

Govt aims to conduct recruitment exam in 22 languages: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Space and Atomic Energy, Dr Jitendra Singh today said that in the times to come, the Staff Selection Commission (SSC) aims to conduct recruitment competitive exam in all the 22 Indian languages mentioned in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution. The intention is to provide a language-neutral, level playing field to all the aspiring candidates, he said.

Addressing the Valedictory Session of the 2-day 'Bharatiya Bhasha Utsav: Technology & Bharatiya Bhasha Summit' at Ambedkar Bhavan here today, Dr Jitendra Singh said, at the behest of Prime Minister Narendra Modi that from this year onward SSC examinations are being conducted in 13 languages, that is 11 regional languages in addition to already existing Hindi and English, while before 2014, candidates had no option, but to choose either Hindi or English as the medium of exam-



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing the valedictory session of 'Bharatiya Bhasha Utsav: Technology & Bharatiya Bhasha Summit' at Ambedkar Bhavan New Delhi, on Sunday.

ination. He also underlined that before 2014, the translation of English into Hindi was also done very poorly, putting the students at a disadvantageous position.

Dr Jitendra Singh informed that the JEE, NEET and UGC exams are also being conducted in 12 Indian Languages and this historic decision will give impetus to participation of local youth, improve their selection prospects and encourage regional languages.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, notable progress has been made in the last more than nine years under the leadership of Prime Minister

Narendra Modi to promote the Indian regional languages besides the official Language, Hindi.

Dr Jitendra Singh emphasised that all should take pride in the "esteem of the language" for its proper growth and development. He gave examples that all the developed countries including the European Nations take pride in speaking, writing and promoting their own languages and India should also do the same.

Terming NEP as the biggest path-breaking reform in India since independence, he said, it will transform India's education sys-

tem to match global benchmarks.

Dr Jitendra Singh hoped that the journey of Indian Languages in the AmritKaal of next 25 years will truly usher in the Celebrations of Indian Languages in 2047, which he described as "Bhartiya Bhashaon Ka Utsav".

"Guided by the vision of the Prime Minister, NEP 2020 was launched with a view to groom the youth and prepare them for leading the country in AmritKaal, said Dr Jitendra Singh. The NEP aims to prepare them for meeting the challenges of the future while keeping them grounded in traditional Indian ethos, he added..

Dr Jitendra Singh said the NEP 2020 promotes the use of regional languages and development of eContent by all States in all regional languages. The eContents/programme uploaded under PM eVidya are based on NCERT curriculum. Besides this, many states have also offered and uploaded their eContents for PM eVIDYA, in line with the curriculum of their education boards/SCERTs.

Swachhata Hi Seva organises at JU



Faculty and students of Jammu University during the programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on the eve of his 154th Birth Anniversary, an elaborate cleanliness drive was organized at the University of Jammu on 1st of October, 2023 under the aegis of Swachhata Pakhwada - Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS), 2023 by the UT of Jammu & Kashmir.

The drive, which was organised by the Department of Students Welfare, was conducted on the university campus and hostels and was conducted by the teachers, students, scholars, staff, NSS

Volunteers of Campus Units 1 & 4, Cultural Representatives and members of the Campus Cultural Committee. It was led by Prof. Sarika Manhas, Co-Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee in coordination with Prof. Prakash Antalal, Dean Students Welfare and Prof. Monika Chadha, Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee.

On the occasion, a pledge was also administered in which it was vowed by the faculty and students that we shall support truth without fear or prejudice,

we shall oppose all forms of communalism, casteism and chauvinism, we shall rise above religion, caste, creed, community, language or gender and respect one another on grounds of our common humanity and we will not co-operate with people opposing these values.

Moreover, we will not take any steps which would harm our country or ruin its reputation as we are proud to be Indians and we shall work for the unity of India and shall dedicate ourselves to the task of making India a great and progressive nation.

Swach Bharat Abhiyan: ADGP F&ES leads cleanliness drive at Fire Hqrs



Cleanliness drive at Fire Hqrs.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As a part of Swachhata Abhiyaan, Fire and Emergency Services (F&ES) Department on Sunday carried out cleanliness drive across its Fire Stations with great enthusiasm throughout the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

As many as 191 events were organised at each Fire and Emergency station and command office in all districts of

UT. The day was observed by cleaning the offices and stations besides surrounding areas. The main event was organised at Gandhi Nagar Hqrs Jammu, wherein Alok Kumar, ADGP Director Fire and Emergency Services joined the event of Swachhata Abhiyaan. Speaking on the occasion, he asked the jawans to adopt Swachhata Abhiyaan as a part of clean India drive.

He also joined the cleanliness drive with Jawans. RK Raina, DD Jammu and Dr Manju Medical officer FES Jammu and other senior officers also accompanied in cleaning of the office, Fire Station. Later, the surrounding Green Belt Gandhi Nagar area was also cleaned. Similar functions were held at Range and District Hqrs wherein command officers led the cleanliness events.

At Srinagar Hqrs, Aqib Hussain Mir, Assistant Director led the Swachhata Abhiyaan.

Meanwhile Alok Kumar IPS ADGP Director Fire and Emergency Services has directed all subordinate units to carry forward this Swachhata Abhiyaan and make a routine to clean stations and offices besides surroundings on daily basis.

Patnitop-Gouri Kund Eco Trail: Participants walk through Nature's Path to spiritual bliss

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PATNITOP: In a collaborative effort, the Department of Excise, Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Patnitop Development Authority, Directorate of Tourism, Jammu, and District Administration, Udhampur came together to organize the Patnitop to Gouri Kund Eco Trail today.

The trail traces an ancient pilgrimage route leading to Sudh Mahadev-Mantalai, prominent Shaivite centers, and is steeped in natural wonders including dense forests, rolling fields, vegetable gardens, and fruit orchids.

The trek started from the Nag temple, notable for its construction using stones, a deviation from the prevalent



Participant taking part in nature path.

use of Deodar wood in the region. It concluded at the sacred Gauri Kund Temple, dedicated to Bhagwan Shiv and Mata Parvati. Legend has it that Mata Parvati would daily bathe in its natural spring. Here, the participants accompanied by the officials and staff from PDA and Wildlife Department, relished traditional cuisines offered in year-long bhan-

dara by the temple. The students and faculty of SMVDU, hailing from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Delhi, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Chattisgarh, Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana and even Nepal, were enthralled by the picturesque vistas and the mystical aura that enveloped them throughout the trek. They

thanked the authorities for making them part of this endeavour. After trek, they also paid obeisance at the revered Sudh Mahadev temple.

Nagendra Singh Jamwal, Registrar of SMVDU, expressed, "SMVDU, in partnership with PDA, will continue organizing treks to internationally renowned trails within PDA's jurisdiction. The university places great importance on the holistic development of its students, and we believe that these treks will inspire students to embrace a healthy lifestyle while steering clear of the pitfalls of substance abuse."

It was held under the event series, 'Visit Patnitop', which was initiated by Patnitop Development Authority in September 2022 to showcase

the all-encompassing beauty and the tourism potential of the Patnitop Tourism Circuit.

Beyond adventure and spirituality, the event emphasized cleanliness, environmental consciousness, and preservation of the natural beauty that attracts travelers from far and wide. By collecting waste all along the trail, participants did their part to contribute to the ongoing nationwide Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign, an initiative aimed at building a Swachh Bharat in line with Mahatma Gandhi's vision. This endeavor also complemented PDA's ongoing initiatives, including 'Clean Patnitop Green Patnitop', 'Carry The Trash Back', and 'Clean Mountains Save Future'.

AKMMC holds protest, demands release of relief to needy migrants

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: All Kashmiri Muslim migrant committee today protest against the continuously stoppage of relief to the needy, genuine migrants who are dependent upon the cash relief for their daily life and medicines.

AKMMC condemned the relief commissioner action and demand to the Lt governor Manoj Sinha to interfere in this matter and release the relief amount as soon as possible president of the association Nazir Ahmed



AKMMC staging a protest.

lone appeal to the administration to release the cash relief to the migrants con-

demn this harsh decision taken by relief commissioner about Kashmiri migrants

particularly one community. The leaders said that they will meet the Lt Governor to discuss this burning matter.

The other leaders and chairman of the association Fida Hussain Shaikh vice president Chaudhari Mohammed Akbar and general secretary Shaikat Ahmad Ganie and Sajad Ahmad Reshi & Sarjee Ah Bhat & Sajad Ah Khatana & Farooq Khan were present at the meeting which z conducted at Dak Bangla residency road Jammu.

Agri Deptt conducts Swachhta Hi Seva campaign

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A cleanliness drive as part of Swachhta Hi Seva 2023 was carried out at both Zonal office Channi Himmat and Govt Middle School Kanhal to promote cleanliness and garbage free India by the Zonal staff of Channi Himmat.

On the occasion a pledge was taken to foster a culture of cleanliness and hygiene among the people. Agriculture Deptt. Channi Himmat also handed over Hygiene and Sanitation Items to the Headmaster and



Swachhta campaign at Agriculture department.

students of the school in the presence of Sarpanch

Jatinder Singh as a small token of their contribution

towards making Bharat Swachh (Clean India).

Narotam lays foundation stone of additional Hall of Peer Kho Akhada

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Narotam Sharma, Councillor Jammu Municipal Corporation Ward no 3 today laid foundation stone for additional hall of Peer Kho Akhada. Peer Kho Akhada (traditional gym) is one of the oldest Akhada in the old city Jammu wherein everyday 100s of young boys and senior citizens not only come for physical exercises but also to enjoy bath with fresh underground water that comes out from well.

The additional hall would be built at an estimated cost of Rs 17 Lac and would also have modern



Councillor Jammu, Narotam Sharma laying foundation stone.

machines for gym that would be helpful for the youth of not only belonging to ward no 3 but also entire old city Jammu.

Mahant Rajinder Nath ji

of Peer Kho temple also accompanied Narotam during the foundation laying program and appreciated him for his continuous effort to initiate develop-

mental activities in ward no 3 for the welfare of people.

While interacting with the people during the program, Narotam said sports, games and physical activities keep the youth away from drugs and narcotics.

Those who were present during the program included yudhveer Sethi state vice President BJP, Parveen kermi East mandal president, District general secretary Kuldeep Khandari, Ramesh Sudan Akhada President, Vidya Devi, Anuradha Sharma, Pujja Khajuria, booth president Sanjay Sharma, Sanjay Abrol among others were present to grace the occasion.



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