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**J&K charting new...**

education system that makes students conscious, not mechanical. It makes them carrier of knowledge, wisdom and values and not a storehouse of memories," the Lt Governor said.

"In the coming future, only that education will be relevant which will prepare the student for life-long learning with spiritual and cultural values. Education that will not just impart technical knowledge but promotes individuality, uniqueness of the student. Education that will sharpen student's skill of critical, creative thinking, communication and collaboration and help them to flourish," he observed.

National Education Policy 2020 promotes life-long learning and enables students to adapt to change in different sectors. We cannot predict skills that would be required in the next 10 years but individuality, independent and Critical Thinking, and Creativity will improve resilience and adaptability, he said.

The Lt Governor also extended his hearty congratulations to all the faculty members and teachers of University of Jammu.

Convocation is also a moment of pride for teachers. Our ancient scripture beautifully describes the relationship between Guru and Disciple. Guru prays that his fame and his disciple fame may increase together. This is an example of the highest values of our Indian culture. In that sense, students are not handed over just medals and degrees, but a legacy of values and a huge responsibility on their shoulders to enrich and preserve it for future generations, the Lt Governor said.

Commending the new initiatives of University of Jammu, the Lt Governor said, "I am confident that in the coming days, Jammu University will give new direction to the education sector of the country".

Prof Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu, presented the University report and highlighted special programmes to be rolled out soon. The University is in the process of setting up a full-fledged Directorate of Hindi and a Centre of Excellence in Dogri, he said.

Various significant initiatives of the University of Jammu including programmes like 'College on Wheels', 'Design Your Degree'; promotion of national, local language and culture; translating the Constitution of India into Dogri language; multi-arts festival like Duggar Darpan; initiatives in sync with Prime Minister's call for "Land to Lab" and "Lab to Land" approach; MoU with the High Altitude Warfare School of Army at Gulmarg in the discipline of Disaster Management, received special appreciation from the Vice President.

Dr Sudesh Dhankhar, wife of Hon'ble Vice President; Prof Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman, Higher Education Council, J&K; Sh Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Vice Chancellors of various Universities; Members of University Council, eminent personalities; senior officials, faculty members and students attended the Special Convocation ceremony.

**Hope Amarnath pilgrims...**

the Amarnath pilgrims ever since the yatra began. "Who takes care of the yatrins here? It is the local Muslims. This has been happening for ages. There is no hatred," he said

The NC president said he was thankful to the government for making good arrangements for the pilgrims.

**Amit Shah arriving...**

dignitaries from Jammu and Kashmir, as well as other parts of the country, including Lieutenant Governor; Manoj Sinha and Union Minister of State for Culture, Meenakshi Lekhi, will also grace this momentous occasion, scheduled to be held from June 23 to 25.

The grand festival, named after the ancient Vedic name of Jhelum River, aims to bring to life Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' (One India, Great India) under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative. The festival being organised by the Union Ministry of Culture through the North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala, is the last in the series of three programmes of 'Vitasta'. Earlier, this festival was organised in Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Pune (Maharashtra).

The dignitaries will also visit the exhibition and art camp organised at the venue. The entry of the attendees would be strictly on the entry cards being issued by the organisers. All the participants are compulsory required to bring their invitation letters for entry to the event.

Meanwhile, quoting sources, news agency PTI reported that Union Home Minister will attend a function at Raj Bhavan in the summer capital for the inauguration and laying foundation stones of various development projects.

On Saturday, the home minister will lay the foundation stone of the 'Validan Stambh' in Srinagar before returning to the national capital.

**Two doctors dismissed...**

dismissed from service for "actively working" with Pakistan and hatching a conspiracy with its assets within Kashmir to falsify the post-mortem report of Asiya Jan and Neelofar of Shopian, who had unfortunately died due to accidental drowning on May 29, 2009, the officials said.

The ultimate aim of the two doctors was to create disaffection against the Indian state by falsely accusing the security forces of rape and murder, they said.

The two doctors have been dismissed by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha under Article 311 of the Constitution. Under this provision, government officers can be dismissed summarily without any enquiry.

The LG is satisfied after considering the facts and circumstances of the case and on the basis of the information available, that the activities of Dalal, medical officer, New Type Primary Health Centre (NTPHC), Shopian, and Chilloo, consultant gynaecologist in Sub-District Hospital, Chadoora are such as to warrant their dismissal from service, official orders stated.

Dalal and Chilloo are among 13 people who were charge-sheeted by the CBI in December 2009. A hearing in the case is yet to take place because almost all of the accused had approached the Jammu and Kashmir High Court separately.

The two doctors have been charge-sheeted by the CBI for fabricating evidence and twisting the accidental deaths due to drowning as rape and murder.

Dalal was the first doctor to conduct an autopsy of the bodies, whereas Chilloo was a part of the second team of doctors that conducted post-mortem examination, the officials said.

In a gross violation of medical ethics, Chilloo took vaginal swabs of two women admitted in her hospital and projected them to be of Asiya Jan, who she had claimed was raped and murdered, they said.

However, an AIIMS forensic team comprising Dr T D Dogra and Dr Anupama Raina got the bodies exhumed and found that Asiya Jan's hymen was intact. The same reports were part of the CBI charge sheet, they said.

In December 2009, the CBI concluded that the two women were neither raped nor murdered.

The CBI filed the charge sheet against six doctors, five lawyers and two civilians, including the brother of one of the deceased women, for fabricating evidence.

Five police officials were arrested in connection with the case and the subsequent protests.

The 66-page CBI report absolved the policemen, who were in jail for around 47 days in connection with the case and against whom a state-appointed judicial commission had levelled charges of destruction of evidence, of all the charges.

The CBI report accused the 13 accused of hatching a criminal conspiracy to stir public anger against the security forces.

Since neither rape nor murder took place, the CBI report concluded that there was no case. It said the lawyers had hatched a conspiracy and forced two persons to become witnesses.

The CBI report gave a detailed account of how the two were forced by the lawyers and some of the family members of Shakeel Ahanger, the husband of one of the deceased women.

The agency also rejected the theory of the Majlis-s-Maashwarat, an amalgam of separatist groups that spearheaded the agitation in Shopian, that the two women were abducted, raped and murdered when they had gone to their orchard on May 29, 2009.

According to the CBI, the two women drowned while trying to cross the river. AIIMS doctors who conducted post-mortem examination on the exhumed bodies found the same diatoms (algae) in the lungs of two women that exist in the area where the bodies were found.

The CBI probe found that both teams of doctors lied in the post-mortem reports. The first team of doctors said Asiya Jan died due to cardiovascular arrest and Neelofar died due to neurogenic shock.

The second team of doctors from Pulwama claimed Asiya Jan was sexually assaulted and died due to haemorrhage and shock caused by bleeding from multiple injuries. Neelofar, the team had claimed, died due to neurogenic shock following sexual intercourse.

The CBI report quoted the medical opinion of AIIMS doctors who conclusively stated that the deaths took place "due to asphyxia as a result of ante-mortem drowning". They said the lacerated wound on Asiya Jan's forehead was not sufficient to cause death.

**Coordination meet to...**

under the aegis of @ndmaindia to enhance synergy for successful conduct of #Yatra2023 at #Pahalgam today," the Srinagar-based Chinara Corps of the Army said on Twitter.

The Army said Air Officer Commanding (AOC), Jammu and Kashmir, also visited the Baltal axis of the yatra and reviewed the arrangements for the smooth conduct of the 62-day pilgrimage.

"AOC, J&K visited #Baltal axis of #AmarnathYatra2023 today and was briefed on the arrangements in place for smooth conduct of #Yatra2023 and coordination for disaster management mechanism was carried out," the Chinara Corps said.

Chinara warriors are widening the tracks on both routes to ensure safety of the pilgrims, it added.

**ITBP officer posted...**

oxygen concentration at high altitudes -- is one of the most common causes of fatalities among Amarnath pilgrims and security forces posted there for duty.

The 62-day yatra is scheduled to begin on July 1.

**VC NITI Aayog...**

held an interaction with the students and staff. While inspecting the Smart Class Rooms, S.K Bery applauded the administration for installing the sophisticated equipment in the school and said that the smart classrooms have been equipped with the latest technological equipment enabling the students to get education via modern means and methods. He also held an interaction with the students and school faculty wherein he emphasized the importance of providing quality education to all the students.

S.K Bery also held a brief interaction with National and International sports champions there. A series of demonstrations were showcased by the champions during which the Vice Chairman NITI Aayog called the champions an inspiration for the youth.

The Vice Chairman NITI Aayog also paid a visit to Community Health Centre Pattan and took stock of the functioning of the institute, besides having a firsthand appraisal of Medicare and other health services being provided to the patients.

Interacting with the patients, the Vice Chairman NITI Aayog enquired about the same and exhorted upon the concerned authorities to provide efficient and qualitative health services to the people.

Being informed that the hospital has won several awards for providing Quality Health Care and promoting cleanliness, Hygiene and Infection Control, S.K Bery impressed upon the concerned authorities to work with the added zeal to improve qualitative health services in the institute.

On reaching District Headquarter Baramulla, the Vice Chairman NITI Aayog chaired a meeting with all the district and sectoral officers at Dak Bungalow here and took a detailed and sector wise review of the progress made under Aspirational District Programme (ADP).

On the occasion, the District Development Commissioner (DDC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar presented a detailed account of progress cum performance recorded in various sectors through Power Point Presentation especially in Aspirational District Programme.

Dr Sehrish appraised the chair about the initiatives being taken by district administration to saturate all the identified indicators under ADP. She also highlighted the achievements made in sectors like Agriculture and Water Resources, Health and Nutrition, Skill Development and Financial Inclusion and Basic Infrastructure.

Elaborating further, the DDC said that the efforts of district administration in saturating the identified indicators under ADP have been recognized at Centre level for which the district has recently achieved Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration.

The DDC further informed the chair that the district has shown tremendous achievements in establishing Birth Waiting Wards in Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres, upgrading diagnostic services at all delivery points, and providing Poshan Tracker Tabs for all Anganwadi workers. She also added that the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi' during the broadcast "Mann Ki Baat" has also applauded district administration for transforming the district from milk deficit to milk surplus.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice Chairman NITI Aayog said that the Central Government is committed to raising the living standards of its citizens and ensuring inclusive growth for all. He said that ADP closely focuses on improving people's ability to participate fully in the developmental economy.

S.K Bery also appreciated the efforts and tremendous progress made by district administration Baramulla in ADP.

He further said that the Government aims to assess the various constraints of Aspirational Districts to work upon them for better implementation of the programme. He also impressed upon the concerned officers to work with added Zeal and cohesion in order to be amongst the top ranks of the country in ADP.

Later, the Vice Chairman NITI Aayog e-launched/ e-founded various projects meant for the overall development of the district. The three major projects e-launched and e-founded include Plastic Waste Management Unit at Palhalan Pattan, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana and Millets cultivation in Baramulla respectively.

On the occasion, the Vice Chairman NITI Aayog in presence of Dr. Raghav Langar and Deputy Commissioner Baramulla handed over a cheque worth Rs.15 lacs to Chopans through Sheep Husbandry Department for recognition of its efforts in saturating the desired deliverables. Sanction letters among the eligible beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) were also distributed.

Meanwhile, the Vice Chairman NITI Aayog visited Government Medical College Baramulla where he laid stone foundation of Medical Records Department (MRD) section in presence of Dr. Raghav Langar, Principal GMC Baramulla, Dr Ruby Reshi, Superintendent Medical College Dr. Parvaiz Masoodi and other concerned. The said project is being undertaken for its execution at an estimated cost of Rs. 52 lacs.

The Vice Chairman NITI Aayog also visited Sopore and met an enthusiastic and progressive farmer Waseem Inayat for taking an appraisal of his Dairy farms and High Density Orchard.

**India, US should...**

prime minister, was welcomed at the South Lawn with a 21-gun salute and playing of the national anthems of India and the US.

Welcoming Modi, Biden said, "I've long believed that the relationship between the United States and India is one that will be one of the defining relationships of the 21st century. Two proud nations -- two proud nations whose love of freedom secured our independence, bound by the same words and our Constitution.

"First three words, 'We, the People'. The enduring ties and shared values between our people and the shared responsibility as global leaders to tackle the great issues of our time together. I'm honoured to be the first to have you here in 15 years."

Biden said Indian-American diaspora reflects every part of American life and remains a bridge between our nations and only grow stronger with each generation.

"We see it with record numbers of Indian Americans serving in the United States Congress. We see it here at the White House where proud Americans of Indian heritage serve our country every day, including our vice president of the United States, Kamala Harris.

"The granddaughter -- the proud granddaughter of an Indian civil servant; daughter of an Indian student, turned American scientist who came to the United States when she's only 19 years old to pursue her dream of curing cancer. A family like so many of ours in our nation. That speaks to the thousand stories of determination courage and hope in America."

Biden said these are stories that define the relationship and the limitless possibilities between the US and India.

Modi on his part said the Constitution of both countries begins with the "three words--We the People--as President Biden just mentioned". He spoke in Hindi with the speech being translated to English. Biden's remarks were earlier translated to Hindi.

Thanking Biden, his wife Jill Biden and the US administration for a warm and grand welcome, Modi said this is the first time the gates of the White House have been opened for Indian-Americans in such large numbers.

"This grand welcome ceremony at the White House today is an honour and pride for the 1.4 billion people of India. It is also an honour for more than 4 million people of Indian origin in the US."

He said both countries take pride in their diversity, and "both of us believe in the fundamental principle of 'In the interest of all, for the welfare of all'".

He said about three decades ago, he had come to America as a common man and at that time, he had seen the White House from the outside.

"After becoming the PM, I've come many times, but today for the first time the doors of the White House have been opened for the Indian-American community in such large numbers."

He said Indian community members were enhancing India's glory in the US through their hard work and dedication.

Vice President Kamala Harris and Second Gentleman Douglas Emhoff were also present at the welcome ceremony.

Several thousand Indian-Americans, who have converged in the American capital from far and near, attended the welcome ceremony. Indian Americans were chanting 'USA USA' and 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' and 'Modi Modi'.

A mega deal on the purchase of General Atomics MQ-9 "Reaper" armed drones by India is also expected to be announced.

The drones would further bolster India's national security and surveillance capabilities not only in the Indian Ocean but also along the frontier with China. The General Atomics MQ-9 "Reaper" can carry 500 per cent more payload and has nine times the horsepower in comparison to the earlier MQ-1 Predator.

"On space, we will be able to announce that India is signing the Artemis Accords, which advance a common vision for space exploration for the benefit of all humankind," a senior administration official said hours before the Biden-Modi talks.

India has decided to join the Artemis Accords, which brings like-minded countries together on civil space exploration, and NASA and ISRO have agreed to a joint mission to the International Space Station in 2024, the White House said.

In another big ticket announcement, computer storage chip maker Micron said it will set up its semiconductor assembly and test plant in Gujarat entailing a total investment of USD 2.75 billion (around Rs 22,540 crore).

**Kashmiri artisans thank...**

Lady Jill Biden hosted the prime minister for an intimate dinner at the White House on Wednesday, during which they discussed a range of issues, exchanged gifts and enjoyed a musical tribute to the regions of India.

Tassaduq Hussain, an artisan, said he was happy that the Kashmiri paper mache box has reached the home of Bidens.

"Paper mache artists are very happy that the paper mache product reached Jill Biden as it will raise demand for this artifact. It will benefit us," Hussain told PTI. He said this type of promotion will create more avenues for the artisans.

"Today, it has been recognised at international level. Those who did not know about paper mache art will now come to know about it," he added.

Syed Anjid Shah, who owns a paper mache unit in the old city area here, said it was a moment of pride when the prime minister gifted the box to his hosts in the White House.

"Paper mache boxes are exported to many countries. These boxes are used as gifts also and today it is a pride moment for us that PM Modi gifted the first lady of America a diamond which was contained in a paper mache box. We are very fortunate that our art was promoted at this level," Shah said.

Bashir Ahmed, another artisan, said it was for the first time that paper mache has been promoted at such a level.

"PM Modi promoted this art, which has sent a wave of joy among artisans. This was the first time that the paper mache product was promoted at this level. We hope in future also that such dignitaries of India will also help us to promote this art, which will benefit Kashmiri artisans," he said.

Director, Department of Handicrafts, Mahmood Shah said Prime Minister Modi has been consistently promoting Kashmiri handicrafts, be it 'Kani' shawl or 'Sozni' pashmina, through his attire.

"Last year he also gifted a pashmina shawl in a paper mache box to the PM of Sweden and today we got this news that the PM has gifted a souvenir to madam Biden in a paper mache box," Shah said.

He said it was an acknowledgement of the fact that Kashmiri handicrafts promoted by the prime minister brings global recognition.

"We wish that such things are repeated in future as well," he added.

**CRIME REPORT**

**3 missing girls traced, reunited with families**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBHA: Police on Thursday traced three missing girls from different areas and reunited them with their families.

As per details, One missing girl hailing from Bari Brahmana has been traced by Samba Police from Mumbai, whereas another missing girl of Vijaypur area of Samba district has also been traced. The third missing girl belongs to Madhya Pradesh. The kins of missing girlshad approached police to recover their family members.

Promptly taking cognizance into the incidents of disappearances, missing reports were registered at Police Station Bari Brahmana and Police station Vijaypurand all out efforts were made by police to recover them. By putting in hard work, Police succeeded in recovering missing girls and reunited them with their families. The missing girls have been traced by the police team comprising of SHO Police Station Bari Brahmana Sunil Sharma, SHO Police Station Vijaypur Tribhawan Khajuria, PSI Rajat Sharma and L/HC Kamlesh Kumari.

**Teacher suspended, arrested for sexually assaulting student**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BUDGAM: Authorities suspended a teacher on charges of sexual assault on a girl student in Budgam district.

Office of the Chief Education Officer Budgam has issued an order which reads: "pending inquiry into his conduct and in the backdrop of serious allegations, Abdul Rasheed Mir, RReT Teacher High School Rawalpora, Hardpanzo Zone is placed under suspension with immediate effect and is attached to this office till further orders."

The father of the girl student said that her daughter, a class 7 student was hospitalized after the teacher brutally pounced on her. "The classmates of my daughter told me that the teacher came over to her knees and pinched her skin. She has developed blue marks all over her body," he said and demanded the termination of the said teacher.

Meanwhile, police have registered a case of sexual assault against the accused teacher and arrested him.

FIR vide number 75/2023 under section 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty) and section 8 (sexual assault) of the POSCO Act stands registered.

**Man dies after falling from height**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BARI BRAHMANA: A man died after falling from a height in Bari Brahmana area on Thursday.

According to information, Sanjeev Kumar, son of Narendra Kumar resident of Bari Brahmana who was working in a factory located in Panjirthi area suddenly fell from a height.

He was taken to hospital but he died in GMC during treatment. Police has registered a case in this context and started further action.

**Man dies, 3 injured in road accident**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NOWSHERA: One person was died while three others were injured in a road accident near Dandesar on Nowshera Jammu-Poonch National Highway.

According to information, a Swift Desire (JK02BA-3429) which was on way from Nowshera to Sunderbani lost control and rammmed into a tempo (JK11-6586) coming from opposite direction as a result four people in the car got injured. All the injured were brought to Sub District Hospital Nowshera for treatment.

At the same time, one of the injured went home instead of the hospital, whose health suddenly worsened in the morning and was taken to the sub-district hospital, Nowshera by the family members, where the doctors declared him dead. He has been identified as Gulshan Kumar (42), son of Ashwini Kumar, resident of Bagnoti.

After post-mortem, police handed over the body to the family members. The injured were identified as Raman Kumar, resident of Dassal Rajouri; Sanjukti Rajput, daughter of Kulbir Singh, resident of Salani; Rajesh Dogra, son of Ashok Kumar, resident of Bus Stand Rajouri and Aarti Devi wife of Rajesh Dogra, resident of Bus Stand Rajouri.

**Youth electrocuted to death**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
R S PURA: A 24-year-old youth got electrocuted while installing WiFi wire near Gegiya Mod petrol pump as he touched 11,000 electric voltage wire.

The deceased has been identified as Rohit Kumar, son of Bua Ditta, resident of village Gegiya. It is being told that Rohit was doing the work of laying fiber in a non-government company. The other two youths working together were working at a distance from it.

While laying the fibre, Rohit died on the spot when he got electrocuted after touching HT line. The people brought him to the R S Pura sub-district hospital where doctors declared him as brought dead.