

EPFO Regional Office Jammu receives Bhavishya Nidhi Award in category of 'Best Performing Remote Office'



Minister for Labour & Employment, Bhupender Yadav presenting award to Regional PF Commissioner, Rizwan Uddin.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU:

EPFO Regional Office, Jammu has received a Bhavishya Nidhi Award in the category of "Best Performing Remote Office" at a function held in New Delhi by EPFO Head Office. The award was presented to Rizwan Uddin, Regional PF Commissioner - I, Jammu, Srinagar and Leh by Minister of Labour and Employment, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, Bhupender Yadav at a grand function held at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi as part of celebration of 70th Foundation Day of EPFO.

In the Bhavishya Nidhi Award function, Rizwan Uddin received the award in the presence of other dignitaries which included Rameshwar Teli, Minister of State, Labour and Employment, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India, Arti Ahuja, Secretary (Labour and Employment), Neelam Shami Rao, Central Provident Fund Commissioner (EPFO), Rajendra Kumar, Director General (ESIC), Manju Kumar, Chief Postmaster General (Delhi Circle, India Post), Dagmar Walter,

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Director ILO (India and South Asia) among other higher officers and dignitaries of EPFO and other organisations. The award witnessed participation from the EPFO offices of all over India and awards were presented to offices in various categories for their outstanding performance in the respective categories.

Regional Office, Jammu was awarded for its impressive all-round performance in multiple parameters such as increase in membership, outreach programmes, organising webinars and seminars, efforts made in the field of pension, e-nomination, recovery of dues and some other parameters.

Rizwan Uddin expressed his gratitude to all the stakeholders including members, employers, staff and officers of the office and higher officers of the Zonal Office, and Head Office and said that the office was able to accomplish this feat only with their support. On the occasion he said that the office has been taking various initiatives to increase the coverage, compliance, and awareness among stakeholders such as conduct of regular awareness and outreach programmes through seminars and webinars, while at the same time being accessible to stakeholders through emails, telephone, and social media platforms such as WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Koo etc.

Other innovative measures

taken at RO Jammu which helped in increasing efficiency and effectiveness of its service delivery includes providing option to employees to attend office in Flexi-time mode to capitalise on the office system and infra, motivating staff to attend the office even on off days, simplification and streamlining of the process to make corrections in member profile through Joint Declaration Forms, holding of Nidhi Aapke Nikat and grievance redressal sessions on regular basis among others.

On this occasion Regional Office, Jammu reaffirms its commitment to provide services to all its stakeholders in an efficient, effective, and transparent manner and expects continued support of all the stakeholders of the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh towards its march to greater heights.

Team members of EPFO RO Jammu under the leadership of Rizwan Uddin, RPFC - I, who made contributions towards this accomplishment include Ajit Mishra, RPFC - II, Harinder Singh, RPFC - II, Vijay Choithani, EO/AO, Shiva Murthy T, EO/AO, Jagpreet Singh Cheema,

EO/AO, Sanjeev Kumar, EO/AO, Bipin Kumar, EO/AO, Amit Jakhmola, EO/AO, Pramod Kumar Singh, EO/AO, Mini S, DPA, Pramod G. Lokhande, DPA, Rajan T, DPA, Pritpal Singh, ASO, Pranav Gupta, ASO, Mukesh Kumar, SS, Chiranjit Lal Sharma, SS, Rajender Kumar, SS, Tamil Selvam S, Sr. SSA, Dharmendra Kumar, Sr. SSA, Sachin Bhardwaj, Sr. SSA, Arpit Singh, Sr. SSA, Sanjeev Kumar, Sr. SSA, Arun Kumar, Sr. SSA, Ketan Saxena, Sr. SSA, Md. Arman Alam, Sr. SSA, Subhash Chandra, Sr. SSA, Ravi Kumar, Sr. SSA, Raja Ramanna, Sr. SSA and Rajan Kumar, Sr. SSA.

EPFO Jammu has small team comprising of outsourced employees Kanchan, Archana, Shilpi, Deepak and Rahul who work consistently and communicate with Establishments to remit contributions regularly.

DGP sanctions retirement gift of Rs 68 Lakh in favour of police personnel

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As a token of appreciation for their services to the Department the Director General of Police J&K Dilbag Singh has sanctioned retirement gift of rupees 68 Lakh in favour of sixty eight Police personnel of J&K Police who retired from active services yesterday after attaining superannuation or on voluntary retirement. Sanction has been issued

vide PHQ J&K Order No.3642 of 2022 in favour of six gazetted officers, forty four non-gazette, seventeen lower subordinates and one follower.

The personnel belong to different units and wings of the department. Retirement gift of rupees one lakh each is sanctioned to police personnel from the Contributory Police Welfare Fund at the time of his/her retirement. The gift

serves as a token of appreciation for his/her services rendered to the department.

Dr Vinay Thusoo, Departmental Vigilance Officer (DVO), University of Jammu extended a formal vote of thanks. Anjali Chaudhary, Student, TBS conducted the proceeding of the function

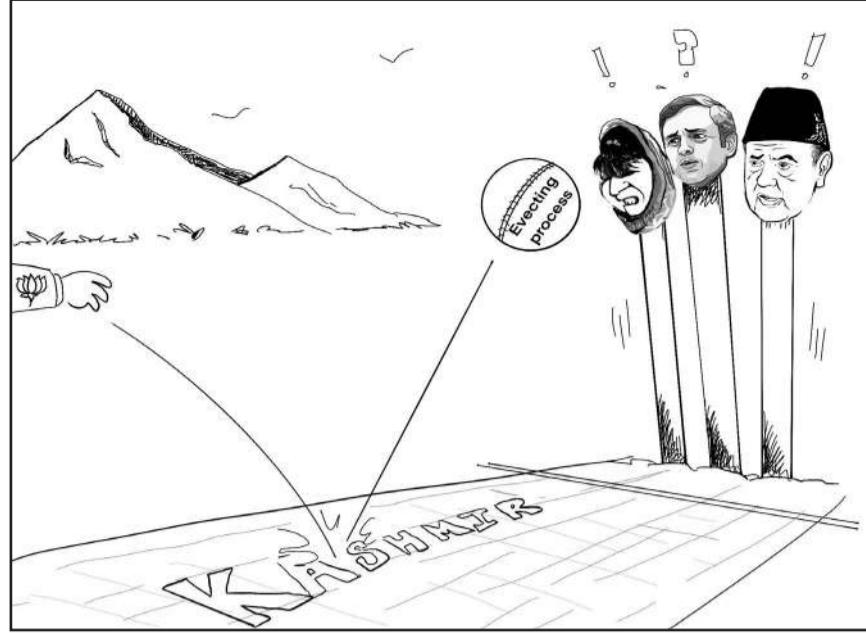
Others present on the occasion included Registrar, Prof Arvind Jasrotia, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Prof Jasbir Singh, Director, Dean Students Welfare, Prakash Antahal, Chairperson Campus Cultural Committee, Prof Vishav Raksha, Dean, Placement Cell, Prof Vinay Chauhan, Prof Sandeep Tandon, Sports and Physical Education, Dr Daud Iqbal Baba, faculty members, Officers, Scholars, Students from various departments of the University and staff were also present on the occasion.

the working of the CVC and said that Vigilance Awareness Week is part of the multi-pronged approach of the Commission where a key strategy is to encourage all stakeholders to collectively participate in the prevention of, and the fight against corruption and to raise public awareness regarding the existence, causes, and gravity of the threat posed by corruption.

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During the camp, which is an annual feature of the school, those artists from India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka are invited, who have excelled in their fields. This time, organizers have invited K K Gandhi for participation in the camp. As per the organizers, presence of reputed artist will create an informal atmosphere besides ensuring free-



DAP's Sub Committee of Jammu Central Zone holds meet

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR:

A meeting of Sub Committee of Jammu Central Zone was held at Udhampur on Tuesday to finalise the list of delegates for Zonal and District Committee which was chaired by Tara Chand Ex Dy CM and attended by RS Chib Gen Seey DAP, Jugal Kishore Sharma Ex Minister, Anoop Khajuria and Varun Magotra District Udhampur was represented by Brij Mohan Sharma, Ashwani Khajuria, Neeraj Thapa, Sanjeev Dubey, Amar Singh, Mohd Abbas and Rajan Sabharwal. The leaders from the Disstt



Udhampur assured the senior leaders that they will unitedly work for the success of DAP.

K K Gandhi to attend 15th International Art camp at Jaipur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU:

Neerja Modi School, Jaipur, one of the most prestigious schools in Rajasthan is organizing 15th International Art camp in Jaipur from November 10 to 14, as an endeavour to bring young minds closer to art besides sensitizing them towards various art forms.

dom to express and absorb ideas, thereby bringing a continuous state of interaction amongst students and all artists present in the camp. The organizers further hoped that his presence will make the event most lively and fruitful.

Other artists invited to camp include Jayasuriya Arachchige (Sri Lanka), Pothumulle Kankana (Sri Lanka), Prof Anisa Uzaman (Bangladesh), Prof Mohammad Iqbal (Bangladesh), Manu Parekh, Madhvi Parekh, G.R.Iranna, Pooja Iranna, V Ramesh, Anoop K Chand, Walter, Pratul Dash, Anandjeet Ray, Veer Munshi and B Manjunath Kamath from India.

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Erratic power supply irking people in Valley ahead of winter season

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

Srinagar: Almost every year during winter season, people of valley complained regarding inadequate power supply and administration used to assure people that power department is committed to provide 24 hour electricity, but results on ground level always came out as quite different.

The story this year is no different, as power supply has been disrupted since last week of October. As per officials, interruption is due of transmission line upgradation and branch pruning. But Kashmir is experiencing protracted power outages, which is causing several hardships for local populace. However, Kashmir Power Development Corporation Limited (KPDC) officials said that outages were primarily the result of works being undertaken to provide a better supply of electricity throughout winter season. Speaking to

reporters, Chief Engineer KPDC Distribution, Javid Ahmad said that power cuts were due to ongoing works which had been undertaken to augment transmission capacity during peak winter season. "Normally during October, KPDC conducts exercise of branch pruning to prevent their falling against the transmission lines during winter. In addition to this, 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 the job earlier and had to wait until harvest was complete." Chief Engineer hoped that Wanpora transmission line would be made operational by

November 10. He said that the schedule for winter curtailments would be released by second week of November. "Power demand has increased by 30 to 40 per cent due to steep drop in temperature. If things do not get better, we will have to consider more curtailment," Ahmad said. He advised people to use electricity judiciously and avoid using rudimentary heating devices.

Meanwhile, locals are appalled by the protracted power outages and said that KPDC could have scheduled this work properly to spare them from sufferings. "Winter hasn't even started yet. One can imagine what will happen during the harsh cold winter months. The government claims to be increasing transmission capacity, but on the other hand, it does not even give good quality power supply," said a local resident of Srinagar.

Is not an era of 'managed promotions' to benefit individuals and not the State & her subjects started?

Is not there a need for creating 'Department Audit for Administrative & Human Resource Evaluation'?

■ DAYA SAGAR

Should creation of 'apex' senior level permanent posts in Government be left to the executive/ government or should be brought under the purview of Legislature?

Should the executive be allowed to create even regular departments simply to benefit individuals putting extra load on the exchequer of no immediate use to institutions? Like are some of the questions that need very serious and analytical examination on date since so often it is observed that

(1). new posts are created of superior levels of pay scales less out of some must public interest requirements and more for benefitting an individual government employee who after elevation at occasions keeps on working on the same assignment without taking any reasonable additional workload. Government may increase the pay of a officer with time (like the culture of non functional grade promotions has been started in J&K also very recently but that too has been for those who 'intimately follow with administrative departments or are close to 'Administration' (secretariat). but there is no justification for raising the level of the post which has recurring financial / administrative implications. An intimate look into the files would reveal that occasions posts of higher grades like Director General of Level -

14 have been created for officers who are more near to the 'Secretariat' or are related to Finance Departments where as what to talk of treating even officers in the field departments like Engineering Departments who may enter government service as Assistant Engineer through PSC even at the age of 22/23 yrs by creating provisions for posting them levels above Level -13 , they could be even found handling assignments of the level of Chief Engineer for even 2 to 3 yrs as Chief Engineer I/C and so surprisingly for some getting pension in the grade of AEE only for more than 10 to 12 years before the Administrative Department regularises the promotions made as I/C Executive Engr , I/C Superintending Engineer , I/C CE as had been the case with some JK PDD retirees for whom Satya Pal Malik the then Governor J&K could sense their agony had made the SAC to decide on 22-10-2019 that their cases be settled for regularisation within 30 days even if that needs bypassing PSC as one time exception but it has been only in 2022 that when the matter was brought to the intimate knowledge of Manoj Sinha LG with A.K Mehta as CS that process of regularisation/ clearing files with yes or no notes was started.

Whereas under order No. 30-JK-(PDMD) of 22-08-2022 issued by Dr.

Raghav Langer, Secretary, Planning, Development & Monitoring Department (HRM Section) Government of JUK UT promoted three Directors of J&K Economics & Statistics (Gazetted) Service as Director General (E&S) in the Super Time Scale of Level-14 with pay scale of Rs. 1,44,200-2,18,200 (old scale Rs. 37,400-67,000 with Grade pay of Rs. 10,000) with retrospective effect from 17-02-2022 without making any change in their 'then' place of posting i.e Dr. Harjeet Singh Arora, Agri. Prod. Dept. Sectt. ; Parvaiz Sajad Kakroo, Devt. Exp. Division-II, Finance Dept. Sectt., and Ather Hussain Qadri, Statistical Training School, Srinagar. From the core of the order it reflects that the LEVEL promotion has been accorded more to benefit the individual officer than the Government work since it does not appear to be in view of increased work load and even when we are in an era of e- governance.

J&K Government had though SRO - 266 of 30-08-2013 issued by Principal Secretary Finance, by order of Governor in exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to Section 124 of the Constitution of Jammu & Kashmir, amended the Jammu & Kashmir Civil Service Regulations Volume -I so as to

A Look through the Mist

insert in Article 226(1); after the third proviso, another proviso saying " a member of the teaching faculty of Government Medical College Srinagar / Jammu in service on 19.06.2014, or appointed on or after that date, shall retire on his attaining the age of 62 years". Provision made for government medical colleges Jammu and Srinagar was extended to the teaching faculty of Dental College Jammu and Srinagar also vide SRO-26 of 9th January, 2015. It could of course be seen an action taken in greater academic interest for making use of the faculty members with very long teaching experience to meet the shortage of experienced teachers and to benefit the young graduating doctors too.

JKH&ME Department vide Government Order No.456-JK(HME) of 2022 dated 28 - 06 - 2022 has also extended the benefit of increase in retirement age (62 yrs) which is for a member of the teaching faculty of Government Medical College to three Doctors (said to be holding Degree in Hospital Administration) in the Medical College Jammu as well as Medical College Srinagar in just 2 weeks of issue of Government Order No.456-JK(HME) OF 2022 D A T E 28 - 06 - 2022 simply taking refuge under the Guidelines of MCI , which appears to have been issued to cover up the benefit of 62 yrs of retirement age retrieved by 3 doctors that could be otherwise given to only a senior member of teaching faculty but the said doctors do not have adequate teaching experience of working as faculty members in any academic institution and may be even nearing retirement. May be the action of granting retirement age benefit will soon be covered up by designating them as faculty members (Lecturer / Asst. Professor in newly opened department) to avoid questions by other doctors

some directions from HC of UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh . The directions of HC surely depend upon the petitions and the facts of the case presented by the Government in defence. One of the petitions referred is of March 2022 only.

Need for a departmental review of the said action becomes more immediate the way another G.O 400-JK-HME of 2022 Dated 14-07-2022 has been issued on the recommendations of JK H&ME Deptt for creating a new department (Department of Hospital Administration) in the Medical College Jammu as well as Medical College Srinagar in just 2 weeks of issue of Government Order No.456-JK(HME) OF 2022 D A T E 28 - 06 - 2022 simply taking refuge under the Guidelines of MCI , which appears to have been issued to cover up the benefit of 62 yrs of retirement age retrieved by 3 doctors that could be otherwise given to only a senior member of teaching faculty but the said doctors do not have adequate teaching experience of working as faculty members in any academic institution and may be even nearing retirement. May be the action of granting retirement age benefit will soon be covered up by designating them as faculty members (Lecturer / Asst. Professor in newly opened department) to avoid questions by other doctors

holding PG degree in Hospital Administration but belonging to Health Department.

It is not out of place to mention here that as per MCI Guidelines in modern times the doctors with MD in Pathology are not approved for appointment in the Forensic Science department but JK H&ME has been appointing the faculty members in the Forensic Science Department without Post Graduate degree in Forensic Science and Medicine when this department is very sensitive department from legal point of view also and fate of many criminal cases depends upon the correctness of the forensic examination and the assessment / opinion of the Forensic Expert / Doctor concerned. So going by the likes of the affairs as are being conducted in the Administrative Departments these days is not there a need for creating a new Department " Audit for Administrative and Human Resource Evaluation" which is must need for improving the human resource quantity & quality for welfare of the common man and for check on benefit simply going to individual who actually is employed to work for the benefit of common man?

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