

# JKEEGA calls on Managing Director JPDCL, highlights issues

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of Jammu and Kashmir Electrical Engineering Graduates Association (JKEEGA) led by its General Secretary, Sachin Tickoo and comprising Vice President Ashok Kumar Dubey, Provincial Secretary M P Singh, Provincial Publicity Secretary RajeshwarJamwal, Organising Secretary Yash Paul and Treasurer Vipul Sharma called on Shiv Anant Tayal, Managing Director JPDCL Jammu on Monday.

During the meeting, the delegation apprised Managing Director JPDCL of various issues being faced by employees on account of non-disbursal of the salaries, in-ordinate delay in crediting GPF/NPS share in the employees NPS/GPF accounts causing huge loss of accrued interest and savings. JKEEGA also apprised MD JPDCL that despite lapse of considerable time since incorporation of corporations, there



JKEEGA delegation calling on Shiv Anant Tayal, Managing Director JPDCL Jammu.

has been no reforms in respect of the working of corporations and restructuring as promised in the unbundling of the department has not been done, thereby defeating the very objective of corporatizing. The assets being managed by JPDCL are enormous and staff constraints are also known to the management. The Reorganization committee report at time of unbundling into corporations had called for creation of Divisions, Sub Divisions and accordingly increase in manpower down the line.

Others issues highlighted on the occasion included inviting Annual Maintenance Contracts at Circle levels, implementation of a fair & transparent policy for providing a fair chance to every employee to perform and deliver; holding comprehensive shuffling of employees from various maintenance Divisions to Sub Transmission Divisions and vice versa, according technical sanction for carrying out maintenance works, regularization of PDL/TDL & need-based employees as per SRO-381 of PDD etc.

# DFSS holds protest against Sidhu, Pakistan



DFSS activists burning Pakistani Flag during a protest.

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JAMMU: A number of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS) led by its President Ashok Gupta took out a protest rally in Jammu against Navjot Singh Sidhu and Pakistan, amid raising anti-Pak slogans and torching flag of Pakistan.

Speaking on the occasion, Gupta said that it is most unfortunate for Punjab and country that Sidhu, while in Pakistan,

has no words of praise for his motherland but instead praising Pakistan Prime Minister who has been 'sending drones and tiffin bombs' to Punjab. "It seems that Sidhu is more in love with Pakistan than India and is behaving like a Pakistan's agent. AICC President Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi should explain their party's stand on the situation," he added.

Gupta further said that

earlier also, in August 2018, Sidhu hugged Pakistan Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa in Islamabad, during swearing in ceremony of Prime Minister Imran Khan, where he was invited as a special guest and in 2019 Pulwama attack happened. "Now again he went to Pakistan and a grenade attack took place in Pathankote near Army camp," he added, demanding detailed interrogation of Sidhu by RAW, CBI, IB etc as there are chances that he might have some information about terrorists.

Those who were present on the occasion included Youth Wing President Abhishek Gupta, Birbal, Kalu, Prem, Vikky, Bantu, Fauji, Ganesh, Ramesh and Daya Ram.

# Faculty Development prog on 'Authentic Leadership & Excellence' begins at CUJ

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JAMMU: A five day faculty development programme was initiated by the School of Business Studies, Central University of Jammu (CUJ) on Monday.

The programme funded by the AICTE Training & Learning (ATAL) academy, is aimed at creating a better understanding of self, enabling the participants to improvise on certain life skills for excellence in personal and professional arena. The 5 day long FDP that commenced today shall be conducted in blended mode from 22nd-26th Nov, 2021. Prof. Ashok Aima, Vice Chancellor; CUJ, graced the inaugural session and appreciated the team at the Business School, CUJ, for organising an FDP in a theme of extreme relevance in the given turbulent times. He stated that self leadership and excellence are the drivers to engage in the VUCA world. He further said that self accountability is inspirational to build a collaborative work culture and more so in academ-

ics as the world of work is facing tremendous changes post the ongoing pandemic. Earlier, welcoming the participants Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Dean, School of Business Studies, expressed satisfaction at the overwhelming response to the FDP from all the corners of the country. She expressed hope that this five days FDP will not only enrich the participants while laying emphasis on building emotional intelligence through self-awareness, social skills as also support their overall well being. She emphasized such life skills are essential to the presence of an academician. Dr. Neelika Arora and Dr. Shahid Mushtaq, coordinators of the FDP, briefed that a team of specialised life coaches, Ms. Nidhi Arora (PCC, CLC, M.Tech), and Priyanka (ACC, MA), are the resource persons who will facilitate the discussions and deliberations.

The five days FDP is broken down into 14 sessions and topics of authentic leadership & excellence, emotional intelligence and personal Branding.

# DSS urges Govt to open Mubarak Mandi Heritage complex for people



President DSS, Th Gulchain Singh Charak addressing a press conference.

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JAMMU: Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS) has demanded that Mubarak Mandi Heritage complex should be opened for public, during fixed hours on all days, to enable citizens and tourists to savor the grandeur of historic complex and witness the steps being taken to restore it to its pristine glory.

It was stated by Th Gulchain Singh Charak, former Minister and President DSS while addressing a press conference held at Dogra Bhawan on Monday.

Speaking further, Charak said that it also needs to be ensured that work is carried out in a transparent manner under close supervision of the experts of the Archeological Survey of India as mandated in 8th meeting of the Governing Body of the Society, to ensure that conservation norms are adhered to in real sense.

Charak appealed to the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha to take personal interest in the matter so that the EOI is formally withdrawn and glorious heritage and cultural iden-

tity of the valiant and nationalistic people of Jammu is not extinguished in an illegal and surreptitious manner. President DSS also expressed grave concern over the press reports that the already inadequate staff in Directorate of Archives, Archeology and Museums, J&K was being further reduced by transferring a large portion of posts in the department to Union Territory of Ladakh. DSS President urged the concerned authorities to expedite conservation of heritage buildings, and house the archives following scientific norms within Mubarak Mandi.

Others present on the occasion included Col Karan Singh Jamwal, Brig M S Jamwal, Gambhir Dev Singh Charak, Amanat Ali Shah, Kulbir Singh, Dr V S Sharma, Janak Khajuria and Chander Mohan Sharma.

# BJYM focusing on making Booths vibrant: Arun Prabhat

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM), J&K, on Monday exhorted upon the cadre to strengthen party (BJP) bases at booth level to ensure resounding victory in the forthcoming elections in the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory.

This was stated by Arun Prabhat, President BJYM J&K while addressing media persons at Party Headquarters in Jammu.

Arun Prabhat asked the party workers to build up the organization from the booth-level, and reach out to prospective voters from all segments and age-groups thus making sure that at least twenty young voters should support the party in every booth of the Jammu and Kashmir. He said that this campaign will be carried out under the 'Yuva Sampark Abhiyan'.

Arun Prabhat said that it is important to bring the young



President BJYM J&K, Arun Prabhat talking to reporters.

voters to the polling booth and efforts should be made by the party cadre to meet this challenge with utmost ease through strong resolve and conviction. He specifically mentioned that the Youth of Jammu and Kashmir had played a vital role during the 2014 Assembly Elections and 2019 Parliamentary elections in Jammu and Kashmir so the memento should be continued in the forthcoming Assembly elections in the Union Territory. He asked party workers to disseminate the information about the youth

welfare schemes launched by the Modi government among the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

Arun Prabhat categorically said that the onus of party's success lies with the ground level workers ability to connect with the masses and once this target is achieved and the people got the picture about BJP's public-friendly policies, no power on earth can defeat the party in any form of political contest. He said that real ambassadors of the party are the ground level activists and that is the reason BJP is

focusing on making its Booth vibrant and dynamic so that call from the top hierarchy of the party reaches out to the masses without any distortion or disturbance using help of these Booth level workers.

Arun Prabhat also emphasized on strengthening party bases at grassroots level. He said that ground level workers are the real ambassadors of the party as their efforts can prove to be the game changer especially in generating connect with the people.

"Strengthening the party especially the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi should be the ultimate goal of activists and the leadership", he emphasized.

Among those who were present in the press conference include State Vice President Akhil Prashar, State General Secretary Kapil Chib, State Media Secretary Chetan Vanechoo, Office Secretary Darshan Kumar.

# DGP J&K condoles demise of DySP Ajay Sharma

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Director General of Police J&K, Dilbag Singh has deeply consoled the sad demise of DySP Ajay Sharma who died this morning at GMC Jammu.

DGP J&K has expressed his sympathy with the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul. Born in 1968, Ajay Sharma was appointed in Jammu and Kashmir Police in 1990 as Sub Inspector. As Sub Inspector/Inspector, he served in Jammu Zone, Crime & Railways, CID/Security, Traffic and SKPAU. After his elevation as DySP in 2009, he remained posted at DySP IR 2nd Bn, DySP JKAP 12th Bn, DySP AC HG Reasi, DySP Headquarters Kathua, DySP IR 9th Bn and DySP IR 1st Bn.

Sharma after a brief illness left for heavenly abode this morning at GMC Jammu.

# Contempt in PIL regarding facilities for cancer patients DB directs respondents to file status report

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a contempt petition filed by A.V Gupta in public interest litigation (PIL) regarding direction to the State to provide basic health facilities for treatment of cancer in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and also to provide adequate number of oncologists, Oncosurgeons, PET scan machines and all other experts in the relevant field for the treatment of various types of cancer in all the regions of the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

A Division Bench of State High Court Comprising Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur and Justice Mohd Akram Chowdhary has directed AAG for an updated status report as to what steps have been taken in regard to those faculty positions, which remained unfilled in the previous selection process.

When the contempt petition came-up for hearing, Division Bench observed that Sr. AAG H.A. Siddiqui, appearing on behalf of respondent No. 1 submits that he shall file an updated status report with regard to implementation of the judgment and order dated 17.02.2016.

DB asked Sr. AAG that the status report proposed to be filed by him shall reflect the steps taken with regard to filling up of the faculty position of Oncology Department, as also the steps taken for installing the PET Scan Machines along with necessary infrastructure. The status report shall also reflect what steps have been taken in regard to those faculty positions, which remained unfilled in the previous selection process.

# PIL on maintaining student-teacher ratio in schools DB grants two weeks time to file status report

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by All Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh Teacher Federation has sought directions to State for framing policy for maintaining student-teacher ratio in the schools without any discrimination and implementing the same in letter and spirit.

A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir High Court comprising Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur and Justice Mohd Akram Chowdhary grants two weeks time to file Status report as per earlier

direction.

It is worthwhile to mention here that earlier Division Bench directed AAG Ravinder Gupta for the Education Department, to file another report as to the status of all the projects.

This significant direction has been passed by Division Bench after noticing that a fresh status report was filed by respondent No. 1 on 13.05.2019 and observed that in respect of various infrastructure projects mentioned therein, it is not clear whether those projects have been completed.

# Being inclusive a matter of journalistic practice & ethics: Ritesh Kapoor

Felicitated with Global Youth Leadership Award

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Editor-Daily The Excel Express, Jammu, Ritesh Kapoor, felicitated with the Global Youth Leadership Award-2021 by Vice President of Nepal, Nand Bahadur Pun at National Assembly Hall on the occasion of Global Youth Leadership Summit-2021 organised by Global Youth Parliament.

The Summit was organised from 18th to 21st November, 2021 at Convention Hall of Hotel Radisson, Kathmandu, Nepal where 104 delegates from 24 different countries

participated.

The 24 countries participating in the Summit were India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Thailand, Myanmar, South Africa, USA, UK, Iraq, Gambia, Norway, Kurdistan, Republic of Kosoba, Istanbul, Veninsula and others.

21 delegates representing India were from 6 different cities where 8 delegates from Jammu, 8 from Mumbai, One from Uttar Pradesh, One from Gujarat, Two from New Delhi and One from Chandigarh.

Ritesh Kapoor, while speak-



Vice President of Nepal, Nand Bahadur Pun felicitating Chief Editor-Daily The Excel Express, Jammu, Ritesh Kapoor with the Global Youth Leadership Award-2021.

ing on the keynote topic 'Inclusive Journalism and how it is comparative with education and to provide career opportunities, said that in a time when trust in

the media is declining around the world, it has become even more important to support good, accurate journalism which actually is the content that is ethical, independent,

critical and of public interest.

He added that the purpose of journalism is to provide citizens with the information they need to make the best possible decisions about their

lives, their communities, their societies and their government. Ritesh added that inclusion is a buzzword and the danger to buzzwords is that the true meaning gets lost and people use it solely to impress others.

The real description of inclusive journalism is to shed light on voices traditionally left out in news coverages and publications, he said adding that an important aspect of inclusion is that journalists need to challenge themselves to recognise their own impact bias and learn to diminish it.

# We are building a J&K where everyone gets equal opportunities for progress: LG

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman, in presence of Lieutenant Governor of J&K, Manoj Sinha, on Monday inaugurated works pertaining to Health, Education, Urban Infrastructure, and Disaster Management worth Rs 130.49 crore and laid the foundation stone for Union Territory Level Emergency Operation Centre and SCADA control building at Budgam, Kashmir (amounting to Rs 34.88 crore) under the Jhelum and Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP).

The sub-projects are part of the Jhelum and Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP) which is assisted by a credit of \$250 million from the World Bank. The project was started in Jammu and Kashmir in the aftermath of the devastating floods of September 2014 which severely affected low-lying areas of Anantnag, Srinagar, and adjoining districts causing immense damage to housing, livelihoods and roads and bridges. It has been under implementation by Government of J&K as part of the Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP) for J&K since its effective date of 19.04.2016.



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman e-inaugurating projects under JTFRP.

The project aims at both restoring essential services disrupted by the floods and improving the design standard and practices to increase resilience.

The high social impact of JTFRP was felt in the COVID-19 pandemic response by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, wherein an amount of \$50 million was allocated and utilized for the COVID-19 response, by activating the Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) under the project. Medical equipment worth Rs. 290 crore and 30 oxygen generating plants at a total cost of Rs. 75 crore were procured thereby giving a boost to the health infrastructure to cope with the challenges posed by the pandemic.

In a significant step towards

the self-reliance of the artisans of Jammu and Kashmir, many artisan clusters were developed under this project with the objective of reviving the traditional crafts and providing gainful employment opportunities to youth.

One major recent achievement of the project has been the enlistment of Srinagar city in the UNESCO world creative cities network. Srinagar became one of the 49 cities worldwide to join the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) under the Craft & Folk Arts category which is a moment of pride for all Indians.

On the occasion, the Union Finance Minister launched two Youth-oriented employment generation schemes of Mission Youth viz. Rise Together

(Community Entrepreneurship Development program) and Nav Parivartan (Youth Innovation Promotion Program). She also handed over cheques of Rs 1 lakh each to students of LG Super 75 scholarship.

In her address, the Union Finance Minister appreciated the UT Government for working for the growth and prosperity of every section of the society without any discrimination.

The dream of Prime Minister to develop each part of the country equally is fulfilled vigorously and J&K is participating in this journey in letter and spirit, she said.

The Finance Minister also applauded the J&K government for promoting the local talent and supporting youth aspirations like education,

entrepreneurship under flagship initiatives like Mission Youth, besides extending financial support to meritorious students from weaker sections for higher education through LG Super 75 scholarship.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha expressed gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Finance Minister for bringing revolutionary changes in J&K making it a model of development and empowering the people of the UT.

The programs launched today under Mission Youth will prove to be a strong platform for the talented youth of Jammu and Kashmir, he added.

J&K was deliberately kept away from development, progress, and prosperity by few vested interests. The Youth of J&K and their future have been neglected for decades, said the Lt Governor.

A streamlined Financial Prudence, Transparent system, Zero Tolerance to Corruption on the ground has brought a new transformation, new hope in J&K.

We are building a Jammu and Kashmir with the spirit of collectiveness by rising above personal interests, in which all the sections get full benefits of the

development of UT, get equal opportunities for progress. Now, the money meant for the development purposes is being utilized for the public works, observed the Lt Governor.

For the first time in J&K, a new self-confidence has awakened and economic reforms and infrastructural development have accelerated. Now, Jammu and Kashmir is making headlines for tourism, innovation, and information technology, observed the Lt Governor.

Development priorities have been set afresh and a fear-free, corruption-free and transparent system has been created to protect the interests of 1.25 crore citizens of Jammu and Kashmir, said the Lt Governor.

Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department; Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lt Governor; Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary, Youth Services and Sports; Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, CEO Mission Youth; Sarmad Hafeez, Administrative Secretary Tourism Department; Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, CEO, JK ERA; Athar Aamir Khan, Commissioner, SMC, and other senior officers were present on the occasion.