

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! LG launches New...

startups, facilitation for DPIIT registration and additional need-based support to start-ups working in diverse fields, he observed.

Addressing the entrepreneurs and innovators on the occasion, the Lt Governor called for collective action to build dynamic economic environment in the UT where business can thrive, investment can prosper and entrepreneurs can actualise their aspirations.

He also talked about the challenges and growth opportunities in different sectors in Jammu Kashmir.

J&K UT has 722 registered startups, with a notable focus on gender inclusivity, boasting 254 women-led startups. The Jammu & Kashmir startup ecosystem exhibits a diverse landscape, with Construction & Engineering emerges as a key player; constituting 49% of the total startups, followed by Skill Development (12%), Oil & Gas Transportation (12%), IT Consulting (8%), Business Support Services (7%), Food Processing (6%), and Agri-Fish (5%). This showcases the entrepreneurial diversity and the presence of startups across various industries.

The Lt Governor said the policy reflects a comprehensive survey on government support, incubator collaboration, and policy requirements. Notably, 69 per cent of startups seek support for Marketing and Branding, while the collaboration with incubators is at 7.89 per cent, presenting an opportunity for increased engagement.

Jammu & Kashmir is home to 12 incubators, playing a vital role in nurturing and guiding startups during their early stages, the Lt Governor said.

He said the ecosystem benefits from collaborations, with 16 partnerships and Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) established with various institutions and organizations to provide additional support and resources.

I invite the potential investors from across the country to explore the unlimited possibilities present in the Union Territory and contribute to the growth journey of Jammu Kashmir; he said.

He further impressed upon the Financial and Academic Institutions to play their vital role in effective on-ground implementation of the new startup policy.

Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Vikranjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Baldev Prakash, MD and CEO J&K Bank; Prof BS Sahay, Director IIM Jammu; Arun Manhas, Director, Industries Jammu; Ishan Verma, President JK Startups Association, officials of UT Administration, SIDBI, Startup India and young entrepreneurs were present.

CEOs and representatives of various companies and Startup ventures like Via ENS, Branding Elves, Fast Beetle, Fix and Ease, Pure Mart, MGM, Trambo Sports were also present.

### PM Modi chairs...

scientific organisations and mobilisation of youths for inputs. "More than 2,700 meetings, workshops and seminars were held at various levels. Suggestions of more than 20 lakh youths were received," one official said.

The roadmap for "Viksit Bharat" has a comprehensive blueprint with clearly articulated national vision, aspirations, goals and action points, the sources said, adding that its goals include areas such as economic growth, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ease of living, ease of doing business, infrastructure and social welfare. Several ministries articulated their ideas in the meeting, which is likely to be the last such get-together before the Lok Sabha polls are announced.

### Modi to attend...

in Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu.

He will address public meetings in Adilabad as well as Chennai, the officials said.

Modi will launch several projects in Sangareddy in Telangana on March 5 and address an event before travelling to Odisha where he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of numerous development initiatives.

He will then address a public meeting in Chandikhole in Odisha before travelling to West Bengal.

On March 6, he will unveil development projects in Kolkata and address a public meeting in Barasat. He will then travel to Bihar and inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of multiple development projects in Bettiah, the officials said.

The Prime Minister will be in Jammu and Kashmir on March 7 and attend a media event in Delhi in the evening.

On March 8, he will participate in the first-ever National Creator's Award in Delhi and then leave for Assam in the evening.

Modi will inaugurate the Sela tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh's West Kameng and then unveil multiple development projects in Itanagar.

Later, he will unveil a statue of legendary Ahom army commander Lachit Borphukan in Jorhat, Assam.

Thereafter, he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of multiple development projects in Jorhat, the officials said.

He will also visit West Bengal and launch development projects in Siliguri and address a public meeting there.

On March 10, Modi will be in Uttar Pradesh and will dedicate to the nation various projects in Azamgarh, they said.

He will attend an event in Delhi the next day related to 'Namo Drone Didi' and 'Lakshpati Didi' programmes. Then, he will inaugurate the Haryana section of the Dwarka Expressway. In the evening, he will attend a Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) programme.

On March 12, he will visit Sabarmati in Gujarat and Pokhran in Rajasthan and then lay the foundation stones of three important semiconductor projects in Gujarat and Assam via video conferencing on March 13.

He is also scheduled to attend an outreach programme for disadvantaged sections of society via video conferencing, they said.

The prime minister has been unveiling a slew of development projects running into lakhs of crores of rupees at various places as he turns the spotlight on his government's development and welfare agenda in the run-up to the general elections expected to be held in April-May.

### SFs put on...

they said. The security forces have increased patrolling around the venue of the rally as part of area domination exercise to ensure a smooth and incident-free visit of the prime minister.

This will be the Prime Minister's first visit to the Kashmir valley after the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019.

This will be his second visit to Jammu and Kashmir in as many months. PM Modi had visited the Jammu region last month to inaugurate several development projects. He also addressed a public rally in Jammu.

### J&K: Parents of...

Then where is my son?" Chander told PTI Videos at his residence in the outskirts of the city.

Relatives and neighbours of the family are making regular visits to express their support and praying for Verma's safe return.

Terming the seaman's disappearance as "unfortunate", the Mumbai-headquartered Western Naval Command has said a high-level board of inquiry has been ordered.

"In an unfortunate incident, Sahil Verma, Seaman II, has been reported missing at sea from (an) Indian Naval Ship whilst on deployment since February 27, 2024. The Navy immediately launched a massive search operation with ships and aircraft, which is still continuing," it said in a post on X on Saturday.

Expressing resentment over the sketchy information shared with the family, Chander said, "We got a call on February 29

informing that our son went missing on board the ship two days before that we last talked to him on Sunday (February 25) and nothing is known (about) what happened to him."

He said they want justice and know the whereabouts of his son. "We want the government to hand over the case to the CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation) for a thorough probe. He was on duty and is missing," he added.

Verma's mother said something is being concealed about her son's disappearance.

"There were 400 people on board the ship and only my son went missing," she said.

"My prayers and demands are only that my son returns safe and sound," she added. Gautam, a maternal uncle of the missing seaman, said his disappearance is a fit case for a CBI probe as "we have heard that the ship returned to base for a day before leaving again". How is it possible that he went missing from the ship?" he asked. "The family should have been informed and a board of inquiry ordered within 24 hours of the incident. But both of these things happened after two days," Gautam added.

### Extremist preachers from...

his speech on Friday. "The Home Secretary has instructed that if those here on visas choose to spew hate on protests or seek to intimidate people we will remove their right to be here," he said.

The British Indian leader had also appealed to demonstrators taking to the streets of the country to protest against the Israel-Hamas conflict to ensure their actions are not hijacked by extremists.

"The time has now come for us all to stand together to combat the forces of division and beat this poison. We must face down the extremists who would tear us apart," he said, warning that "Islamist extremists and the far right feed off and embolden each other".

Thousands took to the streets for another wave of pro-Palestine protests on Saturday, with the Metropolitan Police making 12 arrests for activities in breach of peace in London.

According to The Daily Telegraph' report, an official review by Lord Walney, the government's independent adviser on political violence and disruption, calls on ministers to tackle the growing threat posed by fringe, Left-wing groups that have allied with Islamist extremists at such pro-Palestine marches across the UK.

"One of the conclusions of my review is to look at and understand the threat from anti-democratic far-Left groups, alongside that posed by Islamists and the far right. You are seeing an unholy alliance between far-Left groups and some of the Islamist extremism that has been seen on the marches," he told the newspaper.

### Sinha hands over...

Poonch. Allotment orders of land measuring one Kanal each were also handed over to the families for the residential purpose.

The Lt Governor assured the family members of all possible support from the J&K Administration in the future. Ch. Mohd. Yasin, Deputy Commissioner Poonch was also present.

### Drug peddler arrested...

under the NDPS Act," he said. In the latest case, a warrant for Kumar's arrest was issued by the Jammu divisional commissioner on January 25, the spokesperson said.

### CEO reviews LS...

The meeting had a detailed review of the District Election Management Plan for Ramban besides discussions on Electoral Roll Processes, logistical requisites, manpower management, risk assessment, EVM transportation, polling staff deployment and security arrangements.

The CEO expressed satisfaction over the district administration's preparedness for the upcoming Election 2024. The district, being a crucial connecting link via road to Kashmir province, has made a separate plan to tackle the road transport challenges and other logistics, he added. He affirmed conduct of free, fair and transparent upcoming Lok Sabha Election while expecting voters high turnout in the district. He emphasised the rigorous training of electoral manpower both officials and non-officials and awareness of voters, especially first time voters on EVM and VVPAT.

Other vital issues discussed in the meeting inter alia included allocation of adequate human resources, implementation of Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) plans at the booth level, formulation of a comprehensive material management plan, secure route mapping and development of an extensive training regimen for Assistant Returning Officers (AROs).

In a bid to bolster public participation, AROs were tasked with executing awareness campaigns at the booth level, engaging Block Level Officers (BLOs), sports personalities, government employees, youth icons, influencers besides organizing sports events, rallies, competitions and door-to-door campaigns as per district SVEEP plan.

Underlining the significance of Adequate Minimum Facilities (AMF), the CEO directed the district administration to ensure clean washrooms, provision of drinking water; first aid facilities, and uninterrupted electricity for polling staff and security personnel on Election Day.

The meeting concluded with a reaffirmation of collective commitment towards ensuring a smooth, transparent and participatory electoral process in the upcoming Lok Sabha Election 2024.

Earlier, District Election Officer, in a PowerPoint Presentation, informed the CEO about the election preparedness and execution of directives issued by the Election Department from time to time.

### Jammu-Srinagar NH...

mudslide were rescued late Saturday night. Over 200 tourists from Kerala who were left stranded in Banihal on their return from Kashmir were relocated to a safe shelter house on Saturday night and provided with essential amenities like food, blankets, and quilts, the spokesperson said.

He added that a vehicle got stuck in a mudslide at Cafeteria Morh along the highway but prompt action by the police rescued all the individuals safely. In another instance, six men, four women and a child who were stranded at Nachlana due to heavy rain and shooting stones were rescued and shifted a safer place, the spokesman said. Expanding their efforts, the police provided essential relief to stranded passengers on the blocked highway, offering water, food, tea, and more, he said.

### Woman, 3 daughters...

expressed grief over the loss of lives in a landslide triggered by incessant rain in Chassana area of Reasi district. In a condolence message, the Lt Governor said: "I am deeply anguished by the loss of lives in the tragic incident in Chassana, Reasi. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members who have lost their loved ones. I have directed the District Administration to provide all necessary assistance". The Lt Governor has also issued instructions to provide immediate relief to the families affected by heavy rains across the Union Territory.

### Shehbaz Sharif becomes...

after last month's election resulted in a hung Parliament. While Shehbaz secured 201 votes, his challenger Omar Ayub Khan of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) got only 92 votes in the election held at the newly-elected National Assembly. Shehbaz said that as no party secured a clear parliamentary majority, it was "the democratic way" that "like-minded parties may form a coalition government". He said that his government would work hard and set a goal to become a member of G20 countries by 2030. The G20 or Group of 20 is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major developed and developing economies. "We will keep ties with neighbours on the basis of equality," Shehbaz said.

## ABVP seeks allotment of CUET centres within Doda, Kishtwar districts

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: ABVP submitted a memorandum to district administration of Doda and Kishtwar headed by Deputy Commissioners Harvinder Singh and Devansh Yadav, respectively, for the allotment of CUET-UG and CUET- PG examination centres in respective districts. The delegation was led by ABVP-JK State Joint Secretary Shailesh Razdan. He said that this issue has come to the notice of ABVP that in the previous year, CUET aspirants were allotted examination centres outside the UT of Jammu and Kashmir which was the main reason for drop in enrollment of students in the higher education institutions of the Union Territory. It is pertinent to mention here that the



ABVP members handing over memorandum to DC Doda Harvinder Singh.

students of the union territory live in diverse geographic terrain and often face challenge in accessing examination centres. Additionally, most of the students with poor economic background find it financially burdensome to reach distantly located examination centres. Establishing examination centres within the district

aligns with the principles of inclusivity, accessibility and equitable educational opportunities for the students.

The delegation comprised of Radhika Aryan (District Convenor Kishtwar), Vinay Aryan Vasu Sharma, ABVP Doda City President Ankit Kumar, Disha Sharma, Nittin Kumar, Payal Dhar and others.

## J&K Bank's Trade Union leaders visit Poonch, assess welfare measures of bank employees



Members of Trade Union during visit to Poonch.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Trade union leaders of ALJKBOO of J&K Bank led by its president Raghuveer Singh visited Poonch to see the welfare of bank employees of J&K Bank posted at District Poonch. The trade union members

were welcomed by J&K Bank officials. Meeting was held at Geeta Bhawan Poonch which was attended by scores of J&K Bank officers.

The prime aim of the meeting was to see the welfare aspect of the J&K Bank employees posted at LOC

district of Poonch. Difficulties faced by the employees posted at far off district of UT of J&K was apprised to the visiting team of trade unionists of J&K Bank.

The visiting office bearers of ALJKBOO patiently listened the difficulties of the bank employees posted in Poonch and assured them that the concerns narrated by them shall be taken up with the top Management of J&K Bank for immediate redressal.

## DDC member dedicates new transformer to Panchayat Rah

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHOWKI CHAURA: BJP senior leader & District Development Council member Suresh Sharma dedicated a new 63 KVA transformer costing Rs 10 lakh in the Panchayat Rah of Chhamb assembly segment. This was a long pending demand of the people and often there were problems of like low voltage here. People had to struggle with this problem. Keeping this problem of the people in mind, a new transformer was installed. Apart from this, Suresh Sharma got completed the repair and renovation work of the building of Primary Health Center Rah-Salyot, which was in a dilapidated condition for a long time. An amount of five lakh rupees was spent on this. The Primary Health Center Rah-Salyot neither had a main



DDC member Suresh Sharma inaugurating transformer.

gate nor any electricity facility; the condition of the building was bad due to which people here were often facing a lot of problems. Suresh Sharma recently got this work approved. Which was completed. There was a lot of enthusiasm among the people of the Panchayat and people said, keep fulfilling our demands from time to time. Suresh Sharma, while

addressing all the people who came, said that today development work is being done in every village, thanks to all of you. A lot of efforts are being made to fulfill the demands. All this is possible only with your love and blessings. Today, every person is getting the benefit of all the welfare schemes being run across the country under the leadership of the country's successful

## Rotary Eye & ENT Hospital Udhampur participates in Poonch Rajouri Medical Mission Camp

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Rotary Eye & ENT Hospital Udhampur a unit of "The Udhampur Rotary Eye & General Welfare Foundation" actively participated in Poonch Rajouri Medical Mission Camp. The camp was started on 26th Feb. and concluded on 2nd March 2024. In the said mission doctors of different specialties participated in this camp.

Dr Ankur Goel, Sr Ophthalmic Consultant & Medical Director of Rotary Eye Hospital Udhampur and his team headed by Rtn D. N. Sharma Chairman of the "The Udhampur Rotary Eye & General Welfare Foundation" actively participated at different places of Poonch District i.e. Mendar, Mandi and Swarnkot. It was accessed in the mission that there is a great need for such camps in the coming future in remote areas. This mission was organized by the active support of UT Health Department of J & K and Rotary International. At Mendar 84 surgeries, at Mandi 89 surgeries, at Swarnkot 78 surgeries were performed by Dr Ankur Goel from Rotary Eye Hospital Udhampur; Dr Anand Khadake & Dr Sameer Raskar from Maharashtra pune with SICS. The CMO Poonch, BMO Mendar, BMO Mandi, BMO Swarnkot and their paramedical staff supported the mission and worked with full dedication. Chairman of "The Udhampur Rotary Eye & General Welfare Foundation" Rtn D. N. Sharma extended heartfelt thanks to Chief de mission PDG Dr Rajiv Pradhan, Chairman of the mission PDG Dr Girish Gune from Maharashtra, DG Dr Sundrajan from Tamil Naidu, Chief Co-ordinator Rtn Adeep Mehta from J & K, Advisor from J & K PDG Dr Dushant Choudhari, Co-ordinator Rajouri Rtn Ashish Langer, Co-ordinator Rtn Lokesh Bakshi, Co-ordinator Rtn Amardeep Singh, Co-ordina-



Team of doctors along with patients during the camp.

surgeries were performed by Dr Anand Khadake & Dr Sameer Raskar from Maharashtra pune with SICS. The CMO Poonch, BMO Mendar, BMO Mandi, BMO Swarnkot and their paramedical staff supported the mission and worked with full dedication. Chairman of "The Udhampur Rotary Eye & General Welfare Foundation" Rtn D. N. Sharma extended heartfelt thanks to Chief de mission PDG Dr Rajiv Pradhan, Chairman of the mission PDG Dr Girish Gune from Maharashtra, DG Dr Sundrajan from Tamil Naidu, Chief Co-ordinator Rtn Adeep Mehta from J & K, Advisor from J & K PDG Dr Dushant Choudhari, Co-ordinator Rajouri Rtn Ashish Langer, Co-ordinator Rtn Lokesh Bakshi, Co-ordinator Rtn Amardeep Singh, Co-ordina-

tor Rtn Ramesh Mehta, CMO Poonch Dr Zulaffkar Ahmed, BMO Mendar Dr Ishfaq Ahmed, BMO Mandi Dr Nusrat Bhatti and BMO Swarnkot Dr yousaf Choudhary, team of Paramedical staff of Rotary Eye Hospital Udhampur Bushan Lal Bhat, Sumeet Khajuria, Mohinder Kumar, Munesh Sharma and Ophthalmic team of district Poonch Mohd Taj, Mohd Shaffiq, Mohd Ajad Ahmed, Gurpreet Singh, Kuldeep Kumar and all the consultant from different medical field who has performed unique service in the said medical mission camp. Chairman of the Foundation Rtn D. N. Sharma committed with the CMO Poonch that such camps will be organized in the coming month by Rotary Hospital if needed.

## Kishtwar Admin takes concrete measures to help out rain affected people

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: District Administration Kishtwar has taken concrete measures to help out people as heavy Rain and Flash Floods persist in the region.

The reports from Tehsildars indicated damage to houses and livestock in Nagseni and Kishtwar Tehsil.

Officials reported that 01 Pacea House and 07 Katcha houses were partially damaged in Nagseni tehsil, while 39 Sheep, 3 Goats, and 2 Cows were lost due to heavy rains in Tehsil Kishtwar.

Yesterday, 14 structures were reportedly affected across the district, prompting the administration to relocate the affected families to nearby safe places. The rescue operation was conducted under the overall supervision of District Magistrate, Dr. Devansh Yadav.

The Red Cross team is actively involved in delivering relief material and essential support to those affected.

The public has been strongly advised to avoid unnecessary travel to vulnerable spots. In case of emergencies, citizens can contact the control room at the following numbers: 01995-259555 or 9484217492. PCR Kishtwar Contacts: - 9906154100, - 01995-259193, - 100.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Modi Govt has given Mega projects, big bridges, national highways, AIIMS, IIT etc. Today, all-round development is going in the entire Jammu and Kashmir. We are also making every effort to ensure that no person is deprived of basic facilities.

On this occasion, Block Development Officer Chowki Chaura Taslim Wani, AEE Electricity Department Kewal Krishna, Dr. Vijay Sudan, BJP Mandal President Captain BD Sharma, Baba Parshottam Captain Danlat Ram, Ratan Verma, Naresh Kumar, Ramesh Lal Sham Lal Kaushal Gupta, Ranjit Singh, and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

## Truecaller announces AI-powered call recording feature in India

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Swedish caller identification app Truecaller announced the launch of AI-powered call recording feature in India that offers transcription and call summary.

AI call recording is a paid feature, and will be available with a Truecaller Premium subscription, the company said, adding that it works seamlessly across both Android and iOS devices.

The new addition provides users with the ability to record incoming and outgoing calls directly within the Truecaller app.

This offers a convenient and efficient way to capture and manage important conversations.

Announcing the launch of AI-enabled call recording feature, a company release said that by leveraging Artificial Intelligence technology, Truecaller empowers users to fully engage in their live conversation without the need to be concerned about taking detailed notes, thus improving productivity during calls.

"The integration of AI into the newly launched call recording feature marks a significant leap forward, allowing for a detailed transcription of the entire phone call, along with an AI-generated call summary," the release said, adding, "you can record and transcribe all calls, in English and Hindi, from any caller."

Truecaller said the AI-powered call recording solution will be available as a part of the brand's premium plan, starting at Rs 75 per month, or Rs 529 per year.