

LG announces 10 pc reservations under ‘PARVAAZ’ initiative for children of armed forces martyrs, those from poor families

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday announced reservation of 10 percent seats under 'PARVAAZ' initiative for the children of armed forces personnel, who attained martyrdom in the line of duty in J&K and those from poor families.

The 'PARVAAZ' initiative aims to fully assist young boys and girls to get free coaching for IAS, JKAS, NEET & JEE examinations. Mission Youth is focusing on educational development of youth through Super 75, SuperB 75, Navparivartan and University Collaboration like Initiatives.

Chairing the 2nd Governing Body Meeting of Mission Youth, at the Civil Secretariat, the Lt Governor approved various Schemes and Plans focusing on the thrust areas including: Targeted implementation of existent Livelihood Generation Programmes; establishment of Residential Coaching Institutions for competitive examinations and professional courses; establishment and operationalization of District Youth Centers in all 20 Districts of J&K; education, career counseling and market-driven skill development



Lt Governor Manoj Sinha chairing 2nd Governing Body Meeting of Mission Youth at Jammu.

programmes; recreation, social engagement and Sports; Youth Innovation Promotion Programmes; besides 3600 Youth Indexing of 3 million Youth.

Pertinently, Mission Youth is an ambitious programme of UT administration aimed to positively engage youth in socio-economic development of J&K through a multi-pronged strategy involving all necessary systematic interventions particularly in the areas of Skill Development, Livelihood generation, Education, Recreation and Sports.

The Lt Governor observed that the UT administration is laying special thrust on youth skilling and self-employment in Rural areas with targeted schemes to drive a socio-economic transformation.

During review of existing schemes, the Lt Governor issued instructions for impact assessment of initiatives and called upon stakeholders for exploring all avenues for enhanced corporate engagement in Youth empowerment and skilling programmes/schemes.

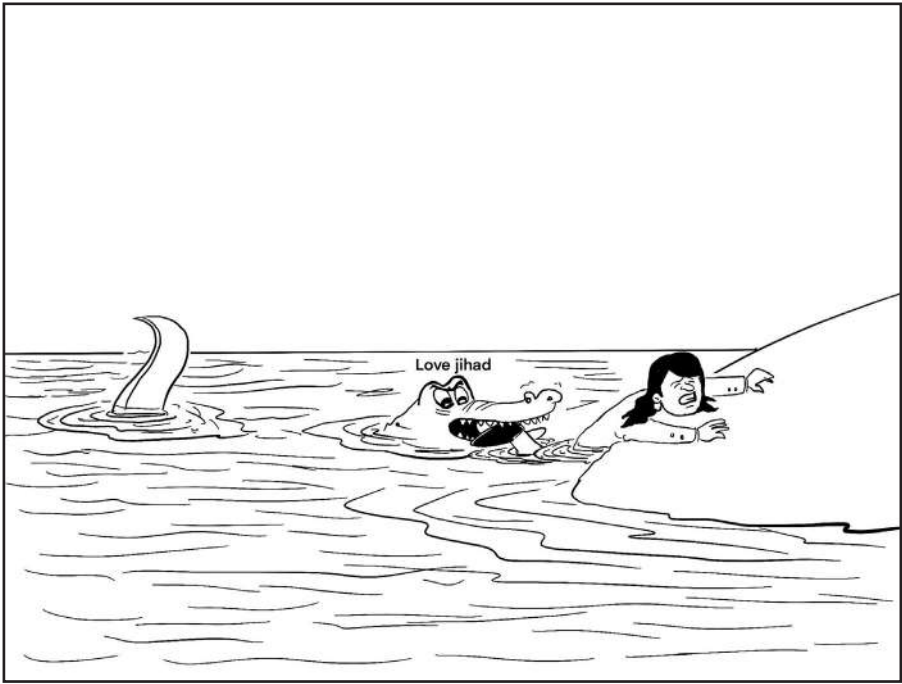
The Lt Governor also instructed the officials to expand Mumkin scheme in order to cover youth from every Panchayat of UT.

Meanwhile, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, CEO, Mission Youth, J&K, briefed the chair about the deliverables achieved under customized livelihood generation schemes including Mumkin, Tejeswini, Spurring Entrepreneurship, Rise Together, Avsar, Tourist Village Network Development and Home Stay

2021-22, 3651 vehicles were provided to youth for self-employment against the target of 2022 vehicles. Under Tajewini, about 2443 Young girls were provided assistance under the program during FY 2021-22 against the target of 2022.

More than 11725 youth, including 5237 girls were provided with customized market driven trainings. 910 Candidates, including 251 Girls, are being provided with necessary training to qualify the recruitment process for joining Armed Forces as Agni Veers, he added.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Atal Dulloo Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture production department; RK Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department; Dheeraj Gupta Principal Secretary to the Government, H&UDD; Sarita Chauhan, Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, Labour and Employment Department, other members of the Governing Body; Administrative Secretaries; HoDs and concerned senior officials attended the meeting, in person and through virtual mode.



Two-day photo exhibition on ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ by CBC J&K concludes



Ghulam Abass, Joint Director, CBC J&K and others at an exhibition.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India, J&K on Tuesday concluded its 5th Integrated Communication and Outreach Programme (2 day Photo-Exhibition) under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav at MA Stadium, here.

The exhibition was organized alongside 48th National Junior Volleyball Championship for boys and girls at Jammu.

The closing ceremony was attended by Sunil Kumar Tiwari, Treasurer Volleyball Association of India, H.S Gill, Vice President, Volleyball Association of J&K and V.K Magotra, General Secretary, Volleyball Association of J & K.

The programme was aimed to aware the volleyball players, who have come across India to play in the volleyball championship, about the sac-

rifices being made by the freedom fighters during the freedom movement of India.

Apart from this, the students were also informed about the freedom fighters of North India especially from Jammu and Kashmir who fought for the freedom of India.

Special section in the Exhibition has been dedicated to FIT India, Khelo India, Seva Sushasan Garib Kalyan, for awareness of the masses especially the young ones.

In his address, Ghulam Abass, Joint Director, CBC J&K said the exhibition showcased the freedom struggle of India through the series of Photo Exhibits and to celebrate the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat here with the students across India.

Sunil Kumar Tiwari, Treasurer Volleyball Federation of India appreciated the efforts of CBC J&K

in organizing the exhibition here at MA Stadium. He said that it will generate awareness related to the freedom fighters of India among the volleyball players who are on visit to participate in 48th National Junior Volley Ball Championship.

Khurshaed Yousuf, Field Publicity Officer, CBC, Field Office, Udhampur apprised the audience about the mandate of the Central Bureau of Communication and also informed them about the structure and functioning of CBC. The photo Exhibition was Inaugurated on Monday by Rajiv Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt. Governor J&K.

Theme based cultural programmes were presented by the private registered troupe (PRT) of CBC, J&K and Ladakh. Open Quiz competition was also conducted by the Bureau and winners were felicitated with prizes.

Congress to restore lost glory of J&K if comes to power: Bhalla

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla on Tuesday said that Jammu and Kashmir lost their identity under BJP and appealed to the people to support Congress in the fight for the restoration of statehood.

"BJP regime has destroyed Jammu and Kashmir in various spheres, as it lost its identity, status, right over jobs, lands, opportunities of trade and transport and business besides whatsoever selections and recruitment were done in the UT, witnessed corruption and seams," Bhalla said while addressing Block Meeting at Bhau Constituency organised by



JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla addressing public meeting.

Block President Jatinder Singh Chib.

Bhalla said that people have exploited in the name of a bright future, control prices, and two crore jobs annually. But all their promises have fallen flat, except politics of hate and division, he said. He said

that Jammu and Kashmir was a historical state with much better living conditions than most states in the country, but now it has been pushed into an atmosphere of political uncertainty.

Bhalla also said the more delay in restoring statehood was bound to cause more

ing in view the urges and aspirations of the people.

Yogesh Sawhney in his address said that since BJP took over in 2014, the miseries of the people of Jammu and Kashmir have increased manifold. He said all the promises made to the people prior to the Assembly elections of 2014 remained unfulfilled. "More than eight years have passed, but they (BJP) failed to fulfill any of the promises, be it the problems faced by youth, problems of the farmers, or the problems of refugees and Kashmiri Pandits, this Government has done nothing to address those problems. The BJP can never come to power in J&K again," he claimed.

Govt Ayurvedic College hosts awareness camp on prevention of Osteoporosis



A Resource Person speaking at an awareness camp.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Government Ayurvedic College on Tuesday hosted an awareness camp on prevention of Osteoporosis disease - a silent epidemic having a huge cost on individuals and society.

Dr Bias Dev, Associate Professor, Department of Orthopedics, Government Medical College Jammu, the Resource person, gave a detailed presentation on the

disease to the students and faculty of Government Ayurvedic Medical college Akhnoor after conducting their Bone Mass Density(BMD) test.

In the presentation, Dr Dev discussed the role of Peak Bone Mass (PBM). He explained that the mass of bone achieved by the middle of the third decade is the peak bone mass which cannot be gained thereafter by any means. "After mid thir-

ties an individual gradually starts losing his bone mass. The rate of bone mass loss is more in females," he elaborated.

Since the PBM cannot be augmented in later life, the emphasis was laid on having a good PBM through a good amount of physical activities besides a balanced diet and avoiding bone resorptive fast foods, carbonated drinks and alcohol.

The students were advised to adopt lifestyle which helps them prevent osteoporosis in their later life. They were asked to act as messengers to educate the people about the concept of peak bone mass.

The program was attended by more than 100 students, besides Dr. Narinder, Nodal Officer and faculty members Dr. Shailaj Gupta, Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Dr. Dheeraj Khajuria, Dr. Tanvi Singh.

J&K Panchayat Members’ body demands allowance for Gram Sabhas to award works up to Rs 3 lakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A representative body of elected panchayat members on Tuesday alleged that the Jammu and Kashmir administration's decision to resort to e-tendering even for small works was depriving educated youths from local villages of employment avenues.

The All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC) also demanded that works up to Rs 3 lakh should be sanctioned by gram sabhas.

The AJKPC alleged that the works done by contractors under the capex budget in rural areas were of very low quality. The contractors also don't pay heed to the requests of gram sabha members while district officials ignore the panches and



AJKPC Chief Anil Sharma addressing a press conference.

sarpanches, it said.

"Despite repeated prayers to the government and assurances by senior officers, even tenders for petty works are being allotted by e-tendering, which is not only undermining the autonomy of gram sabhas but also depriving the local educated youth of employment avenues," AJKPC

chief Anil Sharma told reporters.

He alleged that panchayat members always complained that the works done by contractors in rural areas were of very low quality.

The contractors do not have any accountability either, he said.

"Neither do the contractors pay heed to the requests of Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members nor do the officials listen to the prayers

of the panches and sarpanches," he said.

The AJKPC president said the role of PRI members in checking the quality of works had been curtailed as Utilisation Certificates for works done under the district budget were issued by the respective administration.

It is insignificant that from which account the money is being spent for development works, there must be accountability of the contractors and government employees, he said.

He cautioned officials of the district administration and the rural development department not to test the patience of elected representatives and muzzle the autonomy of PRIs.

AJKPC leaders also urged Lieutenant Governor Manor Sinha, the commissioner secretary of the Rural Development department,

divisional commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir to take appropriate action to avoid confrontations and let PRIs and elected members work without interference.

They also demanded that Utilisation Certificates for works done in rural areas under the district budget should be issued by gram sabhas instead of the district administration to ensure transparency and accountability.

They also demanded that for works up to Rs 3 lakh, gram sabhas be allowed to identify deserving educated youth and self-help groups to execute the works in villages and panchayats to generate employment avenues and ensure quality work.

Sharma said there should be an approval of Rs 1 lakh for every panchayat to clear snow and deal with emergency issues during winters.

India producing medical devices at 1/3rd world price: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on Tuesday said, India is among the top five countries in the world manufacturing life-saving high risk medical devices but the cost of our devices is about one-third of those manufactured by the other four countries.

Addressing the faculty and students after inaugurating unique Combined Devices Facility at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology here, Dr Jitendra said, technologies developed by the Institute like the artificial heart



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurating one of the first of its kind Combined Devices Facility at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on Tuesday.

valve, hydrocephalus shunt, oxygenator and drug eluting intra uterine device are being manufactured in three to four countries like USA, Japan, Brazil and China.

Dr Jitendra said, the world class medical devices made indigenously are available to Indian patients at approximately one

fourth to one third price of their imported counterparts.

Dr Jitendra Singh pointed out that it was Prime Minister Modi, who notified

Medical Devices Rules in 2017 in conformity with Global Harmonisation Task Force (GHTF) framework and conform to best international practices.

The new Rules seek to remove regulatory bottlenecks to make in India, facilitate ease of doing business while ensuring availability of better medical devices for patient care and safety.

Dr V. K Saraswat, Member, Health Niti Aayog, Dr Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament from Thiruvananthapuram and several noted Doctors and medical professionals joined the inaugural event.

Valley residents in dilemma due to winter power curtailment schedule

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI
SRINAGAR: Despite having enormous potential for power generation, Kashmir is yet to see real best days in power sector and that too in harsh winters. Throughout the year, officials of Power Development Department (PDD) talk about improving scenario and assuring better supply. The real test of their assurances and promises is winter season. People expect better power supply in winter so that they don't suffer but the ground situation is not so good.

Meanwhile, Kashmir Power Distribution

Corporation Limited (KPDCL) on Monday issued a fresh power curtailment schedule for Srinagar in winter with effect from November 15.

According to new curtailment schedule, that the metered areas will face 4 and half hours curtailment every day and non-metered areas will face curtailment of eight hours in a day. Earlier Chief Engineer KPDCL told reporters that two of our transmission lines are under augmentation works," he said, adding, "Transmission lines Wagoora-Zainakote and 132 KV Mir Bazar-

Wanpora are offline as augmentation work is being done to increase their capacity. As these lines are situated in places where paddy is grown, we were unable to complete this job earlier and had to wait until the harvest was complete."

Interacting with STATE TIMES correspondent, people said that PDD should start winter preparedness earlier and chalk out a strategy for facing winters and urged LG administration to look into the matter so that they may not face hardships in harsh winter.