JU organises short term finishing course for Govt School children

JAMMU: The four-day short term finishing school organised by the Skill Development and Career Planning, SHEDC, University of Jammu in collaboration with the Directorate of Social Welfare from 4th October concluded on Saturday. A composite group of girls and boys from various government schools who are residents of remodelled child care institutions Palash (Children's Home for Boys) and Parisha (Children's Home for in Girls) Jammu. Udhampur and Kathua were given training in life skills by various experts in the area.

Speaking on the occasion Vivek Sharma, Director General, Social Welfare Department, Jammu said that the department is committed to bringing welfare measures for all the underprivileged sections of the society across gender,



JU officials along with students during the programme.

age groups and regions. She congratulated the University for taking lead in collaborating with the welfare department to bring the teaching and training resources to these children. She said it would make a tangible effect on their approach to life and success and expressed that more such collaborative programs shall be organised in the future. She also

shared that Commissioner Secretary Social Welfare Sheetal Nanda is taking many path breaking initiatives to ensure the upliftment of all underprivileged sections of the society.

Prof Alka Sharma, Director SHEDC shared that the University is actively engaging in providing skill training across the different sections of the society. She shared that many such initiatives are being undertaken by the University under the dynamic guidance of Prof Umesh Rai, Vice chancellor Jammu University. She further stressed on the importance of such courses which are not only essential for honing one's personality but also emerge as important markers to attain employment at national and international

Coordinator Development and Career planning apprised the audience of the various activities that were taken up during the training. She shared that experts from Central University and freelance acclaimed trainers conducted the sessions for the students on various aspects of communication skills, confidence building, self-awareness, body language and public speaking. The programme conclud-

ed with the distribution of certificates to the participants and was well managed by Dr Jasleen Kaur, the co-coordinator of the course. The vote of thanks was presented by Dr Anil Gupta, Coordinator Entrepreneurship Development Vertical. Dr Shallu Sehgal, Associate Professor and member Skill Vertical and Manoj Kumar JKAS, were among those present in the function.

CBC organises Integrated Communication, Outreach Programme

Bureau The Communication (CBC) Ministry Information and Broadcasting, Government of India on Saturday organized an Integrated Communication and Outreach Programme (ICOP) as part of the ongoing Swachhata Hi Seva campaign at Government High School (GHS) Thiksay in Leh district.

More than one hundred students of the school and entire teaching and non-teaching staff participated in the programme.

Addressing the gathering, Principal GHS Mumtaz Hussain thanked CBC for choosing the school for holding the event there. He requested the students to take care of their surroundings and make every effort to ensure that they keep their surroundings clean.

He urged upon the authorities to hold such events at regular intervals so that the message of cleanliness gets entrenched in the young and impressionable minds of the stu-

A 'Swachhata Pledge' was also administered to the students as part of the ICOP wherein they were encouraged to spread the message of cleanliness and spend two hours every week on activities related to cleanliness. The programme also witnessed cultural performances from the students of GHS Thiksay which were appreciated by one and all.



Principal GHS Mumtaz Hussain speaking during the programme.

As part of the ICOP, a dustbin was also donated to the school and the students took part in a cleanliness drive wherein they cleaned the surroundings of their school. Earlier in the programme, Field Publicity Officer, CBC Field Office Leh, Aamir Amin Nowshahri, while welcoming the participants, thanked district administration Leh and the school authorities for helping conduct the ICOP at short notice.

He stressed upon students to make cleanliness their motto in life and also encourage others to do the same. The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Sikandar Qureshi, Field Publicity Assistant, CBC Field Office, Srinagar.

Training for placement campaign starts at CUJ



CUJ officials along with students during the campaign.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To augment training of students for outstanding placement outcomes, campaign "Protsahan-Unleash the Potential within" commenced at Central University of Jammu under the patronage of Honourable Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain. Central University of Jammu (ČUJ) provides a regular interaction with experts from the industry by arranging guest lectures on various topics. Such lectures provide students to gain firsthand knowledge and experience of situations that are prevalent in the Industry. This also provides a platform to understand the emerging trends in the Industrial World. The Placement Cell of the university organizes guest lecturers from time to time, by calling eminent personalities coming

In this unique initiative Central University of Jammu organized a talk where, Anuj Gupta (DGM-HR)- Cadila, Rahul Sharma- Manager Programme & Policy (Save the Children) & Apratim Mandal-Head HR-Berger Paints motivated all the students present in the program

Anuj Gupta (DGM-HR) - Cadila was amongst the keynote speakers. He talked about the role of personal grooming, articulation and soft skills to build a great career. He specially mentioned that we must have courage even during the most difficult phase of life and with courage, we will surely overcome, Rahul Sharma- Manager Programme & Policy (Save the Children) motivated all and said, the situation may be odd but we must face it and fight back. He also emphasised about upgrading and learning new skills.

Apratim Mandal-Head HR-Berger Paints said we should not see mistakes in others, and for any change we want in society, we should first implement it on ourselves first. He motivated all students and said for success in life we all must have passion, practice, and self-change.

Viraj Magotra (T&PO)-CUJ also shared his experience about the last year placements and various behavioural aspects employers preferred the most from the freshers. The session was interactive and hundreds of students participated in this event, students cleared their queries

BJP Govt committed to address people's problems on priority: Kavinder

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta on Saturday asserted that the BJP Government at the Centre is committed to address the problems of people on priority.

While addressing a meeting of women folk here today, the BJP stalwart leader said that Bharatiya Janata Party leadership in Jammu and Kashmir is taking up all the issues of people very minutely and working proactively to resolve them on priority. He said that the recent decisions taken by Home Minister Amit Shah and LG Manoj Sinha in bailing out population of the UT from deep crisis in cases of property tax and inflated electricity bills which started coming as an implication of installation of smart meters after the local BJP leadership approached them was the testimony to the fact that Modi Government is fully concerned towards people in UT. He said that property tax has been put to abeyance and the



Senior BJP leader Kavinder Gupta chairing workers meeting.

electricity bills are being waived in J&K giving the much needed succor to the

Kavinder said that such benevolent decisions can only be taken by the BJP leadership with the Union Home Minister during the recent meeting held at the National Capital thus making it imperative to bring the party to power in all the coming elections in J&K. He said last but not the least, the move of the

government by which 9000 land chunks have been provided to landless people of the UT also shows the philanthropy and prudence of the BJP Government because no government in the past had taken such prolific step to improve the living standard of the poor. Kavinder said that the government has so much in the offing to enhance the lifestyle of the people but time is the only limitation because things could not be carried

out overnight. He asked the people to support BJP in the coming days to make J&K a much better place for living with amenities reaching at the doorsteps without any hassle or hurdle.

Prominent among those who Pushpinder Charak, Narinder Koki, Bharat Bhushan, Divya Jain, Sanju Bhau, Raghav Arora, Sahil Mahajan, Varun Sharma, Rajesh Sharma and

Prashant Sinha gets awarded International Peepal Peace Award 2023

STATE TIMES NEWS

Environmentalist Columnist Prashant Sinha awarded International Peepal Peace award by Raghuraj Peepal Peace man foundation for his contribution towards environment and water conservation. Prior to this Prashant Sinha has received many awards like Sundar Lal Bahuguna Smriti Parvavaran Gauray Samman, Amrita Devi Smriti Gaurav Samman, Paryavaran Ratna Samman, Jal Prahari Samman, Sundar Lal Bahuguna Smriti Vriksh Samman etc.

After receiving this award Sinha said that this honour will work to increase the enthusiasm towards environment and water conservation. Recently Prashant Sinha has started "Fifty cities, Fifty Plants" campaign for the awareness towards environment pro-

United Forum demands immediate implementation of OBC reservation in J&K elections

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a unified call for justice, the United Forum of Castes Communities, along with All J&K OBC Mahasabha All India Backward Class Federation, and All J&K Welfare Forum, under the banner of O.B.C. Adhikar Tringa Yatra, has demanded the immediate implementation of reservation for Other Backward Classes (O.B.C.) in the ongoing elections for Urban Local Bodies and the Panchayati Raj System in Jammu & Kashmir.

During a joint press conference held recently, representatives of these organizations highlighted the longstanding issue of O.B.C. communities in Jammu & Kashmir being denied their fundamental rights of reservation despite constitutional provisions and Supreme Court judgments in their favor. They cited Article 15, 16, and 340 of the Indian Constitution, along with the Supreme Court's 1992 judgment on the Mandal Commission report, which



recommended a 27% reservation for O.B.C.s in government services. The leaders emphasized that O.B.C. communities in Jammu & Kashmir have also been overlooked when it comes to political representation in terms of Members ofParliament Members Legislative Assembly (M.L.A.)Municipal Corporations, Municipal Town Area Committees, Committees, and Raj Panchayati System (D.D.C. Members. Sarpanchs, and Panchs), despite their significant population. Notably, the Supreme Court of India issued a judgment on May 10, 2022, pertaining to writ Petition number 278, ordering the implementation of O.B.C. reservations in all states and Union Territories across the country, with the exception of Jammu and Kashmir.

The O.B.C. leaders underscored that promises made by Prime Minister NarendraModi in 2014 and 2019 to grant reservation rights to Jammu & Kashmir O.B.C.s have yet to be fulfilled, despite the abrogation of Article 370. They urged the Government to rectify this situation urgently.

Expressing their concern, the leaders pointed out that the ongoing election process for Urban Local Bodies in Jammu & Kashmir, initiated by the JK-UT Chief Election Officer, initially notified reserved seats for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Ladies, but failed to allocate seats for Jammu & Kashmir O.B.C. communities. The O.B.C. populations, constituting 32% of the region's population as per the 1931 census, continue to be underrepresented and marginalized

In light of these pressing issues, the United Forum and its affiliated organizations jointly called upon the Jammu & Kashmir Government to conduct the current elections for Urban Local Bodies and Panchavati Rai System with due implementation of reservation for O.B.C.s based on their population in the region.

Dignitaries present at the press conference included Kasturi Lal Basotra,

Chairman Mahasabha: Faquir Chand Satia, President of All India Backward Classes Federation (A.I.B.C.F); MohdShabirSambya, President of Dhabi Welfare Central Committee; MadanLalBaldotra, Senior

Vice-President of All J&K PrajapatiSabha (KumharBiradri); Raj Kumar Chalotra, Vice-President of PardeshVishwakarmaSabha; BalwantKatria. General A.I.B.C.F.: Secretary of KewalFotra, General All J&K Secretary SainSamaj (Barber Community); and Vijay Kumar, Manga Ram, and

The united call for justice resonates with the O.B.C. communities in Jammu & Kashmir, who seek equal representation and the realization of their constitutional rights in the electoral process.

DarshanLal.

Seminar on historical perspectives of Ladakh concludes



Army officials along with other dignitaries during the event.

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: A two day seminar titled 'Historical Perspective of Ladakh : Crossroads of Civilisations' was conducted at Rinchen Auditorium, Leh on 05 and 06 Oct 23 under the ageis of Fire and Fury Corps. The seminar covered wide range of issues ranging from History of Ladakh, the boundary disputes, geo strategic significance and the wars fought in the region post-independ-

The Seminar also touched upon the various infrastructure development projects that are being undertaken including the 'Vibrant Village Scheme' and was attended by 350 to 400 personnel of the Indian

Army, Indian Airforce, Indo Tibetan Border Police, Civil Administration Officials from UT of Ladakh and faculty and research students of Ladakh University, Central institute of Buddhist Studies, Jawahar Lal Nehru University University of Jammu and University of Kashmir. Eminent civil and military speakers with vast experience and knowledge on the subject were invited to deliver talk on various issues during the course of seminar.

The closing address was delivered by General Officer Commanding in Chief, Northern Command, Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi, AVSM on 06 Oct 2023. He compliment-

ed the speakers for the richness of their content and their brilliant articulation. He also complimented the organisers on conducting an educative and informative seminar and expressed that the officers and students attending the seminar should build upon the takeaways and knowledge gained and use it as a stepping stone to undertake further studies on the topics covered. He was hopeful that such seminars would serve as a platform to augment the awareness of the historical perspective of Ladakh, which has been at the crossroads of Asia for thousands of years and has seen many cultures and empires in the region.

Lijjat's thoughts, principles on Sarvodaya has enlightened people: Vimala assuming charge as KVIC

Dogra Front & Shiv Sena protest backdoor appointments in J&K government jobs

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a fervent demonstration of discontent. Dogra Front & Shiv Sena workers, led by President Ashok Gupta, organized a protest rally in Jammu city against the alleged 2.5 lakh backdoor appointments that took place during previous regimes in Jammu and Kashmir. The protest came in response to recent claims made by the Jammu and Kashmir chief secretary, who asserted that a significant number of 'undeserving' candidates were provided jobs in the union territory through

backdoor channels in the

Gupta revealed that during the NC regime, with Akbar Lone as the speaker, several individuals were appointed in the secretariat through backdoor means. Similarly, during Tara Chand Sharma's term as speaker in 2008, four people were allegedly appointed through similar practices.

document obtained from reliable sources, Gupta pointed to an affidavit by Alok Puri, the then IGP in the state vigilance department, which reportedly confirmed the names of individuals assembly speakers involved in backdoor appointments.

The revelation of 2.5 lakh backdoor appointments has raised concerns about nepotism and corruption in government hiring processes. Gupta emphasized that this situation was prevalent before the abrogation of Article 370 and led to the employment of individuals without merit, often through nepotism or

bribery. In response to these revelations, Gupta called for transparency and accountability, urging that the names of those involved in backdoor appointments be made public.

He further called for the removal of such individuals from their positions and advocated for a meritbased approach in filling iob vacancies by inviting job applications.

The protest rally drew support from several party members, including Ashish, Ashu, Rahul, Prem, Kishore, Kalu, Abhishek, Atulya, Vikas, Seema, and various others. who joined in demanding fair and just employment practices in Jammu and Kashmir.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS MUMBAI: Shri Mahila

Griha Udyog Lijjat Papad, an Institution of the Women, by the Women and for the Women held its 58th Annual Meeting at Shanmukhananda Mumbai. R. Vimala, IAS, and Chief Executive Officer of Maharashtra Khadi & Village Industries Board was the Chief Guest and Yogesh Bhamare. State Director, Maharashtra, Khadi & Village Industries Commission was the Guest of Honour. The meeting was attended by Lijjat's Sister Members from its branches and divisions all over India. Lijjat Parivar paid tributes to pioneer member Jaswantiben Popat by observing two minutes silence and thereafter the meeting commenced as per Agenda.

While addressing the gathering R. Vimala said, "I have today experienced the power of womens strength of



R. Vimala, CEO KVIB speaking during the event.

Lijjat for which I consider myself very fortunate. We have of late come across the phrase 'work from home' by which we take pride that alongwith work we can also manage household responsibilities but this system is actually followed by Lijjat since last 64 years and are continuing to do so every day. One aspect about Lijjat which I like very much is that not only its sisters get a proud feeling but it has also given this same proud feeling to other women

in the last 64 years which is indeed commendable. I have been hearing about Lijjat Papad since childhood and I also relish the Papads.

Guest of Honour Yogesh Bhamare said that "I am fortunate to share the dais with Mrs. Vimalaji who is my mentor and on this special occasion of 58th Annual General Meeting of a womens Organisation of Lijjat and I praise the achievements of sisters present here from across the country. After

State Director my first visit was to Lijjat. If any Institution is doing exemplary work it is the name of Lijjat Papad which comes to my mind. There may be many cowith large operatives turnover, and many units but there is only one co-operative which is woman centric and that is Lijjat. President of Lijjat Swati Paradkar welcomed the guests and spoke about their work and achievements towards the welfare of people. She said that Lijjat would continue to move forward in future with its growth and development by adhering to its Sarvodaya Principles and with the co-operation of all sisters.

Vice-President, Lijjat's Pratibha Sawant and Auditor Shri Paresh Doctor, several well wishers and sister members from all over India were present at the 58th Annual General Meeting.