged higher ups to pay their dues earliest and also regularized daily wagers too otherwise Safai Karamchari will be forced to come on road in big way. Councilors who present were Vikram Singh Slathia, Surinder Singh Khalsa, Sunil Proach, Priti Khajuria, Sulkshna Magotra, Samneek Bhasin, Rakesh Arora, Rajesh Sharma, Darshan Lal and many more.

# Block Diwas: DDC Rajouri listens to public grievances

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**RAJOURI:** District Administration Rajouri Wednesday organised a Block Diwas proceedings at Koteranka, which was presided over by the District Development Commissioner, Rajesh K Shavan.

SSP, Chandan Kohli; ADC Koteranka, Surinder Mohan Sharma; CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; SE Jal Shakti, SR Shukla; SE PWD, Shahid Latief; GM DIC, Manzoor Hussain; PO ICDS, Kartar Singh; CEO, Gulzar Hussain; ACD, Sushil Khajuria; Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti, PWD, PMGSY, PDD besides other district and sectoral officers were present on the occasion.

BDC Chairperson Budhal Old-A, Javed Iqbal Chowdhury; Sarpanchs, Panchs and people in large numbers from all walks of life participated in the event.

The people from Kha, Jamola, Sawari, Kanthol,



DDC Rajesh K Shavan listening to public issues.

Sadda, Tali, Mashloor, Kotegalian, Sekhogan, Nairkassi, Khuidhera and other adjoining areas participated in the Block Diwas and projected several issues and demands. They sought sanctioning of a KV School and a JK Bank branch at Jamola, special recruitment drive for Gujjar and Bakerval community in police and other paramilitary forces, sanctioning of a fire station at Kha Jamola, PHC at Mashloor, up-gradation of Middle school at Kha and primary school at Mohra Mashloor, borewell at Khuidhera.

They also sought adequate staff at PHC at Najeri,

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**UDHAMPUR:** To generate awareness among the common masses about the Corona disease, Department of Information & Public Relations Cultural Wing, Jammu, in collaboration with District Information Centre, Udhampur organized a symposium cum Cultural programme on the theme COVID-19 Do's & Don'ts, here at Bhartiya Vidya Mandir High School.

Principal of the host school, Renu Sharma was the chief guest on the occasion.

In all 8 students of the school participated in the symposium contest and threw light on the burning topic and

shared their views regarding COVID-19.

Divyanshi Chalotra of class 9th clinched first position, while Manvi Thakur of class 6th and Priyanka Bandral of class 9th secured second and third positions, respectively. Besides, Sumaina Chalotra of class 7th bagged consolation prize.

Sapna Sharma, Asha Devi and Bandhana acted as judges while senior Artist of Information Department Suresh Sharma conducted the proceeding of the programme.

While addressing the students, the chief guest applauded the efforts of information department for organizing the awareness programme aimed at to create awareness among

the students as well as general public regarding COVID-19. She urged upon the students to spread the message of Corona disease among the common masses and urged the department to hold more such events in the near future.

Artists of Cultural wing DIPR Jammu presented theme based scintillating cultural programmes which mesmerized by the audience.

Later, Prizes and merit certificates were also distributed among the winners.

Among others, senior artists of Information Department Yash Kumar, Balbir Singh, Surjeet Singh, Rakesh Kumar besides Staff members and students of the school were present on the occasion.

# DC Reasi, Mission Director ICDS inaugurate menstrual awareness workshop

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**REASI:** To promote menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls, the District Administration Reasi, Department of ICDS in collaboration with the UNOPS Delhi, organised a five-Day Workshop here.

Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Indu Kanwal Chib along with Mission Director ICDS, Neetu Gupta inaugurated the five day workshop by lighting of the traditional lamp, while Project Officer ICDS, Renu Kumari; resource Persons from UNOPS Delhi, Isha Singh; Surekha Lambe; Krishna Ramwat; Chief Medical Officer, Dr Rajeev Bahsin; Teachers; Supervisor and Anganwadi workers were present at the event.

The five-day workshop on the issue of menstrual hygiene and safe menstru-

al practice is being organised for Teachers, Supervisor, health educators and health volunteers. They would act as master trainers and organise similar awareness camps at the village and school level, the Deputy Commissioner said.

Meanwhile, during the five day event, the resources persons from UNOPS would organise discussions, group activities and lecturers on good menstrual hygienic practices such as the use of sanitary napkins; washing and cleaning; how to dispose of sanitary napkins, followed by precautions to be taken during the period and dietary habits, so, as to enable them to lead a healthy reproductive life in future," said PO ICDS.

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