

## IG Police pitches for effective implementation of JJ Act on ground

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: National Development Foundation in collaboration with District Police Jammu and Mission Directorate ICPS organized a multi stake holders capacity building programme on Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act 2015.

More than 70 participants from JJB, CWC, DCPU, CCIs, SJPU and Childline are participating in the training.

Vikram Srivastava, resource person from "I thought" New Delhi imparted training to the participants and addressed the queries.

Mukesh Singh, IG Police Jammu Zone, Jammu inaugurated the training programme, while Vivek Gupta DIG Police, Sheerdhar Patil, SSP Jammu, Rajiv Khajuria former Member SCOC/ Founder Emeritus NDF,



Dignitaries presenting memento to Mukesh Singh, IG Police Jammu Zone.

Rajini Bhagat Principle Magistrate JJB, Adil Rashid, SP HQ Jammu, Shalini Shrama, Chairperson CWC and Ajay Salan, District Child Protection Officer Jammu were present on the occasion.

Rajiv Khajuria gave a brief intro of the programme and termed ICPS, Juvenile Justice a govt. and public partnership system and called upon all the stakeholders to work together to make child protection a reality in the UT of J&K.

Mukesh Singh, IG Police Jammu Zone in his address reiterated the need of joint actions and more

collaboration to make Juvenile Justice Act a reality on ground.

He said that last time also a training of police officer from all district of Jammu zone was held by police in collaboration with National Development Foundation and to carry forward the mission the training is organized in Jammu on 15th and 16th January and the similar programs are scheduled for Poonch and Samba respectively.

He while addressing said that Juvenile Justice Act is reformative legislation and all shall adopt child friendly approach in adjudication, investigation and disposal of the matter related to children for their ultimate rehabilitation and best interest.

Mukesh Singh IG Jammu Zone and others taking pledge on child protection in the training.

## Sanitation worker takes first jab as COVID-19 vaccination drive begins in Ladakh



Skalzang Chodon, a Safaikaramchari taking first jab of COVID-19 vaccine at Leh.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
LEH: A sanitation worker at a hospital was the first person to be administered COVID-19 vaccine in the Union Territory of Ladakh where Lt Governor R K Mathur inaugurated the first phase of the inoculation drive on Saturday.

Ladakh has recorded 128 COVID-19 related deaths and a total virus caseload of 9,646 since the outbreak of the pandemic in March last year. As many as 9,404

patients have recovered from the infection, while the rest 114 are undergoing treatment.

Skalzang Chodon, a Safaikaramchari, hailing from Skidmang village of Nyoma block, took the first jab at Heart Foundation Hospital here in the presence of the Lt Governor and Member Parliament Jamyang Tsering Namgyal shortly after Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the

world's biggest drive against coronavirus. The Lt Governor appreciated the medical staff, ASHA, Anganwadi and safai karamchari workers of the UT for their selfless efforts and dedication in handling the pandemic.

He hoped for the successful conduct of the vaccination drive in Ladakh. As a priority group, the medical staff at high risk will get vaccinated in the first phase and about 100 are proposed to be given the vaccine Saturday evening, officials said.

Mathur said, As emphasised by PM Modi, even after getting vaccinated, one must adhere to all the safety precautions of COVID-19 and maintain complete discipline to ensure a virus free society.

He appealed to people not to believe in rumours being spread about the coronavirus vaccination and trust the assurances given by scientists, doctors and regulatory authorities on its safety.

JAMMU: The Sunrise Brigade of Tiger Division organized a series of events on Indian Army Day in Mahal Shahan as part of the week-long celebration of Golden Jubilee of Victory in 1970 Indo-Pak war. The event included Weapon and Equipment Display Pipe Band performances and a 10 Km mini marathon. The theme of the event was Indian Army - Strong and Capable!

The mini marathon was the first event to be flagged off to start off the celebrations on Army Day. A total of 50 youngsters participated in the marathon, out of which 10 were awarded with medals and certificates of merit. To help the youngsters with aspiration to join the Army, a central board was placed outlining the requirements and procedure to apply.

The marathon was followed by Weapon and Equipment display where the new age weapons held by the Army were laid out and all the queries regarding the weapons were addressed by instructors to stimulate excitement in the attendees. Finally, the Pipe Band performed marshal tunes of victory with military flair and charisma to mesmerize the 200 strong audience attending the event. The locals were happy and excited upon learning the capability and ethos of their Army.

## Tiger Division celebrates Army Day



Winners posing with army officers after prize distribution.

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## Panel clears Rs 12.43 cr subsidy claims under IDS

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department, Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, chaired meetings of State Level committees for sanctioning of subsidy cases under the Central Package of Incentives and sanctioning of 30% Central Capital Investment Incentive for Access to Credit (CCIIAC) respectively under Industrial Development Scheme (IDS) here on Saturday.

The Committees sanctioned cases of 100% Insurance Subsidy, 3% Interest Subsidy and 30% CCIIAC amounting Rs. 10.59 crore for Jammu Division and Rs. 1.84 crore for Kashmir Division.

Director Industries & Commerce, Jammu deliberated upon 48 subsidy cases pertaining to 3% Interest Subsidy, 100% Insurance Subsidy and 30% CCIIAC under IDS which included 22 subsidy cases from

## Handicrafts Directorate hosts workshop on Aesthetic Packaging

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom, Jammu, in collaboration with Indian Institute of Packaging-Mumbai, on Saturday organised a training workshop on Aesthetic Packaging of Handicrafts and Handloom, Products here for the craftsmen and entrepreneurs associated with Handicrafts & Handloom sector. As Many as 58 Artisans, weavers, cooperatives from various districts of Jammu Division participated in the training programme & availed the benefit of this workshop/training programme. Their queries were also replied by the Technical team of Indian Institute of packaging, Ministry of Commerce.

The training was held in the pursuit of the Government to present new livelihood opportunities to the craftsmen associated with Handicrafts and Handloom Sector of Jammu and Kashmir and develop entrepreneurship in the sector. Special Secretary, Industries &



Special Secretary, I&CD J&K, Tariq Ahmad Zargar lighting ceremonial lamp.

Commerce Department, J&K, Tariq Ahmad Zargar, was the Chief Guest. He emphasized that bringing innovative practices in Handicrafts and Handloom sector is a must to restore pristine glory of this languishing sector & aspects such as good packaging could be a game changer.

Director Handicrafts & Handloom, Jammu, Dr. Vikas Gupta, highlighted the importance of packaging for increasing value and marketability of the handicrafts and handloom products and develop brand image for products like Basholi

Paintings, Pashmina Wool Products, Bamboo Products, Chikri Wood Products from Rajouri and Poonch District, Wood Carving, Modern Art Products and other products produced in Jammu Division. He was optimistic that the training programme will open a new window of opportunities for the entrepreneurs of Jammu Division designing and developing new designs which are attractive, durable and affordable and shall help in promoting the brand image of 'Made in Jammu and Kashmir Products' both at National and

International level.

Dr. Tanveer Alam, Director, Indian Institute of Packaging-Mumbai, highlighted the role played by IIP in recent years in designing and developing new and innovative packaging material/techniques. He encouraged the participants to come forward and gain from their technical expertise in this sector. Indian Institute of packaging, which has 56 years of experience in the field of packaging, organized technical and interactive session for the participants wherein they were briefed about the latest developments in the sector and their queries were replied.

President of Handicraft & Handloom cooperatives thanked, Commissioner/Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department, Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, & Director Handicrafts & Handloom, Jammu, Dr. Vikas Gupta, for organizing such a useful training programme which is first of its kind in the Jammu Division.

## Deprived of legitimate rights, migrant substitute teachers seek Govt's intervention: Nissar

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Vice President/Media Advisor EJAC and Senior Leader JKTF, Peer Nissar Ahmad on Saturday showed anguish over Govt's apathy towards the legitimate rights of teachers working on migrant posts (Migrant Substitute teachers).

He said due to unfavourable conditions the migrants left Valley in 1990 and affected the system of education.

To fill the widen gaps in the system, he said, Department of Education engaged graduate and post graduate teachers in 1990-1991 on these migrant substitute posts who worked tirelessly and left no stone unturned to bring laurels to the Department.

He further said these teachers are not getting any departmental incentives and benefits including promotion etc because the administration is not including their primary 16 years in their service records.

"They were regularised in



Migrant Substitute teachers have retired from Govt services without getting pensionary benefits and other incentives because they had not obtained qualifying services, he said.

The students which they have taught are now officers in other Depts and if any of their students is engaged in Edu Deptt, he is now Headmaster, lecturer or at least working on Master grade post, but Migrant Substitute teachers are still teachers who have not been provided any promotional benefit which is total injustice and unjustified, he said.

While quoting the reference of FAT teachers who according to him were regularised and benefited as per their rights but the step-mother attitude of authorities at helm of affairs with the teachers working on migrant post is a matter of great concern.

Seeking the intervention of LG Manoj Sinha and Chief Secretary B V R Subramanyam, he urged upon the Govt that issue of these teachers should be addressed on top priority so that this distressed lot will also get benefits like other employees.

**Lotra Brahman Biradari's congregation today**

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Annual congregation of Lotra Brahman Biradari is being held on January 17, 2021 (Sunday) at Jai Raja Mandlik Ji Kul Dev Asthan, Patoli Brahmana, here.

The Members of the Jai Raja Mandlik Ji Development Committee appealed to all the Lotra Brahman Biradari to participate in the congregation on aforesaid date and place along with their families and seek blessings of the Kul Devta Jai Raja Mandlik Ji.

The programme shall start at 8:00 AM with Hawan and thereafter Bhandara from 1:00 PM onwards, they added.

## COVID-19 vaccination drive begins at GMC Kathua

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: After successful launch of vaccination against COVID-19 by Prime Minister and inauguration in J&K by Lt Governor, the COVID-19 vaccination programme was inaugurated by DC Kathua, O.P. Bhagat in District Kathua in presence of Principal GMC Kathua, Dr Anjali Nadir Bhat, MS Dr Chitra Vaishnavi and Deputy CMO Dr Neeraj Nagpal.

DC Kathua took a round of vaccination site and was apprised about the various steps taken by hospital administration for a foolproof Vaccination drive.

Principal GMC Kathua said that while government has planned meticulously, we should not lower our guard and maintain social distancing, wear mask and use sanitizers. Dr Manik Mahajan, chest physician was the first person in Kathua district to



DC Kathua O.P. Bhagat along with Principal GMC, Dr Anjali Nadir Bhat during visit to GMC Kathua.

get the COVID-19 vaccine followed by Dr Nipun, Dr Sanjay Angral Senior Consultant and Dr Rajesh Chandel.

This is the part of world's largest inoculation drive which started in India on 16th January 2020. India will administer shots to three crore frontline workers in phase one. Every beneficiary will need to receive two doses of the same vaccine, 28 days apart.

DO Dr Vasna Sharma and Nodal officers GMC Kathua

Dr. Sujata Gupta and Dr Sanjay Angral Senior Consultant and Dr Rajesh Chandel.

Other prominent persons present were HOD of various departments, Dr Anil Suri, Dr Rajrishi Sharma, Dr Anil Mehta, Dr Surinder Atri, Dr B N Bhogal, Dr Natasha Kapahi, Dr Preet Mohinder, Dr Deepak Abril, faculty members and staff.

## Apni Party appreciates Govt's decision on age relaxation of J&K civil services aspirants

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Apni Party (AP) Vice President Zaffar Iqbal Manhas on Saturday expressed gratitude to the Lt. Governor of J&K over the formal announcement of relaxation in the upper age limit for civil services aspirants of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a presser at the Party office in Lal Chowk Srinagar, Manhas also thanked Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari for highlighting and vigorously pursuing the matter with the J&K government which yielded the desired results. AP vice president remarked: "I along with my Party colleagues welcome this beneficial measure that has safeguarded the future of our young aspirants who earlier were drowned in utter despair. I thank the Lt. Governor for this much needed initiative and our Party President who persistently impressed upon the government for increasing the age bar in civil service examinations."

Referring to the problems of people that have surfaced due to the continuous closure of the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway, Manhas said the condition at the National Highway remains deplorable almost every year. "The pace at which repairs of this only land connectivity between the two capitals Srinagar and Jammu are carried out is not up to the expectations of the people. Thus the situation that has emerged particularly in Kashmir division has shot up the prices of essential commodities mixed with unlawful hoarding and black marketing," he regretted. Manhas said the

people had not yet coped up with the damage caused by the recent heavy snowfall but now they must face this excruciating situational inflation, which is extremely unfortunate on part of the lackadaisical administration. "The government agencies that should have held such self-interested opportunists accountable remain evasive from ground" Manhas said, further voicing serious concern over the introduction of new rules for procurement of ration that makes Aadhaar Card verification mandatory.

He said, "An abrupt Aadhaar card mandatory for ration procurement is implausible. The administration should have prepared the people before taking such a big move. Arbitrary decisions like this can't be taken overnight while pertinent to mention a large section of the population in Srinagar remains still deprived of Aadhar cards. I implore the U.T administration to kindly review the recent regulations and stretch out a lenient approach for at least six months so that no trouble is faced by the people while obtaining monthly rations."

Manhas also expressed serious concerns over the rolling out of new Forest Act and the committees thus formed. "The conservation of forests is a must but in the meantime no arbitrary decisions should be implemented that will hurt the interests of the common citizens. We have seen large chunks of such land have already been bequeathed to the Army, Sheep Husbandry and other government departments. If the

same has been acquired by ST, SC and the rest of the people, it should make no difference. People have lived in now-declared forest zones for decades and evicting them capriciously is sheer injustices. The committees thus formed should incorporate representative members from such sections who have lived in these zones for so many years," he pleaded. On the Hokersar-Srinagar encounter, Manhas reiterated his Party's stand on the matter and appealed to the government to come up with the factual details related to this incident.

He said, "We are crystal clear about this issue. Yesterday evening, even our Party President raised this issue with the Lt. Governor in Jammu. We are committed over the impartial investigation of this encounter. The parents of all three slain youth have repeatedly pleaded their innocence and if such a thing is true we will demand for an exemplary punishment to the perpetrators". Manhas said that in the aftermath of recent snowfall the interiors of the city and far-flung areas of the Kashmir division are still snow-clad. "The special arrangements must be done to ferry stranded tourists, patients, students and locals who want to commute between the two capitals. The essential supplies in winter capital are dwindling while inflation has become a rule. The Division administration, especially Divisional Commissioner and respective Deputy Commissioners should take stock of the situation on immediate basis," he concluded.