

CJ inaugurates exhibition of J&K Legal Services Authority

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: As part of Pan India Legal Awareness and Outreach Campaign, Jammu and Kashmir Legal Services Authority on Friday organized "Pictorial Exhibition" at Jammu and Srinagar displaying the Legal Aid System and activities of Legal Services Institutions across the UT of J&K.

Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority, Pankaj Mital, inaugurated the exhibition at Kala Kendra Jammu.

Likewise, the similar exhibition was inaugurated at Old Legislative Complex, Srinagar by Judge High Court of J&K and Ladakh & Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority,



Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Pankaj Mital inaugurating exhibition at Kala Kendra Jammu.

Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey.

The Judges of the High Court were also present on the occasion at Jammu as well as at Srinagar.

The objective of this Pictorial Exhibition was to make the general public especially the students

aware about the functioning of Legal Services Institutions. Besides, various legal service activities being taken up by the Legal Services Institutions and their historical perspective of Legal Services Institutions were displayed in the exhibition.

Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey, while speaking on the occasion, said that such exhibitions are a powerful tool of awareness and a platform to make the people understand about the legal services who have little or no knowledge of these vital services and its institutions.

ADGP Jammu Zone conducts surprise visit of Police Station Bari Brahma



ADGP Jammu Zone, Mukesh Singh during surprise visit to Police Station Bari Brahma.

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JAMMU: Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Jammu Zone, Mukesh Singh on Friday paid a surprise visit to Police Station Bari Brahma to inspect the ongoing construction work, CCTN lab networking system and held meeting with SHO and other officers and give on spot directions related to disposal of crime cases.

ADGP Jammu held interaction with newly recruited PSI's and welcomed them to police family and exhorted upon them to work hard and equip themselves with knowledge of law, use of information

technology in detection of crime, etc.

He also urged upon the need to update skill sets continuously and learn new techniques of investigation.

Besides, he held a meeting with SHO and his team at PS Bari Brahma and gave directions to them with regard to disposal of crime cases.

He praised the efforts of the SHO in training his PSIs on case investigation.

Some case files were perused and the same were found of good standard. The PSIs were told to pursue one case each during trial and to bring it to logical conclusion.

Tribunal grants relief to Ex-Dy CM, kept in abeyance demolition order

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ex-Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir got relief from the J&K Special Tribunal as Judicial Member of J&K Special Tribunal ordered to keep in abeyance the order dated November 8, 2021 issued by JDA for demolition of the house at Nagrota.

Judicial Member J&K Rajesh Sekri after hearing Sr. Adv. R.K. Gupta assisted by Jugal Kishore Gupta and Rahul Sadotra appearing for Mamta Singh wife of Nirmal Singh Ex-Deputy CM whereas Adv. Muzaffar Ali Shah caveator present in person, sought time to file application, while Adv. Adarsh Sharma appearing for the JDA sought time to produce the record and written submissions, ordered that the impugned order dated November 8, 2021 is kept in abeyance and parties are directed to maintain status-quo on spot till December 7, 2021.

During the course of hearing Sr. Adv. R.K. Gupta submitted that appellant is the owner in possession of a residential plot measuring 04 Kanals comprising in Khasra no. 441 Min, Khata

no. 534 Min, Khewat no. situated at Revenue Village Ban. Nagrota District Jammu, which was purchased by him vide Sale Deed dated 20.05.2014 and the area where the land is situated, being outside the jurisdiction of any Development Authority, the appellant raised the construction of a house in the said land and the structure of the house was completed in all respects in the beginning of the year 2017. Some internal finishing works were subsequently completed and the appellant alongwith his family have since been living in the house peacefully ever since. During the entire period of construction and thereafter, there was no complaint by any development authority regarding the construction of the house and rightly so as the same had already been constructed prior to the coming into force of Jammu Master Plan, 2032 which was notified vide SRO No. 90 of 2017 dated 03.03.2017 whereby as many as 103 villagers were included and the jurisdiction of Jammu Development Authority was extended to those areas.

Village Ban of Nagrota was also one of the areas where the jurisdiction of the JDA was extended as per the notification.

He further submitted that after a period of more than 04 years after the completion of the building, the respondents alleged to have issued a notice under section 7 (1) of the COBO Act, 1988 whereby the appellant was directed to show cause as to why the house constructed by her may not be demolished as it is alleged to have been raised without valid permission and no notices under section 7 (1), 12 (1), 12 (2) of the COBO Act, 1988 were ever issued or served to the appellant as referred in the notice impugned. It is further submitted that thereafter suddenly the appellant was served with the impugned order of demolition in terms of section 7 (3) of the Control of Building Operation Act, 1988 (COBO) whereby the appellant has been directed to demolish/remove the construction within a period of five days from the date of receipt of this notice otherwise, the same shall be demolished by the enforcement wing.



Bajrang Dal protests against Mehbooba's visit to Jammu



Bajrang Dal activists raising slogans during a protest.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bajrang Dal activists on Friday hold protests against PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti who is on a visit to the city.

They raised slogans and showed black flags to Mehbooba when she came out of the Jammu airport.

The right-wing outfit activists alleged that the PDP leader was supporting

Pakistan and defending Kashmiri medical students who raised slogans in favour of the Pakistan cricket team.

President Bajrang Dal Rakesh Kumar said, "We will continue to protest against Mehbooba Mufti for her Pro-Pakistani statements. We criticise her for defending students in Kashmir, who raised pro-

Pakistan slogans after Pakistan won cricket match against India.

He said Mehbooba should be sent to jail for inciting people of Kashmir and defending Pakistan.

Officials said the activists tried to come on the road when the PDP chief was leaving the airport but their attempt was thwarted by police.

Dwivedi reviews status of JKPS, JKSSB recruitment processes



Commissioner Secretary GAD, Manoj Kumar Dwivedi chairing a meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary General Administration Department (GAD), Manoj Kumar Dwivedi on Friday here chaired a meeting to review the progress of different recruitments being done by J&K Public Service Commission (PSC) and J&K Services Selection Board (SSB).

The meeting was attended by Chairman SSB, Khalid Jahangir; Secretary JKPS, Raj Kumar Katoch and Additional Secretary GAD, Dr. Shabir Hussain Keen.

During the meeting it was informed that the Government has initiated largest ever recruitment drive in J&K in transparent manner for which an Accelerated Recruitment Committee was constituted for identifying Gazetted, Non-Gazetted and Class IV posts.

Pertinently, the Special recruitment rules have been made and various Departmental rules have been amended to accelerate the recruitment process in a transparent and time bound manner.

The meeting was told that under the fast track recruitment, 20323 posts stand advertised by SSB since July, 2020 onwards and presently the selection process has been completed with respect to 9205 posts, around 5000 more selections will also be finalized upto 31 December, 2021.

The selection process of remaining posts is at various stages like skill test, CBRT (Computer Based Written Test), document verification etc., the meeting was informed.

The chair was further informed that the largest

ever written test examination has been conducted by SSB wherein 3.5 lakh candidates participated for Class IV posts.

Special consideration to following categories by way of additional weightages provided first time in Class IV recruitment rules.

a) Whose family member neither is nor has been in Govt Service.

b) Widows, divorced women, judicially separated women and orphan girls.

c) Casual workers engaged for five years or more.

d) Home Division or District.

Within record time of seven days, more than 4600 appointment orders of class IV posts have been issued.

It was also given out that 2119 selections for Gazetted posts have been made by JKPS in various departments and 726 selections are in progress. JKPS has also recommended promotions of 287 officers in the year 2020 and 769 officers during the current year.

In order to expedite selection process on fast track recruitment basis, the Government instructions were reiterated to refer all vacancies as on 31.12.2021 both (Gazetted and Non-Gazetted) to the JKPS and SSB by 15th of January, 2022. The Recruiting Agencies were also directed to finalize the schedule/calendar for conduct of various examinations well in advance so that the selection process could be completed within a period of one year only.

Dept of Botany felicitates Prof Manoj Dhar



Department of Botany, JU faculty members felicitating VC JU, Prof. Manoj Dhar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Department of Botany, University of Jammu, felicitated Prof. Manoj K Dhar, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu for being conferred Prof. A K Sharma Memorial Award of Indian Botanical Society for his contributions in the field of Plant Sciences particularly Cytogenetics.

Prof. Dhar is an alumnus of the Department of Botany, University of Jammu.

On the occasion Prof. Veena Kaul, Head of the Department welcomed the Vice Chancellor and elaborated on his academic achievements.

Prof. Dhar in his address congratulated the Department of Botany,

JU for getting recognition of its herbarium (HBHU) at international level.

Recently, HBHU is included in the list of Index Herbariorum which is a worldwide index of 3,100 herbaria of the world.

HBHU was established in the year 1973, wherein as of now 12458 specimens of seed plants, 236 specimens of pterido-

phytes, 453 specimens of fungi/lichens, and 419 specimens of bryophytes are preserved as per the set norms of herbarium techniques and rules of International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi and plants.

The herbarium is a repository of plant specimens collected by the students, researchers, teachers of all the affiliated and non-affiliated colleges and schools in the region.

The event was organised in the Botanical Garden of the Department and was attended by Prof. Geeta Sumbali, Prof. Yash Pal Sharma, Prof. Namrata Sharma, Dr. Geeta, Dr. Harish C. Dutt, Dr. Skarma Nonzom, Dr. Harpreet and all the students, scholars and non-teaching staff members of the Department.

basically the brainchild of the International Association of Plant Taxonomy. The searchable online index allows rapid access to data related to 780 million botanical specimens.

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phytes, 453 specimens of fungi/lichens, and 419 specimens of bryophytes are preserved as per the set norms of herbarium techniques and rules of International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi and plants.

as net NPA's of the Bank as percentage to net Advances ratio stood at 3.02 % while as the Bank's gross NPA ratio has improved by 74 basis points in sequential terms to 8.95 % from 9.69% recorded for earlier quarter. The Provision Coverage Ratio (PCR) of the Bank increased by 117 basis points to 81.57% from 80.40% recorded last year.

"Every measure is put in place to improve the asset-quality and so far we have successfully maintained the quality of our loan book. We are also maintaining the NPA coverage ratio at over 80 percent", commented the CMD.

The Bank's Return on Assets (RoA) has risen

sharply YoY from 0.16% to 0.38% while as the Return on Equity (RoE) has more than doubled YoY to 6.98% from 3.23%.

Driven by the 11% YoY increase in the advances from J&K UT, the total net advances of the bank stood at Rs 68341.84 Cr as on September 30, 2021 compared to Rs 66841.73 Cr recorded last year. The total deposits rose by around 6% to Rs 106267.35 Cr from Rs 100469.15 Cr recorded during the corresponding quarter last year with CASA figure at 55.34 % as against 53.32 % recorded on September 30, 2020.

"We have maintained the double-digit growth of over 11% in advances in our core

operational geography of J&K, which forms the major bulk of our business besides affording us a very strong deposit profile with one of the best industry-wide mix of CASA and Term Deposits that are mostly retail and thus stable", said the CMD.

Notably, UT of J&K contributes 88% in terms of deposits and 72% in terms of advances to the Bank's overall business.

Regarding the Bank's capital position, the CMD asserted, "We have improved our capitalization largely and are now placed comfortably in terms of our capital position after the recent capital-infusion of Rs 500 Cr by the promoter and majority stakeholder i.e. J&K

Government and of Rs 150 Cr capital through successful JKPS 2021. With our core capital significantly improved to 11.04%, our Capital Adequacy Ratio is at 12.80%, which is quite well above the regulatory norm, as against 11.86% recorded last year."

Expounding upon the envisioned growth path ahead, the CMD said that the UT Government's Industrial Package and flagship program of Mission Youth will be game-changers in reshaping the economic future of J&K. In this regard, the Bank has already launched many schemes like J&K Bank Mumkin Scheme for youth and J&K Bank Hausla scheme for women

entrepreneurs.

"The Government's Industrial development package of Rs 28400 Cr has only begun to gain traction and will be in full swing very soon. And with things seemingly easing out on pandemic front, we expect a sharp up-tick in J&K economy resulting in substantial deployment of credit to productive segments of economy in coming quarters" adding that being an implementing agency for government's Mission Youth Program to employ over three lakh youth; the Bank envisages itself both as the major contributor and beneficiary of the massive employment generation program.

J&K Bank half-yearly profit jumps over four-times YoY to Rs 215.41 Cr

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: J&K Bank's half-yearly (H1) net profit for the Current Financial Year (2021-22) jumped over four-times Year-on-Year (YoY) to Rs 215.41 Cr when compared with Rs 50.43 Cr recorded during the corresponding period of the last financial year. For the September quarter (Q2), 2021, the Bank posted Rs 111.09 Cr as net profit registering 153% rise as compared to Rs 43.93 Cr recorded for the corresponding quarter previous year.

During the reported quarter, J&K Bank's net interest income (NII) rose by 3 per cent YoY to Rs 973.14 Cr as compared to Rs 942.61 Cr recorded last year.

Meanwhile, the net interest margin (NIM) for the quarter was at 3.65%.

The announcement came after the Bank's Board-of-Directors reviewed and approved the quarterly and half-yearly numbers during a meeting held here on Friday at the Bank's Corporate Headquarters.

Attributing the improved bottom-line to the growing synergy between Bank's strategy, operations and supervision, Chairman & MD R K Chhibber expressed his satisfaction over the results delivered by the Bank. "It's a good result in given circumstances. We are poised for a long-term growth as the numbers clearly reflect the momentum steadily gaining