

Grand finale of AKAM competitions conclude in Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: As part of ongoing Azadi Ka Amrit Mohatsav (AKAM), the Department of Culture, through J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages (JKAACL) in collaboration with Directorate of School Education Kashmir, conducted a series of singing, dancing and visual art (painting/drawing) competitions across the Kashmir Division.

JKAACL, under the guidance of its Commissioner Secretary, Zubair Ahmad, has successfully culminated the divisional level grand finale of the AKAM competition at Government Girls H S S Kothi Bagh here. Chronologically, the competitions were held at school, zonal and district levels before finally pinnading at the divisional level. The key thematic areas for the competition were Patriotism, Cleanliness, Plantation, Peace, Truth & Nonviolence and Indian Culture. From Anantnag district, Mehrun-Nisa of M.S. Halkha, Shangus won the singing competition, Zaid Imtiyaz of Oxford H.S. Bijbehara won the dance competition and Sabora Jan of Oxford H.S. Bijbehara won the

painting competition.

From Bandipora district, Uznat Zahoor of Ambition Public School Gulshanpora, Markandal, won the singing competition, Tabish Manzoor of Ms Sheikh Colony won the dance competition, and Shahid Nazir of G.M.S. Wampora won the painting competition.

From Baramulla district, Mohammad Murtazah Lone of G.M.S. Lachipora won the singing competition, Harmanjot Singh of Budding Bloom School won the dance competition and Mohd Rayan of Saint Josephs School won the painting competition.

From Budgam district, Danish Maqbool of M.S. Nijloo won the singing competition, Toiba Zainab of P.S. Jamia Mohalla won the dance competition, and Mohsin Majeed of G.M.S. Babapora won the painting competition. From Ganderbal district, Zainab Mushtaq of Royal Public School Badampora won the singing competition, Aijaz Ahmad of High School Surfriv won the dance competition, and Raqib Ahmad of M.S. Rangil won the painting competition.

From Kulgam district, Mohammad Aleem Reshi of

M.S. Kharote won the singing competition, Hidana Farooq of M.S. Mutalhama won the dance competition, and Wasif Rashid of M.S. Kharote won the painting competition.

From Kupwara district, Shifayat from U.P.S. Wapora won the singing competition, Mehvish Imtiyaz of U.P.S. Check Keegam won the dance competition, and Muzamil Maqbool Lone of P.S. Lone Mohalla, Kunnel, won the painting competition.

From Pulwama district, Tanzeela Fayaz of B.M.S. Wampora won the singing competition, Atifa Amin of G.U.P.S. Chotipora won the dance competition, and Arsalan Ashaq of B.M.S. Wampora won the painting competition.

From Shopian district, Adeel Khanday of Oxford Educational Institution won the singing competition, Atifa Amin of G.U.P.S. Chotipora won the dance competition, and Toiba Imtiyaz of G.P.S. Gulab Taing won the painting competition. From Srinagar district, Sahil of B.P.S. Rawalpura won the singing competition, Tabasum Muskan Tariq of G.M.S. New Chinar Colony won the dance competition, and

Momina Zainab of P.S. Nawabagh won the painting competition.

All the district level winners from their respective categories competed at the divisional level for the "winner" and the "runner-up" positions in the grand finale of the competition at Government Girls H.S.S. Kothi Bagh in Srinagar.

In the singing category, Zainab Mushtaq from Royal Public School Badampora, Ganderbal, stood as a winner, and Uznat Zahoor of Ambition Public School Gulshanpora, Bandipora, was declared the runner-up. In the dance category, Zaid Imtiyaz of Oxford H.S. Bijbehara, Anantnag, stood as the winner, and Harmanjot Singh of Budding Bloom School, Baramulla, was declared the runner-up.

In the painting category, Sabora Jan from Oxford H.S. Bijbehara, Anantnag, stood as the winner, and Mohammad Rayan of St. Josephs School, Baramulla, was declared the runner-up.

At the grand finale, the jury for the singing competition included Qaiser Nizami, Rehmatullah Khan, and Farooq Ahmad Wani; for the dance

competition, the jury comprised of Nabi Bulbul, Gulzar Ahmad Ganaie, and Tariq Javid; and Nowshad Gayoor and Arshad Salah for the painting competition.

Three winners at the divisional-level grand finale shall receive a cash prize of Rs. 20,000/- each, and three runner-ups shall get a cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- each. Likewise, from district level competition, in every district, nine winners shall receive a cash prize of Rs. 5000/- each, while nine first-runner-ups shall get a cash prize of Rs. 3000/- each, and nine second-runner-ups shall receive a cash prize of Rs. 1000/- each.

During the concluding ceremony, Nusrat Bukhari, Principal H.S.S. School Kothibagh, was the Chief Guest.

Farooq Anwar Mirza, Incharge Divisional Office AACL Kashmir, addressed the audience.

J&K AACL's and Department of Culture's efforts in promoting young talent via such competitions are receiving appreciation from the art and culture connoisseurs of Kashmir region.

Cultural activist Tsewang Rigzin from Kargil bags 'SPANDAN Lifetime Achievement Award'



Tsewang Rigzin from Kargil receiving 'SPANDAN Lifetime Achievement Award'.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: SPANDAN International has conferred Tsewang Rigzin from Bodhkarbo village of Kargil district with 'SPANDAN Lifetime Achievement Award' for his service in the field of Art & Culture of Kargil, Ladakh.

Tsewang Rigzin is an eminent artist, a poet and a research scholar from Kargil district. He has contributed enormously towards the preservation and development of the local cultural heritage and

has been actively and rigorously involved in bringing to light the hidden treasures of Kargil over the years. He is credited with representing Kargil in many seminars at the state and national levels. As an artist he runs a cultural organisation namely Art and Culture organization, Bodhkarbo, and as a research scholar he has been contributing poetry and scholarly papers to J&K Academy of Art, culture and languages, AIR, Doordarshan, International

Association for Ladakh Studies, women in conflict Management and Peace, Pragma, IRCD and other organizations.

Many of his articles have been published in the local magazines, NATI ADAB and SHEERAZA published by J&K academy of art, culture and languages.

As a documentary film director, he produced a local documentary called 'Choks Ji Chamba' depicting ancient Buddhist heritage and treasure present in the district.

VREA criticizes Govt for not clearing dues



Volunteer retired employees of JKRTC during a protest at Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Volunteer Retired Employees Association held protest and criticized the attitude of the Transport Higher authorities and Finance Department of the J&K Govt, as they failed to clear legitimate dues.

A demonstration was conducted under the leadership of Dev Raj Bali President of VRS Union.

They said it appeared

that they are both in connivance with each other and playing foul games with the VRS employees of the J&KRTC whereas we were promised that one who takes the VRS his dues will be cleared within 60 days. Our pending dues cost of living allowance (COLA) 16 slabs 1.1.2006, 18 slabs of 2007, 26 slabs of 2008, 35 slabs upto 2009 and 31 slabs upto April, 2010 and pending

arrears since 1999, 6th Pay Commission 1st Jan.2006 and pending arrears that means total 126 slabs of COLA.

The demonstration was attended by Sat Bhushan Singh, Surinder Singh, Deep Raj, B.B Sharma, Baldev Raj, Shiv Kumar, Rant Pal, Baldev Raj and Ramesh Bhau.

Dheeraj qualifies NET

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

S A M B A : D h e e r a j S i n g h Jasrotia, son of Subhash S i n g h Jasrotia, resident of Gurda Jattan of Ghagwal sub-division of Samba district has qualified National Examination Agency (NET) in Geography, the result of which was decalred recently by University Grant Commission (UGC).



DLSA Udhampur imparts awareness on scheme for legal services to disaster victims



Secretary DLSA Udhampur, Rajni Sharma speaking at a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: District Legal Services Authority, Udhampur on Monday conducted an awareness programme on Scheme for Legal Services to Disaster Victims at District Court Complex, Udhampur. The programme was organized under the guidance of Chairman DLSA Udhampur, Y. P. Bournay (Pr. Distt. & Sessions Judge Udhampur) and overall supervision of Secretary District Legal Services Authority Udhampur, Rajni Sharma. The resource persons of the programme were

Adv. Sanjeet Kumar, Adv. Pawan Gupta and Adv. Akhil Dubey (Panel Lawyers).

The resource persons enlightened the gathering about the provisions of scheme for Legal Services to Disaster Victims and highlighted the needs of providing all possible help to the victims of any disaster.

Later Secy DLSA Rajni Sharma thanked all the resource persons and participants of the programme and vowed to support the victims of disaster as legal services institutions are duty bound to help the needy masses.

Sabre Brigade's Cycling Expedition flagged-in at Balidan Stambh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Sabre warriors of Rising Star Corps peddled their way through the interiors of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and J&K, spreading awareness on the merits of Agnipath Scheme and to motivate young boys and girls to join Indian Army.

The team comprising of one officer, one JCO & 08 Other Ranks was flagged off from North Portal of Atal Tunnel in Himachal Pradesh and cycled through the arduous challenges climbing 10,000 ft peaks thrice on their way to reach Balidan Stambh, Jammu on Monday. The Expedition covered 620 kms over a period of 10 days.

The Expedition Team Interacted with the youth of various schools and colleges



Army officers at flag-in ceremony of Sabre Brigade's Cycling Expedition.

to include the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi and motivated the graduates of IIT to join Indian Army as Commissioned officers and contribute to the organization with the latest technological developments.

The Team also expressed its gratitude to the frontline workers of Wild Life Conservation Team of Great Himalayan National park,

Kullu for their unparalleled efforts to save Wild Life in the country.

At Regional Mountaineering Centre, McLeodganj, the team carried out adventure activities with the Basic Mountaineering Course students and motivated them to join Indian Army. In addition, the team also expressed condolences to the bereaved family of Braveheart

Rifleman Rakesh Kumar at his native village Maheshgarh for his supreme sacrifice in the line of duty earlier March this year.

The Team presented his father Ex-Naik Jigri Ram with a memento as a token of gratitude. Over this journey the cycling team interacted with various servicemen and veterans enroute at McLeodganj, Sadwan Khas & Jia (Yol Cantt) and shared their experience and grievances.

The Expedition was aimed to encourage the spirit of adventure, esprit-de-corps and comradeship and obtained high popularity among the locals.

Mayor witnesses drill competition at Sainik School Nagrota



Mayor Jammu, Rajinder Sharma presenting trophy to NCC cadets.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Inter House Drill Competition was organised at the Drill Square of Sainik School Nagrota on Monday: Rajinder Sharma, Mayor of Jammu presided over the event and gave away the prizes and trophies to the winners. Capt (IN) AK Desai, Principal presented a brief on the significance of Drill Competition conducted at the school. Cadets participated in this competition in Junior and Senior categories from four houses namely Sindh, Jhelum, Chenab and Trikuta. Junior House consists of cadets upto Class IX and Senior House consists Classes X to XII. Commending the spirited performance of cadets in this competition, Mayor, himself being an alumnus of this institution, recounted his school days as a cadet with euphoria and expressed confidence that such competitions are the unique hallmark of Sainik School Nagrota.

Trikuta House won the Drill Competition in Senior Category while Chenab House stood first in Junior Category.

JKITCO holds 46th AGM meeting

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K Industrial & Technical Consultancy Organisation Ltd on Monday held its 46th Annual General Meeting under the chairmanship of Mohammed Shafi Pandit, former senior bureaucrat.

MD, Madhu Sudan Somani; Independent Director; Soujanya Sharma Former Municipal Commissioner; Advisor Dileep Jain, shareholders SIDCO, SICOP, SIDBI, PNB, J&K Bank, JKLSFC and other Banks also attended the meeting. The board was apprised about the activities taken up by the company including skill development, consulting jobs, technical agency, BOT mode design and implementation of projects.

The core strength of the com-



JKITCO members during 46th Annual General Meeting at Jammu.

pany is to provide consultancy to Industries, Project Management and create job oriented skill courses to lift the livelihood of the public, Consultancy, the third party monitoring and audit engineering works.

JKITCO is a PSU Company established in 1977. It was a pioneer company to provide technical consultancy to Govt as well as to the Public & Private Corporates.

After taking over the compa-

ny by the New Management in 2013, the new management started Statutory compliance i.e. compliance of ROC CAG and Income tax in 2017 which were completed all in 2020.

Since then, the company is fully compliant and generating business from Central Govt Corporations, UT Departments and Corporates.

The first time after many years the turnover crossed Rs 100 lakh in 2021-22 and Company targeted Rs 150 lakh

income from Consultancy and coming out from Red.

The Board emphasized that this year new avenues will be explored for boosting the economy through industrialisation and creation of jobs in the J&K.

The Chairman appreciated the efforts being made by the company and its staff and advised to work with more zeal and enthusiasm to make this company an example for others.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

AOI associates with Mary Kom to spread awareness around 'Early Detection & Diagnosis of Cancer'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: American Oncology Institute (AOI) one of the largest cancer hospital chain associates with Indian Olympic boxer champion Mary Kom to spread awareness around 'Early Detection and Diagnosis of Cancer'.

The association also reinforces the commitment of AOI's tagline "we journey with you" by educating and empowering the masses about the importance of early detection and diagnoses of Cancer. Speaking about early detection, Dr Jagprag Singh Gujral, Group CEO, CTSL, South Asia, said, "In India, every year 1 million new cases of cancer are diagnosed. With the increasing rate of cancer in the country, it is imperative

to spread awareness about early detection and diagnosis of various types of cancers. We are glad to be associated with Mary Kom for the enormous task of voicing out the importance of regular screening and early detection of Cancer which can significantly improve survival rates and outcomes. AOI has always remained at the core of offering precision cancer care solutions and with this association; we take a step ahead in our commitment."

Commenting about the association, Mary Kom, said, "I am extremely happy to partner with American Oncology Institute for spreading awareness and promoting early detection as the key for beating Cancer.

For an athlete, one of the most important elements is to be prepared for every situation. The same principle applies in boxing and the training mainly focuses on building the offensive skills and knowing how to land those punches and counter punches is key. Likewise, early diagnosis of Cancer focuses on detecting symptomatic patients as early as possible. The earlier you detect, the higher are the chances of better outcome just like knowing every move of the opponent.

Through this association, I am hoping to spread the importance and relevance of early detection and empowering every citizen to be prepared and lead a health life."

PAL KIA adorned with new 'Black Look'



Pal Kia showroom in Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: PAL KIA, presently situated at National Highway, has got

a new look. The KIA Showroom in Jammu operated by PAL JAY Automobiles (P) Ltd has

upgraded its existing showroom as per new Identity of KIA. It can be observed that the 'Red Look' has changed to a newer, younger and more energetic- 'Black Look'. This goes with the brands identity of being young, energetic & inspirational. Not only this, PAL KIA in Jammu had delivered 40 new vehicles in a single day on Dhanteras in October 2022. As per PAL KIA's Sales Manager Alka Dhar, the upcoming months seem to be more promising as Passenger Vehicle Segment has seen a good recovery after COVID.

Joginder Singh, General Manager, PAL Kia said, "KIA is a young brand and we believe that the customer is always first".