

# J&K Bank ED visits KCC saturation camp in Samba, distributes sanction letters

## STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Taking forward the country wide 'Ghar Ghar KCC Abhiyaan', J&K Bank continues conducting KCC Saturation Camps across Jammu and Kashmir.

J&K Bank Executive Director Sudhir Gupta today visited one such camp in Ramgarh area of Samba in the presence of Zonal Head (Kathua), Cluster Head (Samba) and prominent citizens of the area amid a large gathering of PM Kisan beneficiaries and local residents besides officials of the Bank and other line departments.



J&K Bank Executive Director Sudhir Gupta visiting KCC Saturation Camp in Ramgarh area of Samba.

Speaking on occasion, ED Sudhir Gupta, who was also the guest of honour, emphasized upon all the PM Kisan beneficiaries to avail the multiple benefits under KCC scheme. He said, "Being the backbone of the country's rural economy, agriculture holds great promise in terms of development for a very large number of people still associated with it and its allied activities."

Under the KCC Scheme, ED Sudhir Gupta distributed 40 sanction letters among the PM Kisan beneficiaries.

On the occasion, ED reiterated his appeal to all the eligible farmers of J&K to come forward and avail the finance scheme that has been tailored to provide them adequate and timely financial support with flexible and simplified procedures for farming requirements. Zonal Head gave a brief overview of the multiple benefits that can be availed under the KCC scheme.

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# Piyush Singla reviews working of SED



Secretary School Education Department, Dr. Piyush Singla chairing a meeting.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: After assuming charge of School Education Department as Secretary, Dr. Piyush Singla, took a comprehensive review of the department on Tuesday at the Civil Secretariat here.

A detailed presentation on various facets of the department was made by the officers of the department.

The meeting had detailed discussion on functioning of the department, Centrally

Sponsored Schemes, physical and financial progress made under UT Capex, issues of HRM and best practices and initiatives of the department.

Secretary laid emphasis on timely completion of DPCs, finalization of seniority and ensuring availability of quality infrastructure to students. He enjoined upon all the officers and officials to uphold the principles of punctuality, discipline and ensure quality education. He also instructed

them for effective implementation of new initiatives such as PM SHRI, Vidya Samiksha Kendra (VSK), Samiksha App and JK attendance App.

The meeting was attended by both the Directors of School Education, Director Finance SED, Special Secretaries SED, Project Director Samagra Shiksha, Joint Director Planning and other officers of the department.

# Historic Development: Stree Shakti Mega Conclave at Jammu on women Reservation

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a historic development for the women empowerment and feminine progress in all levels of electoral polity, a mega conclave of women and senior politicians of the country under the banner of Stree Shakti and joint collaboration with Dr Ritu Singh gathered at Hari Niwas Palace, here on Tuesday.

Member Parliament Dr. Farooq Abdullah, Senior People's Democratic leader and DDC Chairman Safina Baig, Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta participated along with Rekha Mody, Founder Stree Shakti, Dr. Ritu Singh, educationist and Chairman Maharaja Hari Singh Foundation, Farzana Mumtaz, Editor in Chief News Kashmir reflected their opinions. Stree Shakti celebrating women reservation in electoral polity at Jammu.



MP Dr. Farooq Abdullah speaking at conclave of women at Hari Niwas Palace, Jammu.

Eminent women faces in polity and diverse fields Seema Murthy, Ritika Trehan, Neha Mahajan, Indu Khuda and Veena Handa affirmed their views on the topic.

Rekha Mody stated said, "Women are ready to embrace reservation and its political parties who need to walk the talk. At Historic Hari Niwas Palace Jammu we celebrated the Women Reservation Bill and expressing gratitude that Jammu and Kashmir and Puducherry are the first regions of country that will witness implementation of women reservation in electoral polity. We are stressing on women of Jammu and Kashmir to be

ready to be part of history and all the politics parties not just wait for reservation but be women centric in approach."

Dr Ritu Singh opined that under visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi the women of Jammu and Kashmir are marching in great directions and shaping brighter present and future for country.

Dr Ritu Singh opined that women reservation would give massive rise to socio political status of women of India and act as catalyst in entrepreneurs development of women in all spheres. She further added that the women's role in active governance and policy making will enhance equality and efficiency in the spirit of Indian democracy.

Prominent speakers who

motivated the gathering included Dr Beena Jad from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Naryana Hospital, Dr. Shilpa Pandita, Superintendent Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Naryana Hospital, Ritu President Mahila Morcha Reasi, Ruchika Sharma, Incharge Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Reasi, Rajni Sharma, Satya Kaul Achiever, Sheetal Sharma President Women Wing Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party, Members Apni Party Mahila Morcha Pooja Devi, Henna Begum, Rani Singh, Bharti Devi and Anuradha Sharma, State Working President Trade Union Congress Jammu and Kashmir, Madhu Sharma Dy. Headmistress DPS Katra and Meenakshi Koul, Senior Secondary Coordinator DPS

Katra. Farzana Mumtaz, Editor in Chief News Kashmir weekly and prominent women face of Jammu and Kashmir has termed reservation for women a great omen and affirmed that with desired provisions women are get representation in all important tiers of governance. She observed women of Jammu and Kashmir are ready to lead nation towards era of progress. Social and political circles of Jammu and Kashmir have widely applauded the move of Stree Shakti for working on women rise and growth in Jammu and Kashmir.

Importantly, women leaders from all walks of life, entrepreneurs, education, medical, social workers, Self help groups, engineering etc attended the conclave. Also women representatives from rural areas along with specially-abled attended the historic event.

Eminent women heads of organizations Esther William, Seema Murthy, Mitali Gupta, Remu Gupta, Indu Khuda, Winnie Sindh Chandrika Singh, Payal Saraf, Renuka Modi, Mona Saraf, Ankita Bansal, Twinkle Suri, Sandhya Gupta also dawned the occasion with their valuable views.

# ADGP Jammu visits Samba district, reviews various aspects of police stations

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Jammu Zone Anand Jain, conducted a comprehensive inspection of two prominent Police stations Vijaypur and Ramgarh in the Samba district on Tuesday.

The purpose of the inspection was to assess and review various aspects of the Police stations, including the functioning of the Woman Help Desk, Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS), reporting systems, accommodation for jawans, and an overall analysis of crime statistics.

IGP Jammu Zone Anand Jain was accompanied by DIG JKS Range Shakti Pathak and SSP Samba Benam Tosh.

During the inspection, ADGP Jammu Anand Jain meticulously examined the operations of the Woman Help Desk at both police stations. The Woman Help Desk plays a crucial role in



ADGP Jammu Zone Anand Jain conducting comprehensive inspection of Police station.

ensuring a safe and supportive environment for women seeking assistance. The ADGP commended the efforts of the Police personnel manning these desks and emphasized the importance of maintaining a sensitive and responsive approach towards addressing the concerns of women in distress.

Furthermore, the inspection included a thorough evaluation of the implementation and effectiveness of the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS).

He highlighted the significance of leveraging technology to enhance the efficiency of crime tracking and data management. Any identified areas for improvement will be addressed promptly to ensure the seamless integration and utilization of modern technology in policing.

Accommodation for jawans, the backbone of law enforcement, was also a focal point of the inspection. ADGP Anand Jain, assessed the living conditions and facilities provided to the Police personnel,

acknowledging the importance of a conducive and secure environment for the well-being of those dedicated to ensuring public safety. Crime statistics were thoroughly reviewed, and the inspection underscored the commitment of the Police force to uphold the highest standards of professionalism and service.

He expressed appreciation for the dedication and hard work exhibited by the Police personnel at both stations and encouraged continuous efforts to enhance community safety. Moreover, ADGP Jammu Zone inspected the SDPO Office Vijaypur to assess the overall functioning, efficiency, and adherence to protocols at the SDPO Office.

He directed for speedy redressal of the public grievances/complaints and prompt Police action in case of any untoward incident or any kind of emergency.

He asked the officers regarding the deployment and operations in their areas of responsibility.

# HC quashes LOC in J&K Bank loan scam

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a petition filed by one Aman Ghelot in much publicized J&K Bank Loan Scam, Justice Sindhu Sharma of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court quashed the Look Out Circular (LOC)/Notice issued by ACB.

While quashing the LOC, Justice Sindhu Sharma observed that it becomes evident that the LOC was issued despite the absence of any precondition necessitating such a measure. An LOC is a coercive measure to make a person surrender and consequentially interferes with petitioner's right of personal liberty and free movement. It is to be issued in cases where the accused is deliberately evading summons/arrest or where such person fails to appear in Court despite a Non-Bailable Warrant. In the instant case, there is no reply to the submission of the petitioner that he is always available for investigation. The respondents have not summoned him and in case, they would do so, he would appear before them. There is, as such, no

cogent reason for presuming that the petitioner would not appear before the Investigation Agency or abscond, the petitioner is available for investigation since the registration of FIR in the year 2019 and hence, no case is made out for issuing the impugned LOC.

Court observed that the Look Out Circular cannot be issued as a matter of course but in exceptional circumstances, after following guidelines, where there are reasons for the same i.e., where the accused deliberately evades arrest or does not appear before the trial Court.

The argument of the DSGI is that a request for Look Out Circular has been issued in view of the inherent power of the Investigating Authority to secure attendance and cooperation of the accused when the petitioner is cooperating with them is contrary to the guidelines in Sumer Singh Salkan's case, is also not sustainable, Court said. With these observations, Court said that the impugned LOC is devoid of merits and infringes upon right of the petitioner to

travel abroad. In view of the aforesaid facts and circumstances and for the reasons discussed above, the impugned LOC is set aside and quashed but in order to strike balance qua the right of the investigation agency to investigate the instant matter as well as the fundamental right of the petitioner of movement and free speech and allowed the petition with conditions that the petitioner shall intimate his travel dates and detailed itinerary to the Investigation Agency forthwith along with the address of the places that the petitioner shall be visiting; the petitioner on return shall inform the respondents about his arrival; the petitioner shall deposit an FDR to the tune of Rs. 01 lakh before the Investigating Agency; the petitioner shall not attempt to tamper with the evidence or influence the witnesses in any manner.

Court further made it clear that the order of this Court setting aside the impugned LOC will not impact the criminal proceedings or any other proceedings, at any stage, initiated against the petitioner.

# Taking inspiration from PM's commitment towards Jan Aushadhi write prescriptions by Generic name

PM is 'single handedly' taking stresses on all economic & social fronts like Jan Aushadhi Pariyojna.

Even after 14Yrs of launch Jan Aushadi Medicines have not taken even 0.5% of Pharma Market?

Why so when Jan Aushadhi Medicines bear very Genuine Price tags as compared to Branded Generic Medicines?

## DAYA SAGAR

Imagine how many shops of medicines may be there in a country like India having 6,50,000 or so villages where the patent free / generic drugs under brand names may be being sold with unreasonably inflated MRPs but still Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) has set a target for opening only 10,500 PMBJP Kendras (Jan Aushadhi shops) in India upto March, 2025 for a programme (Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana-PMBJP), very intimate flagship programme of PM Narendra Modi) of such a high public interest economic welfare which can benefit all segments of society without any financial burden on government & additionally bringing fortunes to sick Central Government Public sector Enterprises that are part of Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI). Surely Prime Minister is not being provided real feedback from ground situations and it appears he is 'single handedly' taking stresses on all economic & social fronts. Very less people may be able to tell the name of Min for Health and Family Welfare (Mansukh Mandaviya) and

MOS Chemical & Fertilizers and New & Renewable energy (Bhagwanth Khuba) who directly concerned ministers.

It has been on the initiative of the Prime Minister that since 2019 the 7th March is being "celebrated" as "Jan Aushadhi Divas" every year for enhancing awareness about the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) scheme and promoting generic medicines. Department of Pharmaceuticals / PMBI has said on the eve 5th Jan Aushadhi Divas (2023) that "The Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana is a flagship scheme of the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers and claimed that (PMBJP) has made significant impact to the lives of common people. Taking out indicators from the subjects discussed herein should the Department claim that the PMBJP has made significant impact?"

There is immediate need for examining the reasons for such a good public interest programme started in 2008 (in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi is taking so much intimate interest since 2014) taking off so slowly even after 15 years. There is need to even recast the

promotional slogans and explanations like providing quality generic medicines at an affordable price which should be something like "providing medicines at genuine prices and set immediate priority on ensuring that atleast all government doctors prescribe medicines where ever possible by technical name / chemical name/ generic name. The Jan Aushadhi Pariyojna (banners display "medicines available under PMBJP are priced 50%-90% less than that of branded prices") is now in its 15th year and even if we take that the MRP at drug Aushadhi stores is 50% less than others in the 'patent free drug trade' Indian patients (rich or poor) could be said to be still being unfairly fleeced by atleast INR 150000 to INR 160000 Cr in a year even after 2008 since as per Financial Report 2021-22 of the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) that is handling the marketing of the medicines & medical devices sold under the banner of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) of Deptt. of Pharmaceuticals,



## A Look through the Mist Part-II

Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Govt. of India, Revenue ending year 31 march 2023 has been only Rs.790.1 Cr, year ending 31 March 2022 has been only INR.567.58 Cr (INR 567, 57,93,922) only and ending year 31 march 2021 it was INR 430.1 Cr only (INR 430,09,73,403). The revenue of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) includes sales of medical devices as well as surgical appliances. So it could be said that the Pariyojna has not succeeded in relieving the unfair trade burden on the common man inspite Prime Minister Narendra Modi taking very intimate interest for promoting the sale from Jan Aushadhi Kendras pointedly after 2016-17. Let us not go into exactness in the figures and take the data quoted here only to have an idea of trade share that Jan Aushadhi Campaign might have been possibly able to secure even after 15 yrs of its launch by GOI through BPPI (later named Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India -PMBI). One would ask why has not the PMBI /

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers been able to carry the programme even when Prime Minister Narendra Modi has involved his person intimately with Pariyojna and is always there to extend all help ?It will not be an over statement to say that it has been / is only PM alone who is practically & religiously committed to PMBJP and has been promoting it 'daily' even outside events like Jan Aushadhi Divas/week . BPPI/ PMBI have in a way failed to follow up with the governments for enforcement of prescription writing by even Govt. Doctors .JA campaign has not received needed support from the practicing / prescription writing doctors ( no doubt there are some like Dr. Nishu G skin specialist in Sub District Hospital Sarwal Jammu who in routine write by chemical name, but surely are very in number such doctors must be recognised).

It is not out of place to mention here that medicines if prescribed under generic/ technical name, instead messages 'flash' by some introducing Generic medicines as inferior medicines and is why they are cheap. Government 'people' also introduce JA medicines at

occasions as 'affordable' medicines, "cheap" medicines and as even medicines for the poor which too makes negative impact where as these medicines should be introduced as "genuinely" priced medicines. PMBI/related institutions rarely are seen working on ground/ visiting doctors for promoting prescription writing by chemical name which has resulted in very slow growth in JA Aushadhi client traffic which is discouraging for entrepreneurs too . Even half hearted media campaigns by political leaders as well as the marketing personnel too have been pointing in wrong directions with slogans like "cheap medicines" , "medicines for the poor", "programme of the government for the poor", even some go to the extent of saying that the Jan Aushadhi medicines are costing less since government contributes; whereas(a) The JA drugs cost less because they are genuinely / fairly priced but others in market are with inflated margins (b) There is no subsidy from the Government on JA Drugs (c) The Jan Aushadhi Drugs are not to save money only of the poor but are for all citizens, Help the Pariyojna. (The author is Sr Journalist, social activist and analyst J&K affairs).