

Vyas reviews arrangements for Kashmir festival

Cultural diversity, art, panoramic view to be

OBSERVER BUREAU
JAMMU, NOV 21

To showcase rich art and heritage of Jammu and Kashmir countrywide, a mega festival is being held at New Delhi in 2nd week of December. The Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Mr B.B. Vyas while chairing a meeting, convened to chalk out the programme for organizing Kashmir festival at LIC in the Union capital, said that emphasis should be laid on projecting the rare and unique art and heritage in the mega event. The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Tourism Mr Atul Duloo, Director, Tourism, Kashmir Mr Farooq Ahmad Shah, Director Information, Khawaja Farooq Renshah, Special Secretary to Chief Minister Mr Zaffar Ahmad, Special Secretary, Forests, Additional Secretary, Protocol and Cultural Academy and other senior officers of Cultural Academy, Forests and Protocol depart-

ments. The programme will be organized by department of Tourism and Culture in association with Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Cultural Academy, Forests, Protocol departments and Resident Commission, New Delhi. It was decided in the meeting that the masterpieces of art will be exhibited in the Kashmir festival and films on environment of the State will be screened. A seminar will be held in which reputed scholars will deliver lectures. Besides, INTACH will be organizing a seminar on heritage in which various aspects of state's heritage will be highlighted. The Cultural Academy will present sufi programme and traditional folk dances of the State. The art lovers and those interested in multifaceted heritage of the state will participate in the gala event. The photo exhibition will be put up by Tourism and Information departments jointly. A well known drama

of Balwant Thakur's Baba Jito will be part of the event, in which different facets of States' culture will be artfully showcased. The cultural programme to be presented by Cultural Academy on the occasion, will reflect high valued and diverse cultural heritage of multi-regional and multi-lingual State of Jammu and Kashmir. Mr Vyas exhorted officers to make this programme a great success as it is an effort to introduce the cultural diversity of the State at a very big forum, which will be attended by a cross section of the Indian society, who are now taking keen interest in understanding the diverse cultural ethos of J&K. Its uniqueness attracts people all over the country and tourists abroad, he maintained. He said that the event throws an opportunity to tourism department also to highlight panoramic view of the State to the wide ranging audience expected to participate in the event.

Govt employee's Central hire-purchase Jhandewalan adjudged best Cooperative society

OBSERVER BUREAU
JAMMU NOV 21

Government Employees Central Hire-Purchase Cooperative Society Ltd., Jhandewalan, New Delhi has been adjudged this year's 'Best Cooperative Society' by the Government of Delhi. Today, this prestigious award was given away by the Delhi Chief Minister, Mrs Shiela Dixit, in a Cooperative Award Distribution Ceremony organized by the Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Govt. of Delhi, on the occasion of celebrating All India Cooperative Week. The function was presided over by Shri Haroon Yusuf, Minister of Power, Development and Food & Civil Supplies, Delhi Government and was attended by other senior State Government Officers and a large number of invitees. The award which carries a Shield and a Citation is being presented every year to the Cooperative Society who shows an outstanding performance in its functioning. A Jury, constituted by the State Government, comprising of eminent cooperators, the Registrar of Cooperative



Societies and representative of Delhi State Cooperative Union, is entrusted the task of examining such nominations received by it and recommending short-listed names of the Cooperative Societies to the State Government for taking decision in this regard. Congratulating the

Managing Committee of the Society, Mrs Shiela Dixit recalls that she is very much familiar with the Society as she has inaugurated its Silver Jubilee Functions in 2008. She was of the opinion that such awards give strength to the Cooperative movement in the Country. Shri

Haroon Yusuf, in his Presidential address, showed his happiness over the performance made by the Society and hoped that it would also keep its momentum in the years to come. Shri Surender Kumar Sharma, Hony Secretary received the Award, on behalf of the Society. This

Cooperative Society which was established in the year 1967 is the only Society in Delhi dealing with its strong contingent of 9000 members - all Government Employees. By virtue of its transparent working culture, it has earned a good rapport amongst its fraternity.

Ensure peoples participation in Development activities: Naz asks officers

OBSERVER BUREAU
JAMMU, NOV 21

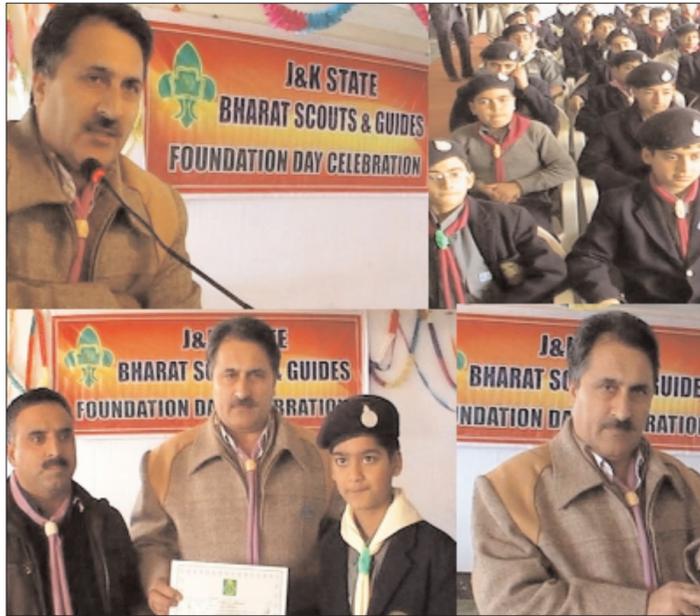
Vice Chairman Gujjar & Bakerval, State Advisory Board Choudhary Bashir Ahmed Naz conducted "public darbars" at Buttle KoteLoran, Loyalbela and Phektrou, Pothi villages of Poonch district here today to take stock of the problem being faced by the people of these remote areas. Addressing the gatherings Ch. Naaz said it is the policy of present coalition government to ensure peoples participation in development activities for better results. He said that focus is being paid on creating better basic infrastructure like road connectivity schools, colleges, water and power supply etc. Ch. Naz also inaugurated 2 km road worth Rs. 1.50 crore constructed by PMGSY from Buttle-Kote to Bela Bala in Loran area. In order to exploited tourism potential of Loran area efforts are on to start Gandola Cable Car project from Buttle- Kote to Sultanpathri, he added.

Earlier, at Chaktrou and Pothi Public Darbars, Ch Naaz said 7 Km road construction is being in progress under PMGSY at a cost of Rs. 4.35 crore, this road project is expected to be commissioned during ending June he added. Besides lift irrigation scheme for Chakroo, Pothi and Thampir has been taken up at a cost of Rs. 2 crore which would be commissioned during next financial year. The Vice Chairman instructed the district administration to ensure un-interrupted power and water supply, identification of site for setting up UCDS centre, adequate teaching staff in schools, pending payment of MGNREGA, disposal of land acquisition and old age pension cases, proper ration distribution in the area. Addl District Development Commissioner, Syed Anwar Hussain Shah, Ex Engineer PMGSY, DSP headquarters and other senior officer of district administration, Sarpanchs, Panchs and large number of local attended the public darbars.

Div Com presents Raj Puraskar awards

OBSERVER BUREAU
SRINAGAR, NOV 21

Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon said that Scouts and Guides are disciplined uniformed volunteers, who work for betterment of the society, irrespective of their caste, creed or kind and act as role models for others to follow. He said this, while chairing the foundation day function of Bharat Scouts and Guides, at Green Valley Educational Institute, Illahi Bagh Bachpora. Dr. Samoon said that we need to raise our education standard as Islam also teaches us to gain knowledge. He said that children need to be involved in extra curriculum activities and develop their skills. He stressed on the need for character building, so that they become better citizens. He said that World has become a Global village and India is growing as a Global power, therefore, we need to build our human resources to be able to compete. He complimented for organising such an impressive programme. He gave away Raj Puraskar awards to Boy Scouts, Abdul Manan, Dayan Hashim, Faizan Rashid, Musab Ahmed and Girl Guides, Ms. Arjumand



Aziz, Mutahira for having achieved various levels and proficiency badges and certificates were also given to Dani and Iqra from SMD School Soura. He also felicitated a teacher Miss Shezana for being selected as the Best

Girl Guide Master. Earlier, Chief Commissioner Bharat Scouts and Guides Nazir Ahmed Khan welcomed the guests nd highlighted the various achievements of the organisation. The school children of Green

Valley and SMD Soura presented a colourful cultural programme. The programme was attended among others by OSD with Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir Aamir Ali and other concerned agencies.

Lal singh inaugurate Inter-Collegiate Volleyball Tournament

OBSERVER BUREAU
KATHUA NOV 21

Govt. Degree College, Kathua, organized a function to open the inter-collegiate Volley-Ball Tournament in the college campus. Ch. Lal Singh, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Other dignitaries who graced the occasion by their imminent presence were Sh. J.L. Sharma (IPS), SSP Kathua and Ch. Rajinder Singh, ex-president of Municipal corporation of Kathua. The students offered 'Guard of Honour' to welcome the guests while Principal Dr. Nater Singh along-with his staff welcomed the guests by presenting them bouquets. The function started with the lighting of traditional lamp by the Chief Guest. Principal, Dr. Nater Singh, in his welcome address apprised the audience of the remarkable achievements made by the students in academic sphere as well as sports and other activities. After Principal's address, the

talented students of Degree College, Kathua, entertained the audience with a colourful culture bonanza containing a touch of national spirit and folklore. After the culmination of cultural programme, the Chief Guest Ch. Lal Singh addressed the gathering. In his address, he laid emphasis upon flourishing moral and social values through education. Sharing his rich experiences with the students, he asserted that nothing is impossible to achieve in life if we are fully dedicated to our work. A specific feature of his address which enthralled the Students and Staff of Degree College, Kathua was his declaration to provide a new 'Bus' to the college. Then he declared open the tournament and proceeded towards the playground. After the presentation of mementoes to the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour, the very first match of the tournament started between Trikuta College, Jammu and Govt. Degree College, Udhampur.

GDC, Tral gets Indira Gandhi Awards Becomes State's first college to have this honor

OBSERVER BUREAU
SRINAGAR, NOV 21

The Degree College, Tral has become the State's first colleges to get twin prestigious Indira Gandhi National Service Awards for 2010-11 for outstanding contribution of their National Social Services (NSS) unit towards the society. The college was honored with these awards by Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Mr. Ajay Maken at an award Ceremony held here today at Vigyan Bhawan. The awards comprise of a certificate, cash prize of Rs. 20,000 and a silver medal to college's NSS programme officer, professor Bashir Ahmad Shah and a trophy and cash prize of Rs. 70,000 to the college NSS unit. It is worthwhile to mention here that the NSS team of college has rendered yeomen services to the people of the



area during various eventualities. Principal Prof Mohammad Aslam Baba, the recipient was warmly congratulated by the staff members both teaching and non teaching for having brought laurels not only to the institution but also to the Department of Higher Education and the University of Kashmir as well. While congratulating the programme officer and the NSS team for this great

achievement, the principal highlighted the unflinching support and encouragement which the team received from the Minister of Higher Education Mr. Addul Ganie Malik, former principal of the college Prof G. M. Tibet Baqal, Dr. Iqbal Hakeem NSS programme coordinator University of Kashmir; State liaison officer NSS Higher education, Prof Muqbil Chesti and the locals of the area.

Crackdown on Medicates continues 19 shops sealed for selling expired drugs

OBSERVER BUREAU
SRINAGAR, NOV 21

On the instructions of Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon, the Drug & Food Control Organisation continued with the crackdown on medicates selling drugs, not adhering to the provisions of drug licence. A special squad led by Deputy Drug Controller, Kashmir, Nazir Ahmed along with Assistant Drug Controller Srinagar, Mohammed Younis and SHO Soura, Mohammed Rafiq inspected various medical shops near SKIMS Soura. During the crackdown, 11 medical shops were sealed by the squad, as they were found indulging in selling expired medicines and the qualified chemist was not present. Some shops were found selling Nimesulide and Phenyl Propanol Amine (PPA) which have been banned by the Drug Controller of India. The medical shops include Pharma Life Care Soura, Pharma Vision, J&K Drug Store, Saba Medicate, Al-Shifa Medicate, Abdal Medicate, International Pharmacy, Lone Medicate, Trust Medicate and Soura Medicate. The squad also inspected Pharmacies at Lal Bazaar, Nigeen, Hazratbal, Foreshore road, Nishat and Bemina along with SHO Nigeen, Nisar Ahmed, SHO Lal Bazaar, Ghulam Mohammed and SHO Parimpora Ghulam Mohiud-Din. The squad sealed three medical shops at Lal Bazaar viz. Inayat Medicate, New Swaleh Medicate, Aroma Medicate and Naseem Medicate at Zakura. Four medical shops, Mehfooz Medicate, Shah Medicate and Mir Medicate all located in Boatman Colony Bemina and New Mediquick near JVC Medical College, Bemina were sealed for selling medicines without the qualified person. Earlier, 11 shops were sealed in Karan Nagar area as they were found indulging in touting at SMHS Hospital. The general public has appreciated the action initiated by Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir and urged him to continue the drive, so that no medical shop dares to sell expired or substandard drugs.

5-day workshop on TNA gets underway

OBSERVER BUREAU
JAMMU, NOV 21

A 5-day workshop on "Training Needs Assessment (TNA)" was inaugurated at Directorate of Rural Development, Gramin Vikas Bhawan, Jammu. Commissioner Secretary Rural Development Mr. Farooq Ahmad Peer was the chief guest on the occasion. The workshop organized in collaboration with State Institutes of Rural Development J&K was attended by representatives from various states like Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, J&K and Punjab. Apart from this District Panchayat Officers, Assistant Commissioners Development, Sarpanches, ToT's, Principal Rural Extension Training Centres (R.E.T.C), R. S. Pura (Jammu)

and Budgam (Kashmir) are attending the workshop. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Farooq Ahmad Peer said that the workshop has been organized to assess various training needs emerging in the present scenario and asked the participants to take maximum benefit of this workshop. The workshop schedules includes interactions and brainstorming sessions, Focus Group Discussions (FGD), and field visits to various Panchayats and RETCS. A curriculum of training for Panchayati Raj Institutions of the State of J&K is expected to be prepared by this workshop for the State to follow in future. Director Rural Development Jammu and Director Rural Development Kashmir also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the objective for conducting this workshop.

Celebration of ICDS week at Narvaw

OBSERVER BUREAU
BARAMULLA, NOV 21

The ICDS project Narvaw has organized the ICDS week from November 14 to 19, 2011 at zonal level centers where locals were involved including adolescent boys/girls for effective awareness for the Child Development organization of cultural events and play activities had remained the base for overall success of child development. During the celebration emphasis had been given on health sanitation and check up growth monitoring of baby child. Besides pre-school activities mass awareness for nutrition had remained the main focus of the programme.

SDM Bani inspects MAC, AWC Medical Aid Centre, Anganwadi Centre

OBSERVER BUREAU
BANI, NOV 21

SDM Bani Mr. Rajinder Sharma today paid surprise visit to Medical Sub Centre Mandrera and Anganwadi centre Mandrera, panchayat siara nearly 30 kms from Bani and found nobody present there. Medical sub centre and Anganwadi centre was sealed in presence of sarpanch and local people and salaries of one pharmacist, two FMPW, Anganwadi worker and a helper are ordered to remain withheld besides issuing showcause notice to them. BMO Bani and CDPO Bani was directed to conduct detailed inquiry and initiating action against the delinquent officials.

Power shut down

OBSERVER BUREAU
JAMMU, NOV 21

As approved by the Superintending Engineer Electric Maintenance and RE Circle-III Batote, shut down of 33 KV Banihal line on November 22 to November 26, 2011 from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. is allowed emanating from 132/33 KV Grid Station Thethar for carrying out works of erection/repair on urgent basis. According to Executive Engineer, Sub Transmission Division, Udhampur, the shut down shall be subjected to fair weather conditions.

Div Com reviews progress of Rs. 202 Cr spent for land acquisition in Pulwama, Anantnag

OBSERVER BUREAU
ANANTNAG, NOV 21

Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon reviewed the progress of land acquisition of National Highway and Railways at a high level meeting chaired by him. The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, Kifayat Hussain Rizvi, Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Shafaat Noor, Chief Engineer R&B Mushtaq Ahmed, Chief Engineer EM&RE Mohammed Muzaffar Mattu, Asstt Commissioner (Central) Munir-ul-Islam and senior representatives from

Northern Railways, IRCON, Project Beacon, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), PHE, BSNL, Horticulture, Sericulture, Irrigation & Flood Control Dept and implementing agencies M/s Ramkese and M/s Navyug. It was informed that Rs 138 crore have been spent on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway and Rs 68 crore on the Kishtwar-Simthen road. He was told that the stretch from Vailu (Kokernag) to Anantnag has been completed, except for some impediments in Anantnag town, which will be cleared in a week's time. The bridge at Hillard is also

completed and is likely to be inaugurated by Chief Minister soon. Dr. Samoon directed that, the estimates for shifting of utilities should be furnished within a period of one week and the work should be completed within one month from the release of funds by the Government. It was also informed that Rs 124 crores are required for land acquisition in Pulwama district. Div Com also took stock of the work on the railway project and expressed his satisfaction on the progress. He inspected the railway tunnel which has been connected and work is in full swing.