

Div Com Kashmir reviews availability of Essential Commodities in Valley

SRINAGAR, MARCH 31: To ensure uninterrupted availability of essential commodities across the Kashmir Valley, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, on Tuesday chaired a high-level review meeting to assess stock positions and streamline supply mechanisms.

The meeting emphasized enhancing public interface systems to enable more efficient monitoring and assessment of demand and supply trends.

Deputy Commissioners from across the Valley, the Additional Commissioner Kashmir, Assistant Commissioner Central, representatives from medical institutions, universities, Agriculture Department, and sales officers from oil marketing companies—including Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)—attended the meeting.

During the review, the Divisional Commissioner assessed the availability of petroleum products and LPG across districts and company depots.

On the occasion, the Joint Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), informed that the combined stock position of oil companies for Motor Spirit (MS) is 6,919 KL, sufficient for approximately 13.6 days, High-Speed Diesel (HSD) is 12,980 KL, sufficient for approximately 18.5 days and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) is 4,371 MT, sufficient for approximately 15.6 days.

Regarding foodgrain reserves at Food Corporation of India (FCI) depots, it was informed that the stocks are sufficient for 65 days.

On the status of eKYC verification for LPG consumers, it was reported that 1,107,947 verifications have been completed, while 8,77,145 cases remain pending.

The Divisional Commissioner di-



rected concerned agencies to expedite the completion of pending eKYC processes within a stipulated timeframe while availing the services of CSCs.

He also instructed oil companies to ensure home delivery of LPG cylinders and take strict action against unauthorized spot deliveries. Additionally, he directed the operation of the Pampore HPCL plant on Sundays to meet peak demand requirements.

To improve inventory accuracy, the Divisional Commissioner called for immediate reconciliation of discrepancies between physical stock at distribution agencies and system records maintained by oil marketing companies.

He further urged Deputy Commissioners to ensure adequate supply of commercial LPG to industries and institutions like SKIMS, GMC, Hospitals, SKUAST-K, KU, CUK and other educational institutions.

The Joint Director Agriculture also briefed the meeting on fertilizer availability, stating that sufficient stocks are in place for the upcoming Kharif season and are being regularly replenished.

Meanwhile, the Divisional Commissioner stressed the need to safeguard the interests of workers in industrial and service sectors, directing authorities to ensure that labourers are neither laid off nor deprived of timely wages.

IIM to host 9 Annual Convocation on April 2; MD & CEO, ICICI Bank to Grace as Chief Guest

JAMMU, MAR 31: The Indian Institute of Management Jammu is gearing up to host its Ninth Annual Convocation 2026 on 2nd April 2026 at Rang Manch Amphitheatre, Jagti Campus. This event represents another milestone in the Institute's steady journey of growth, which is an endorsement of its unwavering commitment to academic excellence, growth, and contributions to management education in India.

The Convocation is an event of great importance, marking another significant milestone in the journey of academic achievement, discipline, and intellectual engagement. It is also an event of great promise, marking the beginning of yet another journey in the lives of graduating students. This event is an endorsement of IIM Jammu's commitment to developing graduates who are capable of dealing with challenges in an increasingly globalized world without compromising their social responsibility.

The event will be graced by Shri Sandeep Bakhshi, Managing Director & CEO, ICICI Bank, who will deliver the Convocation Address as the Chief Guest. The event will be presided over by Padma Shri Milind



P. Kamble, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Jammu. Professor B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, will present the Director's Report, which will provide an insight into the Institute's latest achievements and its long-term goals.

On this momentous occasion, Shri Sandeep Bakhshi, Managing Director & CEO of ICICI Bank, will inaugurate the new ICICI Bank Branch at the Jagti Campus, further strengthening the synergy between academia and industry while providing state-of-the-art banking facilities to the students.

The 9th Annual Convocation will be graced by Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Faculty and Research, IIM Jammu, and Prof. Nitin Upadhyay, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu. Over the past few years, IIM Jammu has been steadily building up the dynamics of the

learning environment. One of the notable achievements of the institute is the accomplishment of EFMD Accreditation for its MBA Program and institute wide BGA Accreditation clearly demonstrating an increasing impact on its students and communities.

This puts the institute in the esteemed list of globally recognized business schools.

As part of its forward-thinking initiatives, the institute has entered into an alliance with the Asian Institute of Technology to launch its Dual Degree MBA Programme in Artificial Intelligence and Business Analytics. This Programme was inaugurated at Bharat Mandapam during the Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026 by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan.

This year, 520 students

from various programmes like Doctoral Program, MBA, MBA in Hospital Administration and Health-care Management, Integrated Programme in Management (IPM), and Executive MBA will be graduating. The outstanding students will be awarded with coveted medals like Chairperson BoG's Gold Medal, Director's Silver Medal, and the respective Program Chairperson's Bronze Medal.

With its constantly increasing academic portfolio, its connections with the industry, and its increasing collaborations with the world beyond India, the IIM Jammu is poised to further enhance its standing among the best management schools in the country. Its emphasis on innovation, interdisciplinary learning, and leadership development is part of its larger vision that is in par with the national and global agenda.

The Ninth Annual Convocation promises to be yet another memorable milestone in the journey of the institute, celebrating achievements, recognizing dedicated efforts, and reaffirming our commitment to excellence, innovation, nation-building, and the vision of Viksit Bharat.

JKEDI Baramulla launches several Developmental Programmes under RAMP

BARAMULLA, MARCH 31: In an effort to foster sustainable enterprise growth, the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), District Centre Baramulla, today launched a series of developmental programmes under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) Scheme.

While conducting an Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme (ESDP) at ITI Pattan, JKEDI has simultaneously commenced its 6-day, 30-hour Management Development Programme (MDP), Batch-VIII, at ITI Baramulla.

A total of 54 participants, including both male and female candidates, have enrolled in the programmes, with 32 participants in ESDP and 22 in MDP.



The programmes are designed to equip participants with essential knowledge and skills in key areas such as entrepreneurship development, business planning, financial management, marketing

strategies, awareness of government schemes, and critical soft skills required for sustainable enterprise development.

The programmes were formally inaugurated by the ITI Superintendents,

Er. Showkat Ahmad and Er. Javed Ahmad and is being coordinated by faculty members under the overall guidance of Imtiyaz Ahad, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI District Centre Baramulla.

RS PURA, MAR 31:

The 13th Foundation Day of Maharshi Mehi Brahm Vidyapeeth, located at Badyal Brahmana, R.S. Pura, was celebrated with great spiritual fervour and devotion today. The ashram, a prominent centre associated with the Santmat tradition, witnessed enthusiastic participation of devotees from various parts of the region.

The programme was marked by a deeply inspiring satsang delivered by Swami Vyasanaand Ji Maharaj, who elaborated on the core principles of Santmat philosophy. Swami Ji emphasized that inner awakening through meditation, moral discipline, and devotion to the Supreme is essential for leading a meaningful and balanced life. He urged devotees to adopt a spiritually aware lifestyle rooted in ethical values and self-realization.

Speaking on the relevance of satsang in today's time, Swami Ji highlighted that people of all age groups, especially children and youth, are increasingly engaged with mobile phones and social networking platforms. He cautioned that excessive involvement



in the digital world often leads to mental distraction, stress, lack of concentration, and gradual disconnection from one's cultural and spiritual roots.

Swami Ji stressed that satsang acts as a powerful remedy in such circumstances. He explained that regular participation in satsang helps individuals reconnect with their inner self, develop clarity of thought, and maintain emotional balance. Through spiritual discourses and collective prayer, one learns to channel thoughts in a positive direction and cultivate virtues such as patience, humility, compassion, and self-discipline.

Focusing on the younger generation, Swami Ji said that satsang is the need of the hour as it helps youth counter the negative impact

of excessive screen time and social media influence. He emphasized that satsang not only strengthens moral character but also instills a sense of purpose, guiding young minds towards constructive and value-based living. For elders as well, he noted, satsang provides peace of mind, stability, and a sense of spiritual fulfillment, making it equally important for every section of society.

The celebration also featured devotional songs, creating an atmosphere filled with peace, harmony, and spiritual energy. A community feast was organized, where devotees and visitors were served food, reflecting the spirit of equality, service, and collective participation. The ashram, a recognized branch of the Maharshi Mehi Santmat lineage, continues to play a

vital role in spreading the teachings of Maharshi Mehi Paramhans. It promotes meditation, ethical living, and universal brotherhood, guiding individuals towards self-realization and inner peace. Over the years, the institution has emerged as a significant spiritual centre in Jammu and Kashmir, consistently working to uplift society by encouraging spiritual practices and value-based living. The annual Foundation Day celebrations not only commemorate its establishment but also reinforce the importance of staying connected with spiritual roots. The event concluded on a note of devotion and unity, with devotees expressing gratitude for the guidance of Swami Ji and reaffirming their commitment to follow the path of Santmat in their daily lives.

Poster Making Competition on Women Empowerment held at GCW Udhampur

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, MAR 31

The Department of Botany, Government College for Women (GCW), Udhampur organized a Poster Making Competition on Women Empowerment for the students of B.Sc. Botany Semester 2nd, 4th, and 6th in the Department of Botany.

The event was organised under the patronage of Dr. Nalini Pathania, Principal of the college, and under the guidance of Prof. Anita Gupta, Head of the Department of Botany. The activity was conducted under the supervision of Dr. Kiran Parasher, Dr. Mehak Jamwal, and Dr. Sameer Ahmad Thoker, faculty members of the department. During the competition, students prepared creative and thought provoking posters based on themes such as women empower-



ment, gender equality, and the significant role of women in biodiversity conservation and environmental protection.

The posters showcased innovative ideas and conveyed strong messages promoting respect, awareness, and recognition of women's contributions in society.

The primary objective of the activity was to create

awareness among students about the importance of Women Empowerment while encouraging them to express their ideas through artistic and creative means. The competition also helped in fostering social awareness, creativity, an critical thinking among the participants.

Dr. Nalini Pathania appreciated the efforts of the

Department of Botany for organizing such a meaningful activity and emphasized that such initiatives play a vital role in spreading awareness about women's empowerment and their indispensable role in society. Prof. Anita Gupta also commended the organizing faculty and students for their enthusiastic participation and creative presentations.

NIT Srinagar secures patent for AI-IoT Based Smart Hamaam system

SRINAGAR, MAR 31: In a major technological breakthrough, the National Institute of Technology Srinagar has secured a patent for an innovative system aimed at modernising the traditional Hamaam through artificial intelligence and Internet of Things (IoT)-based automation.

The patented invention, titled "An Automated Temperature Control System for Underfloor Heating," has been developed by Dr. Saniya Zahoor, Dr. Shabir A. Sofi, and Syed Farmaan Ali from the Department of Information Technology and Engineering.

Traditional Hamaam, widely used in Kashmir and other cold regions, has long served as an essential source of indoor heating during harsh winters.

However, conventional systems require continuous

manual monitoring and often lead to inefficient fuel use. The new system addresses these limitations by combining smart technologies with traditional heating.

According to the inventors, the system employs IoT-enabled sensors and AI algorithms to regulate underfloor heating in real time.

It incorporates an automated hopper mechanism that controls the supply of ignition material into a combustion chamber beneath the floor. The system continuously monitors environmental parameters such as temperature, humidity, and wind speed to ensure optimal performance.

An AI-driven module determines fuel requirements dynamically, activating the fuel feed mechanism as needed to optimise energy

use and minimise wastage.

The system also features a controlled ignition unit and a motorised ash-removal mechanism, ensuring cleaner and more efficient operation. Additionally, it enables precise temperature and humidity control based on user preferences and ambient conditions.

Officials said the innovation significantly reduces human intervention while enhancing operational efficiency, safety, and user comfort. The AI-enabled system is expected to improve the overall heating experience while promoting sustainable energy use.

The development marks a significant contribution by NIT Srinagar in leveraging advanced technology to solve region-specific challenges. With its focus on automation, efficiency, and sustainability, the patented system has the potential to

transform traditional heating practices in cold climates.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia, said the patent reflects the institute's commitment to innovation rooted in local needs.

"Integrating artificial intelligence with traditional systems like the Hamaam demonstrates how technology can preserve cultural practices while enhancing efficiency, safety, and sustainability," he said.

In her message, In-charge Director and Dean Research and Consultancy, Prof. Roohie Naaz Mir said such initiatives encourage faculty and students to develop indigenous technologies tailored to local requirements. It further strengthens NIT Srinagar's role as a hub of impactful and socially relevant research," she said.