

# One day Cultural Bonanza 'Sanasar Tulip Festival' organised

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Under the overall guidance of Secretary Tourism, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, the Directorate of Tourism Jammu on Friday organized a one Day Cultural Bonanza titled 'Sanasar Tulip Festival' at Sanasar.

The event witnessed cultural festivities and live singing performances by Sangram Hanjra, Chaman Lehri and others. It is pertinent to mention here that the Tulip Garden was formally inaugurated by the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on 8th of April, 2023 and thrown open for the public. With 2.75 lakh blooming tulips, Sanasar Tulip Garden has received an overwhelming response of tourists who have been bee-lining this picturesque Valley since the day of inauguration of the Tulip Garden.

To tap the potential of this beautiful offbeat tourist destination, the Directorate of Tourism Jammu, in association with Patnitop Development Authority and District Administration Ramban, organized this cultural extravaganza at Sanasar on 28th April 2023. The festival



DC Ramban, Mussarat Islam in presence of Director Tourism Jammu, Sunaina Sharma Mehta and others inaugurating Sanasar Tulip Festival'.

was jointly inaugurated by DC Ramban, Mussarat Islam, CEO Patnitop Development Authority, Sher Singh, Joint Director Tourism Jammu, Sunaina Sharma Mehta and Abdul Jabbar, Deputy Director Tourism (Publicity) Jammu.

The Deputy Commissioner welcomed the initiative of the Tourism Department in organizing such a mega event at Sanasar. He hoped that the

department shall come up with more activities for offbeat Destination promotion especially for Ramban District in this year.

Chief Executive Officer, Patnitop Development Authority, Sher Singh briefed the august gathering about the event and charted out the plans of Patnitop Development Authority for holistic development of Patnitop, Nathatop and

Sanasar. He stated that the Sanasar Golf Course shall be redeveloped by PDA in this year and hopefully we shall start with golfing activities at Sanasar along with other additional development activities for overall upgradation of this scenic tourist spot.

While speaking on the occasion, Sunaina Sharma elaborated the tourism initiatives undertaken to promote the off-beat tourist destinations and tourist villages in 2022-23. She stressed on the need to organize more cultural festivities at all such rural tourism areas in order to promote rural tourism and livelihood opportunities at such rural marvels of nature. She also briefed that the activity calendar of the Directorate of Tourism Jammu shall focus on promotion of all such destinations and special impetus shall be provided to publicizing Patnitop and Sanasar as 'Wedding Destination' and 'Film Shooting Destination' especially amongst interested clientele of these categories. She said that the Directorate of Tourism Jammu is committed in its endeavour to promote all desti-

nations of Jammu Division and all necessary steps shall be undertaken to promote the Jammu Division and our rich cultural heritage.

The event was also graced by Abdul Jabbar, Deputy Director (Publicity) Tourism Jammu along with other senior officers from District Administration Ramban, Tourism Department, local PRI representatives. The tourists appreciated the day-long events organized by the Tourism Department during the event. The day-long activities included folk performances, Thaaali Dance, Kud Dance and other Cultural presentations by local artist groups from different regions of Jammu. Boat Race and Horse Riding competition was also organized on this occasion, while shikaras rowing in the Sanasar Lake undertook a friendly competition. Another attraction was the Horse Race which was enjoyed by onlookers and visitors. The tourists visiting Sanasar especially enjoyed the 'Nature Walk' at Tulip Garden and the lush green meadow amidst pleasant weather at this mesmerizing tourist destination.

# Tara Chand campaigns for Congress in Jalandhar



AICC Observer for by-election to Jalandhar LS seat, Tara Chand addressing public rally.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JALANDHAR: Former Dy Chief Minister and AICC observer for by-election to the Jalandhar Lok sabha seat, Tara Chand on Friday campaigned in favour of party candidate and addressed series of meetings in the constituency. Accompanied by several senior leaders of the area and Bhushan Dogra Ex VC SC Welfare Board, Naresh Sharma ex President MC Kathua, Tara Chand urged the electorate to defeat the communal and divisive forces and ensure the victory of Congress in the by-election.

He said that the Congress MP Santokh Singh Chaudhary who expired dur-

ing Bharat Jodo Yatra, was very popular amongst people in his area. He said that Congress is the only party which believes in the unity in diversity and treats everyone equally with equal opportunity to all irrespective of caste, creed and colour. The divisive forces in the country are out to destroy the mutual brotherhood and religious harmony against which Rahul Gandhi took out historic Yatra from Kanyakumari to Kashmir, of which former Congress MP from Jalandhar was a part. He urged people to vote for Congress and strengthen the hands of Rahul Gandhi and defeat the communal and opportunist forces.

# Koul chairs meeting to organize programme for celebrating 100th episode of PM's Mann Ki Baat



J&K BJP General Secretary (Org.) Ashok chairing party workers meeting at Srinagar.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Mann Ki Baat, a popular radio programme that airs across India, is set to mark its 100th episode on April 30, 2023.

The show, which began airing in 2014, has become a platform for PM Modi to speak directly to the citizens of India about important issues affecting their daily lives. To commemorate this milestone, the J&K Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul chaired a meeting in S1 Church Lane Srinagar to organize a public

programme.

The meeting was attended by BJP J&K General Secretary Vibodh Gupta Incharge and Incharge Mann Ki Baat programme. Koul emphasized that the Man Ki Baat of PM Modi is not politically motivated but aims to promote the welfare of people, and has covered a wide range of topics from weather, environment, cleanliness, various social issues to even examinations. He cited the example of the famous vegetable "Nadru," which gained prominence after PM Narendra Modi spoke about it on Mann Ki Baat, leading

to increased exports and a boost in the economy for those affiliated with its production. The same goes for saffron or the person who created the solar car, as the PM always talks about the welfare of the people in Mann Ki Baat.

Over 100 crore people have listened to the program at least once, with 23 crore people listening regularly and 41 crore people with the potential to convert into regular listeners.

Koul further noted that Mann Ki Baat has been a non-partisan platform and that PM Modi has never discussed political issues in its 99 episodes. He reaffirmed BJP's commitment to working for the welfare of the people and stated that the program has covered issues that have not been addressed in the past 50-60 years.

# CUKTA felicitates VC, CUK



CUKTA members felicitating VC Prof. A. Ravinder Nath.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The presidium members, Dr. Ishrat Bashir, President, Dr. Anil Kumar, Vice President, Dr. Ramjit, Secretary, of the Central University of Kashmir Teachers' Association (CUKTA) felicitated the Vice Chancellor, Prof. A. Ravinder Nath who assumed the office recently.

They also felicitated newly appointed Dean Academic Affairs (DAA), Prof. Shahid Rasool. The Vice Chancellor welcomed the presidium

while appreciating the existence of an association of teachers at the University. CUKTA apprised about certain issues concerning the teachers and the University, and sought his intervention. The HVC assured all the genuine demands will be considered and resolved as per the provisions.

Further, HVC desired CUKTA to get proper registration as welfare association to make it inclusive with representation to all sections.

# 33rd Police Public Mela Prize Distribution held; DGP congratulates winners

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Prize distribution function for winners of the 33rd Police Public Mela 2023 was held at Officer's Mess Jammu ON Friday.

DGP J&K Dilbag Singh was the Chief Guest and the presentation function was attended by Chairperson PWWA Dr. Rubinder Kaur, Commandant General HG/CD & SDRF, J&K, Dr B. Srinivas, Spl. DG Crime, J&K, A.K Choudhary, ADGsP, Mukesh Singh, M.K Sinha, Sunil Kumar and Danesh Rana, IGsP M N Tiwari, Vikramjeet Singh and B S Tuti, DIGs Mohd Suleman Chaudhary, Sarah Rizvi, Shreedhar Patil and Shakti Patakh, SSP Jammu and AIG Personnel PHQ. Sireesha Srinavas, Archana Choudhary, Mandeep Kour and other members of PWWA. SSP Mubassir Latifi, Commandant IR-



Chairperson PWWA Dr. Rubinder Kaur handing-over key of a car to a winner.

15th Bn conducted the proceedings of the function. DGP, senior officers, Chairperson PWWA and members, Commandants and Sr. Superintendent of Police distributed the prizes. 1st prize Maruti Suzuki Ciaz cars were presented to Mohd Ashraf, Mohd Ibrahim, Abdul Hamid Fafao, Mohd Abbas

and Masoom Ali. Second prize Wagon R cars were presented to Mohd Maqsood, Naseer Ahmad Lone, Rakesh Kumar, Sabzar Ahmad, Sanjam Sethi and Mohd Afaq. Likewise 3rd prize of seven Alto 800 cars were handed over to Prem Singh, Nazir Ahmad Rather, Abdul Rashid Mir, Mohd Arif

Baba and Sanjay Kumar. 4th prize Scooty were handed over to Sumit Razdan, Sunny Pandita, Javid Ahmad and Ab. Rashid Bhat. 5th prize Motor Cycle were presented to Shagun, Ajaz Ahmad, Nazakat Ali and Manmeet Singh.

6th prize of LED TV were presented to Syed Suhail Sajad, Mohd Amin and Hilal Ahmad Khan, 7th prize Smart Phone were handed over to Gulzar Ahmad Bhat, Manzoor Ganaia and Nazam Diin. 8th prize Refrigerator were presented to Mushtaq Ahmad, Sheikh Zulfikar Azad, Abdul Karim and Bashir Ahmad. 9th prize Washing Machine were presented to Pawandeep Singh, Layaqat Hussain, Surishta Devi and Abdul Majid Bhat. 10th prize chair & table was presented to Nisar Ahmad Waza.

# JKEEGA empresses dismay over delay in regularization, promotions

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JKEEGA held a press conference at its head quarters under the chairmanship of its General Secretary Pirzada Hidayatullah wherein it expressed dismay over delay in regularization of engineers.

"Despite SAC decision to complete the regularization of all power engineers as a one-time exemption in two months, more than four years have elapsed and no tangible progress has been achieved till date. The majority of engineers including SEs and XEs are drawing the salaries of Junior Engineers. JKEEGA is dismayed over delay in promotions at all levels. The matter of the fact is that at present 700 posts are vacant at different levels with additional charge culture rampant across the Department. The matter is so grave that the post of Managing Director, Transmission Corporation is

vacant since last 7 months and 03 posts of Executive Directors (E) in DISCOMs and TRANSCO are vacant since their inception in Feb-2022," he added. Furthermore, 4 posts of Chief Engineers and 13 posts of Superintending Engineers are also vacant which effects functioning of Power Corporations at highest level. The situation at lower management level is so grave that Executive Engineer's are holding charge of 3-4 Divisions spread across multiple Districts. Out of 124 Divisions, 58 Divisions are without Ex. Engineers. Besides 126 posts of Asstt. Executive Engineers and 161 Asstt. Engineers are also vacant which effects functioning at lower level. JKEEGA requested the Lieutenant Governor to direct the concerned to resolve the issue of regularization and timely promotion at all levels.

# CRIME REPORT

## 3 gamblers arrested, stake money seized

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA: Acting tough against the social crimes, police have arrested three gamblers on Friday and seized stake money from their possession.

As per details, acting on specific information regarding gambling activities at Bandi Balla forests, a party of Police Station Chandoosa raided the specific spot and arrested the 3 gamblers who tried to flee from the spot.

They were identified as Maqsood Ahmad Beigh son of Saifullah



Beigh resident of Sultanpora, Ab Hameed Ganie son of Ghulam Qadir resident of Rajpora and Ghulam Mohammad Sheikh son of Ghulam Hassan resident of Dudbugh Chandoosa.

However, one of the gamblers identified as Ab Majeed Sheikh son of Ab Jabbar Sheikh resident of Dudbugh managed to flee and efforts are on to nab the accused. Officers also seized stake money amounting to Rs 13,140 and playing cards from their possession.

They were shifted to police station where they remained in custody. Accordingly, acase under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Chandoosa and investigation started.

# Gang of thieves busted; 3 arrested, stolen property worth lakhs recovered

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SOPORE: Police on Friday busted a gang of thieves by arresting 3 accused and recovered stolen property worth lakhs from their possession.

As per details, on April 11, 2023, Police Post Warpora received a written complaint from Wajhatul Islam son of Ab Hameed Hajam resident of Botingoo Sopore stating therein that during intervening night of April 10-11, 2023, some unknown burglars entered in his Sports shop situated at Kadlabal Botingoo and decamped with sports items worth lakhs. FIR No.61/2023 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Sopore and investigation started.

During the course of investigation, officers raided various places and several suspects were called for questioning. Three persons identified as Shoib Bhat son of Muhammad Sultan Bhat, Rameez Ahmad Rather son of Mohammad Ashraf Rather and Nayeem Ahmad Najar son of Gh Ahmad Najar, all the residents of Usmanabad Warpora Sopore confessed their involvement in the commission of crime.

On their disclosure, stolen property (sports items including cricket kits and bats) worth lakhs was recovered from different locations besides, a load ear-

rier bearing registration number PB10FV4078 used in commission of crime was also seized. Further investigation in the case is in progress.

# Drug peddler arrested, contraband recovered

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA: Continuing efforts to eradicate menace of drug menace, police on Friday arrested a drug peddler in Baramulla and recovered contraband substance from his possession. As per the details, a police party led by Police Station Baramulla under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Baramulla Sajjad Bukhari during patrolling at St Joseph's School Baramulla intercepted a suspect.

During search, 15 gm Brown Sugar like substance was recovered from his possession. The accused was identified as Syed Rouf Ahmad Bukhari son of Syed Abdul Salam Bukhari resident of Umarabad Shah Hamdan Colony Srinagar.

He was arrested and shifted to police station where he remained in custody. Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Baramulla and further investigation started.

# Illicit timber seized, accused arrested

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

HANDWARA: Police on Friday seized illicit timber in villages Harnipora Shahlal & Bulinar and arrested an accused involved in the commission of crime. Acting on specific input regarding the illegal timber smuggling in village Harnipora Shahlal, a police party of Police Station Handwara raided the specific spot and seized illicit timber (45 logs) from house of one Mohd Yousuf Ganie son of Gh Mohd Ganie resident of Harnipora Shahlal.

The accused was arrested on the spot and shifted to police station where he remained in custody. Moreover, a police party of Police Station Vilgam also seized illicit timber from village Bulinar Tarathpora.

Accordingly, case under relevant sections of law was registered at respective police station and investigation started.