

DC Rajouri celebrates Diwali with Children from Palaash

Distributes sweets and shares festive joy



GY CORRESPONDENT RAJOURI, OCT 20
Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma today celebrated the festival of lights, Deepawali, with children from Palaash at Nowsheera—an institution for orphan and underprivileged children. The event was filled with warmth, joy and the true spirit of inclusion as the DC interacted affectionately with the children and distributed sweets among them. The celebration aimed to

bring smiles to the faces of children and ensure that they too share in the joy, hope and togetherness that Diwali symbolizes. The Deputy Commissioner spent quality time with the children, encouraged them to participate in festive activities and lauded the sincere efforts of the caregivers and staff working for their welfare. Speaking on the occasion, DC Abhishek Sharma said that Diwali is not merely about lights and decorations, but about

spreading happiness, compassion and kindness among those who need it the most. He emphasized that celebrating festivals with such children fosters empathy and reminds the society of its shared duty to build an inclusive and caring community. The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by ADC Nowsheera Pritham Lal Thapa, Tehsildar Nowsheera and other officers.

Sakeena Itoo visits Baramulla, inaugurates Additional Accommodation at GHSS Boniyar, lays foundation stone for additional classrooms

Also e-Inaugurates key educational projects for various Assembly Constituencies of North Kashmir

GY CORRESPONDENT BARAMULLA, OCT 20
Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today inaugurated newly constructed Additional Accommodation at Government Higher Secondary School Boniyar, Uri.

The Minister also laid the foundation for additional classrooms at HSS Boniyar, being constructed under SAMGRA, further strengthening the educational infrastructure in the region. Speaking on the occasion, the Minister highlighted that the government is working tirelessly to ensure that students in every corner of the Union Territory have access to modern, well-equipped educational facilities. "Education is the cornerstone of progress. Our goal is to bridge the infrastructure gap and create inclusive learning spaces that nurture the potential of every student," the Minister said.

The Minister also interacted with students and faculty members, encouraging them to make the best use of the improved facilities and to continue striving for academic excellence. He emphasized the importance of community participation in maintaining educational assets and supporting local schools. Later, the Minister visited Government Girls Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Baramulla and participated in Annual Day celebrations of the institution.

MLA Baramulla Javid Hassan Baig; MLA, Sopore Irshad Rasool Kar; MLA Pattan Riyaz Bedar; MLA Gulmarg, Farooq Ahmad Shah; MLA Uri Dr. Sajad Shafi; Director General of School Education Kashmir, Dr. GN Itoo; district officers of various departments, faculty members and large number of students were also present on the occasion.

During the program, Minister Sakeena, along with MLAs, inspected stalls installed by the students, showcasing



innovative projects developed in Atal Tinkering Labs. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Sakeena emphasized on the importance of education, innovation, and holistic student development. She recognized students who excel in academics, sports, and co-curricular activities and highlighted the government's commitment to providing modern facilities and resources to support student learning and growth. Minister Sakeena further said that the projects of students in exhibition reflected the creativity and technical skills of the students, adding that it showcases the government's efforts of promoting innovation at school level. The Minister, during the celebrations, also felicitated meritorious

students and those who participated in various cultural and other competitions at UT and national levels. Students who performed exceptionally in academic, cultural, and sports activities were also recognized for their achievements, inspiring all attendees to pursue excellence. As part of the Annual Day celebrations, students presented vibrant and energetic cultural performances, adding colour and enthusiasm to the celebrations. The performances included traditional dances, music, and dramatizations that enthralled the audience and demonstrated the all-round development of the students. On the sidelines of the event, Minister Sakeena e-inaugurated several educational infrastructure projects as well as laid e-

foundation of projects, amounting to nearly Rs. 2067.18 Lakhs in different Assembly Constituencies of North Kashmir. The projects e-inaugurated include additional accommodation of three storey building and renovation of old 12 roomed 3 storey building for Girls HSS Sopore, 10 roomed double storey building at HSS Mirgund Pattan, additional accommodation of 3 roomed double storey building at BHSS Uri, a d d i t i o n a l accommodation at Girls Middle School Kralpora Nehalpora Gulmarg, A d d i t i o n a l Accommodation at PM Shri MS Raram Gulmarg, 3 roomed double storey building at HS Trigram Sonawari, 03 roomed double storey building at GHS Sumbal Sonawari, A d d i t i o n a l Accommodation of 06 roomed double storey building for Govt. HSS Budagam Gurez, besides e-foundation stone for construction of Teacher Quarters at Government Higher Secondary School Chandiloora Gulmarg was also laid by the Minister.

DC Ramban inspects facilities at 'Tatapani' Hot Water Spring



GY CORRESPONDENT RAMBAN, OCT 20
Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mohammad Aliyas Khan today visited the Tatapani area in Subdivision Gool to review facilities and take first hand feedback from visitors regarding the amenities available at the popular spot. The Hot Water Spring at 'Tatapani' Sangaldan is a natural geothermal marvel renowned for its therapeutic and medicinal properties. The spring continuously emits naturally heated water believed to possess significant healing qualities that provide relief from various ailments. Owing to its curative potential, Tatapani has become a popular destination, drawing visitors from various parts of Jammu and Kashmir and neighboring regions. The Deputy Commissioner inspected the Hot Water spring, bathing points, changing facilities and sanitation

infrastructure, emphasizing the need to maintain cleanliness, hygiene, and safety standards to ensure a better visitor experience. He interacted with visitors and local service providers about the requirements for improving the site's infrastructure and accessibility. During the inspection, the DC directed the PWD and RDD departments to undertake immediate maintenance of roads, sanitation units and approach paths leading to the site. He specifically instructed officials not to use any unsafe or dilapidated infrastructure until it is fully repaired and made secure for visitors. He assured that the District Administration would continue to monitor and upgrade facilities at Tatapani in coordination with the concerned departments to make it one of the most attractive wellness and recreation spots in Ramban district.

especially during ongoing peak season. Keeping in view the tourism potential of Tatapani, the Deputy Commissioner said that the destination would be developed as a clean, sustainable, and visitor-friendly health destination aligning with the district's broader goal of promoting eco-tourism and local economic development. The DC also stressed on maintaining the natural beauty of the site, while encouraging the involvement of local youth in tourism-related activities to generate employment and entrepreneurship opportunities. He assured that the District Administration would continue to monitor and upgrade facilities at Tatapani in coordination with the concerned departments to make it one of the most attractive wellness and recreation spots in Ramban district.

Satish Sharma extends Greetings on Diwali

GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, OCT 20

Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Transport, Information Technology, Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma has extended his warm greetings and best wishes to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Diwali – the Festival of Lights.

In his message, Satish Sharma said that Diwali is a celebration of the eternal victory of light over darkness and righteousness over evil. He said the festival reminds us of the power of truth, compassion, and unity in strengthening the social fabric and fostering a spirit of collective progress. The Minister urged the people to celebrate the



festival with joy and mutual respect, promoting harmony and goodwill among all sections of society. Satish Sharma also prayed for peace, prosperity, and the overall development of Jammu and Kashmir, wishing that the light of Diwali brings renewed hope and happiness to every home.

Director School Education, Jammu extends Diwali greetings

GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, OCT 20

In a heartfelt message imbued with light and goodwill, the Director School Education, Jammu, Mr. Naseem Javid Chowdhary extended warm greetings to the students, teaching fraternity and all officers and officials of the department on the auspicious occasion of Diwali.

He described Diwali as "a festival where the outer illumination mirrors an inner awakening" – a reminder that education, too, is an act of lighting lamps in the corridors of the mind. Mr. Chowdhary urged the teaching community to continue being custodians of that sacred flame which dispels ignorance and nurtures wisdom. To the students, he conveyed that every spark of learning they kindle today becomes the guiding lantern of tomorrow. He further wished that this Diwali bring peace, prosperity and good purpose to every home and every classroom across the Jammu region. "May the triumph of light

over darkness inspire us all to make knowledge our Diya and compassion our fragrance," the Director said, concluding his message of hope and harmony.

Director Agriculture Jammu reviews departmental activities in Billawar



GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, OCT 20

Director Agriculture Jammu Anil Gupta today conducted an extensive tour of Sub-Division Billawar in District Baramulla. At the outset, the Director chaired a meeting at the office of the Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer to review the ongoing departmental activities, physical and financial progress under the central and UT Government sponsored schemes, including CAPEX, NABARD and HADP.

The meeting was attended by the Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer, Subject Matter Specialists, Agriculture Extension Officers, Junior Agriculture

Extension Officers, Agriculture Extension Assistants and other field functionaries. During the tour, the Director Agriculture visited the Mushroom Shed of Kartar Chand, resident of Bhabhu Billawar, where he assessed on-ground mushroom cultivation practices and encouraged progressive farmers engaged in mushroom production. Director Anil Gupta appreciated the farmer and stressed upon the promotion of mushroom cultivation as a viable source of income generation and rural employment. The Director Agriculture also inspected the Toria crop field of Amir Singh, resident of Bhabhu Billawar, where 12 kanal

land has been brought under oilseed cultivation. He appreciated the farmer for adopting crop diversification and emphasized the importance of timely agronomic interventions, integrated nutrient management and the use of quality seed for achieving higher productivity. Anil Gupta impressed upon the officers to work in close coordination with the farming community to ensure effective implementation of departmental schemes at the grassroots level. He exhorted farmers to avail the benefits of various government initiatives and adopt modern scientific practices for enhanced production and profitability.

Bye-Election to Budgam AC

Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner reviews arrangements for facilitation of Kashmiri migrant voters

GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, OCT 20
Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner (M), Dr. Arvind Karwani, today took stock of the arrangements being put in place for facilitation of Kashmiri migrant voters at Jammu, Udhampur and Delhi, for upcoming Bye-Election to Legislative Assembly from 27-Budgam AC, with Assistant Returning Officers stationed at Jammu, Udhampur and New-Delhi. During the meeting, Dr. Karwani was apprised about the arrangements in place for establishment of Special Polling Stations in Jammu, Udhampur and Delhi, distribution and collection of polling

material/EVMs and also the arrangements being put in place for Counting of Votes. Relief Commissioner emphasized on ensuring all requisite Assured Minimum (AMs) for voters like permanent ramps, drinking water, toilet facilities as per norms of Election Commission of India. Camp Commandants/Zonal Officers were directed to reach out to the voters and facilitate their participation. He also emphasized upon the officers for adequate training of polling staff well in advance, and strictly follow the laid down instructions/guidelines for free, fair and

impartial polling. Presently, special polling stations have been established for Kashmiri Migrants who are residing outside their territorial jurisdiction of their assembly constituency in Kashmir and who are staying in and around the Relief Camps in Jammu, Udhampur and Delhi, as done in earlier elections. In addition, special arrangements have also been made for those Kashmiri migrant electors who are staying elsewhere in India outside Jammu, Delhi and Udhampur with the option of either to vote in person at the polling stations in Jammu, Udhampur and Delhi or by postal ballot.

Javid Dar inaugurates Autumn Flower Festival (Chrysanthemum Show) at SKUAST-K

GY CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, OCT 20

Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar, today inaugurated Autumn Flower Festival (Chrysanthemum Show) at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology-Kashmir (SKUAST-K) here. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Dar congratulated the university authorities, particularly the Faculty of Floriculture, for organizing the colourful event that celebrates varieties and over 80 diversity and artistic traditions. He said that the festival aims to showcase the natural



beauty of Kashmir's flora while attracting tourists, students, and entrepreneurs to explore the vast potential of floriculture in the region. Highlighting the significance of the event, Javid Dar said that the Autumn Flower Festival, featuring 15 indigenous varieties and over 80 chrysanthemums, marks the first major attempt to promote autumn tourism

in the Valley, complementing the region's traditional spring, summer and winter attractions. Minister Dar emphasized that the initiative aligns with the government's broader vision of diversifying tourism and creating livelihood opportunities through chrysanthemum and allied sectors. He said that the Agriculture Production Department is

encouraging farmers to adopt floriculture as a viable business venture alongside their routine farming, given its growing market demand and export potential. MLA Sonawari Hilal Akbar Lone; Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganie; Director Deep Husbandry Kashmir, and other senior officers and scientists were present on the occasion.