

# Income Tax & Central GST Departments’ ‘Mulaqaat’ outreach programme held at Shopian, Kulgam



Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax, Abhishri chairing a meeting at Shopian.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SHOPIAN/KULGAM: Income Tax Department in collaboration with the District Administration, Shopian and Kulgam on Wednesday organised an outreach programme, titled 'Mulaqaat' with the stakeholders, Contractors, Shopkeepers and Youth of both the districts with regard to Income Tax and Central GST.

In Shopian, the outreach programme, Mulaqaat, was conducted at the Mini Secretariat of the district and in Kulgam the same was conducted at the Rest House Chawalgam with representatives from the trade community, the local youth, fruit growers, small shopkeepers and businessmen in large numbers.

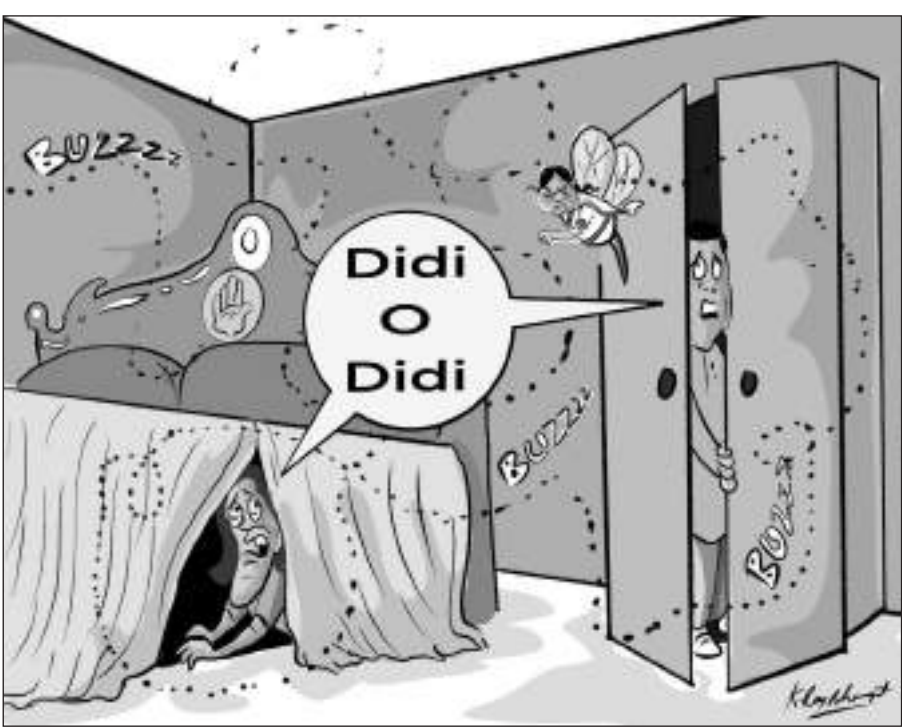
Feedback from the people was taken by the officers regarding taxation issues and their aspirations from the Union

Budget. Basharat and Muhammad Abas, young traders from Shopian, and Mohd Iqbal Dhoobi, a local trader from Kulgam, raised concerns about the complicated nature of the Income Tax and GST laws. They requested that awareness and educational camps be held in their district extensively to educate the public about the same. They also insisted that the locals wanted to pay taxes but they needed guidance with respect to the same to encourage voluntary compliance. While appreciating the technological advancements brought in both the departments and the transparency and accountability associated with the same, the locals requested that such interactive sessions continue with the jurisdictional officers in order to address their concerns more effectively.

Aijaz Ahmad of Kulgam highlighted the difficulties faced by the local traders in filing ITR /GST returns due to frequent blockade of Internet in his district. He also requested that relief be granted to the small traders of the districts with respect to penalty and interest charged for late filing of return. Regarding the Union Budget, the local youth of Shopian and Kulgam requested that beyond horticulture (on which majority of the population depends) further opportunities of Employment be generated, they further requested for increased road connectivity between the villages of District Shopian and Kulgam, tapping of Tourism potential here, River channelling & Flood proofing of river Ranbiara in Shopian and

construction of mini hydro projects over the same. Reyaz, a local shopkeeper from Shopian suggested that town beautification and basic facilities be emphasised in their districts for the visiting tourists. The audience also appreciated that amongst the various Central Government schemes, Ayushman Bharat had benefited the people of J&K immensely. The locals expressed great happiness that the Finance Minister of the Government of India had sent officers from the Income Tax Department and Central GST Department to listen to their concerns and feedback. The officers noted down the detailed points raised by the locals, collected feedback forms and promised to communicate the same to their superiors.

The Income Tax Department in Srinagar is headed by the Principal Commissioner of Income Tax, M.P Singh. His officers, the Joint Commissioner of Income Tax, Rajiv Gubgotra & Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax, Abhishri conducted the functions at Kulgam and Shopian districts, respectively, along with the officers of the Central GST Department. The taxpayers of both the districts were also educated about the Taxpayers' Charter of the Income Tax Department which is attached with this document. Overall, it was a constructive and fruitful interactive session where the voices, thoughts and ideas of the locals from Shopian & Kulgam District were heard and recorded.



## BSF Jammu IG calls troops to scale newer heights on 57th Raising Day

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: As the Border Security Force (BSF) celebrated 57th Raising Day in Jammu on Wednesday, its Inspector General of Jammu frontier D K Boora motivated the troops to continue achieving newer heights and thwart enemy attempts to disturb peace and tranquillity. Boora paid rich tributes to the brave martyrs of the BSF who laid down their lives for the nation. Officers and jawans of BSF's Jammu frontier celebrated the Raising Day with fervour at the frontier in

Paloura and all its battalions deployed at the International Border of Jammu and the Line of Control in Rajouri and Poonch areas, BSF public relations officer DIG SPS Sabdhu said. On the occasion, Boora welcomed and interacted with the BSF veterans who were present in large numbers. Following a rousing welcome, they danced to the patriotic tunes of the band. Several personnel from the Jammu frontier have been awarded with various medals in the year – Police Medal for Gallantry (PMG) - one; Police

Antrik Suraksha Seva Padak - 2026; Utkrisht Seva Padak - 323; Ati Utkrisht Seva Padak 163; Director's General Commendation Role (DG'sCR) 453; Additional Director's General Commendation Role (ADG'sCR) 38; DGP's Jammu and Kashmir Commendation Medal and Certificate six; and DGP's Jammu and Kashmir appreciation seven. A cultural programme was also presented by the BSF personnel and students of Jammu BSF School.

## NIA Court frames charges against two ISI agents in fake currency case

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Special Judge NIA Sunit Gupta framed charges under section 17 of UA(P) Act and 489-B/489-C of RPC Ashok Kumar and Bilal Ahmed, an alleged ISI agent. As per brief facts, on Nov 6, 2014 PSI Rahul Mahajan Incharge Police Post Parade along with his subordinates was on patrolling duty near Parade ground and adjoining places. At about 15.00 Hrs, when the party reached near Brahmin Shaba Parade, three persons after observing the police party tried to run away from the spot who were apprehended by police party. On interrogation, they disclosed their identity as Bilal Ahmed, son of Abdul Rehman, resident of Drungbal Baramulla, Ghulam Mohi-u-Din, son of Mohd Yousaf Akhnoon, resident of Hari Pora Baramulla and Ashok Kumar, son of Raseela Ram, resident of Barmeen tehsil Ramnagar District Udhampur. Bilal Ahmed was holding a white-coloured plastic bag in his hand containing Rs 50,000 Indian Currency notes comprising 100 notes of Rs 500 denomination. Ghulam Mohi-u-Din was holding a plastic bag containing Rs 17,000 comprising of 8 notes of Rs 1,000 denomination and 18 notes of Rs 500 denomination

whereas, Ashok Kumar was possessing a green and black coloured bag containing three boxes on which ISI was written. On one of aforesaid boxes, six number of currency notes of Rs 500 denomination were pasted and in box some papers were found. In another box, six Indian currency notes of Rs 500 denomination each were pasted and in the box some documents were contained. In third box, eight number of Indian currency Notes of Rs 1,000 denomination each were pasted and inside box again some documents were found. Some other documents and certificates were also found in the bag. When the aforesaid accused persons were enquired about currency notes they could not satisfactorily respond to the queries. On the minute perusal of currency notes, it was found that all notes were fake and counterfeit currencies and the link of these accused persons could be connected with Pakistan based terrorist organization who under the directions of ISI have entered into the territory of J&K with purpose to explore the possibilities of terror activities and also to financial aid the local terrorists of J&K State. The aforesaid accused person were apprehended on the spot and

Incharge Patrolling party PSI Rahul Mahajan issued a docket in the name of SHO Police Station Pacea Danga, Jammu for registration of a case. On basis of the said docket FIR No 170/2014 for the offences under sections 16/17 of UA(P) Act and 489-A, 489-B and 489-C RPC was registered with Police Station Pacea Danga, Jammu and the investigation of the case was assigned to Perbeet Singh Parihar DySP SDPO, City North, Jammu. Special Judge NIA Sunit Gupta after hearing APP Anil Magotra for Police observed that though from perusal of the file, it revealed that the IO in the present case has not complied with the aforesaid rules in strict terms yet the connection of the accused with the terrorists and enemy country have been prima facie established from Articles which were seized from their possession including a bag which depicts name of ISI organization. Therefore, despite non compliance of Rules by concerned police in present case, the accused persons cannot be allowed to be scot-free from offence under section 17 of UA(P) Act which is found to be prima facie made out against them, the Court directed.

## Pak trying to push more terrorists across LoC during winter season: DGP

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Pakistan is trying to push more terrorists across the Line of Control (LoC) during the winter season and is hell bent to disturb peace in Jammu and Kashmir, Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh said on Wednesday. The DGP visited the south Kashmir districts of Anantnag and Pulwama where he chaired an officers' meeting to take stock of the security scenario. Pakistan agents and their handlers are hell bent to disturb the peace here. Pakistan and their agents are trying to push more terrorists during the winter season through Rajouri, Poonch and Bandipora, Kupwara borders, he said. Singh, however, said that security forces protecting the borders and police in the hinterland are active to thwart any infiltration attempt.



DGP Dilbag Singh interacting with police officers during visit to Pulwama.

The DGP said the neighbouring country and its handlers were also trying very hard to radicalise the youth of Jammu and Kashmir and involve them in terrorism. The Jammu and Kashmir Police is making every effort to stop involvement of youth and have remained successful in bringing misguided youth to their home and

parents, he said. The DGP impressed upon the police officers to strive harder to maintain peace and order in the Union Territory. Singh emphasised that police personnel must deal strictly with elements involved in radicalising the youth and pushing them towards terrorism. Identify and book the

persons involved in these activities, he said, and directed the officers that people's cooperation is pivotal for the force to achieve more success on the anti-terrorism front and emphasised for better police public relations. The Jammu and Kashmir police chief said the people of south Kashmir have always been cooperative and there is no law and order situation because of public support. Police and people have been working together for peace, and police and security forces are working in great synergy to eliminate the remaining terrorists to maintain peace and order, he said. Complimenting police and security forces for a successful operation in Pulwama in which two terrorists were killed, the

DGP said it was a clean operation without any collateral damage. Two terrorist commanders of proscribed outfit JeM were neutralised in the operation. Yasir Parray who was known as an IED expert had joined the terrorist group in 2019 and was involved in various terror incidents. He was involved in martyrdom of two Army officials and injuring some others by triggering an IED blast," the DGP said. The other foreign terrorist neutralised was known as Ali Bhai and he too was involved in various terror incidents. The duo was working together in radicalising youth and was involved in a dozen FIRs. A number of civilians have sighed a relief today as the duo had created a fear in the lives of locals, he said.

## Div Com visits Mantalai, Sudhmahadev; listens to public grievances, reviews progress on Yoga Centre



Div Com Jammu Dr Raghav Langer conducting tour of Chenani Sub division.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: Divisional Commissioner Jammu Dr Raghav Langer on Wednesday conducted an extensive tour of Chenani Sub division of the district Udhampur under public outreach programme and interacted with PRI members and listened to issues of locals. En-route, the Divisional Commissioner inspected the progress of work on Chenani-Sudhmahadev Road being constructed by National Highways Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL). The Divisional Commissioner directed the Executive agencies to expedite the pace of work on the prestigious road project and ensure its completion within the stipulated time frame. Responding to issues of dispute raised by NHIDCL, the

Div Com instructed the Sub Divisional Magistrate to intervene and resolve the bottlenecks hampering work progress and ensure that formation cutting is done at the earliest. Meanwhile, the Divisional Commissioner held a public grievances redressal camp at Mantalai and interacted with PRI members and locals of Chenani, Sudhmahadev. The PRIs, Locals put forth their demands. The Div Com gave a patient hearing and passed on the spot directions to the concerned officers for resolving the issues. The concerned officers also responded to the projected demands and apprised the public that most of the projected issues were under consideration and would be resolved in due course of time. Dr Raghav Langer stressed

upon the officers present to be proactive and responsive towards the public grievances and asked them to assert themselves in resolving the issues of public importance. He assured the people that all their genuine demands would be processed for early redressal. The Div Com issued on the spot directions to the concerned departments for looking into all the issues raised by the public for an early redressal. Meanwhile, the Div Com reviewed the progress on the International Yoga centre being constructed by National Project Construction Corporation (NPCC) under the Swadesh Darshan scheme of the GoI at a cost of Rs 90 crores. The Divisional Commissioner strictly directed the executing agencies to expedite the pace of work for timely completion of this prestigious project. The Divisional Commissioner also visited Sudhmahadev and paid obeisance at the local Temple Shrine of Sudhmahadev. He also interacted with PRI members and locals there and listened to their grievances. The Div Com assured the PRIs that all their genuine issues would be redressed at the earliest.

### LG orders immediate relief for Tulail fire victims

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Expressing deep anguish over the Fire Incident at Village Kilshay of Tulail in Sub Division, Gurez, which razed several houses, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha had directed the District Administration Bandipora to conduct an on-the-spot assessment and provide immediate relief to the affected families. Acting on the directions, the district authorities have immediately supplied Blankets, Sustenance Kits (Cooking Oil, Pulses, etc.), Household Utensils and immediate cash assistance of Rs 1.50 lakh ( Rs 15,000 to each family), besides every possible support shall be extended to the families. Temporary rehabilitation/shifting shall also be arranged wherever required. Further, a relief of Rs 1.10 lakh to each affected family whose residential structure has been completely damaged shall be released tomorrow under SDRF norms. The Lt Governor has directed the district administration to ensure each family is properly looked after and further support for building new houses should be extended to the affected families. Senior Sub Divisional Administration officers are also stationed on the spot for the assistance of the affected families.

## Sonam Wangchuk applauds PMO's promptness in intervening to explore Carbon Neutral possibility with new terminal of KBR Airport Leh

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
LEH: Founding-Director Himalayan Institute of Alternatives, Ladakh (HIAL) & Innovator Sonam Wangchuk expressed gratitude to the Airports Authority of India, the Civil Aviation Ministry and especially Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the attention and support they've given to his appeal to rescue the new airport terminal at Kushok Bakula Rinpoche Airport Leh and transform it from a carbon intensive airport to a Carbon Neutral Airport. About two weeks ago Magsaysay Awardee Sonam Wangchuk took to Twitter and Facebook about the wrong design of the new terminal and appealed to the Prime Minister for his intervention for a mid-course correction of the terminal being built.



Sonam Wangchuk addressing media persons at Leh.

"I'm very impressed at the swiftness and responsiveness of the PMO in sending a team led by its Deputy Secretary Mangesh Ghildiyal to take stock of the airport and the overall status of carbon neutrality in UT Ladakh. My appeal for a review of the Leh airport is not new, in fact for the last three years I have been appealing to various levels of AAI through some six meetings at the local level. However, the response was slow and the speed of work on the wrong design was very fast and efficient, so I had to take to social media and appeal to the Prime Minister to take timely measures before it's too late," Wangchuk said while addressing at a press conference here on Wednesday. He said that he didn't have anyone to blame for the existing design of

the airport because this airport was conceived and designed at a time when carbon neutrality was not a huge issue. "However ever since our Prime Minister declared Ladakh to be a carbon neutral region and more recently India to be carbon neutral country by 2070 at COP 26, it has become incumbent upon all of us to do everything possible to realize this noble vision," he said adding that in this endeavour the Himalayan Institute of Alternatives, Ladakh (HIAL) wanted to contribute its small part to make this airport an example for the world. Sonam Wangchuk thinks that in the current concept, the Leh airport new terminal seems to be designed for some other climate/location other than Ladakh as there is heavy emphasis on air conditioning, to the tune of a using a 700 KW system to be powered by diesel generators. "On the other hand, heating in winter is all based on diesel boilers to the tune of 3.5 MW while ignoring the solar heat the building will be capturing from the glazed south façade which will be to the tune of 1

MW and over a day roughly 4 MWh of solar heat energy could enter the building free of cost. Since this free clean energy is not considered, the southern glazing has been given an inverse tilt and the glass proposed to be used is of low solar absorption, as would be done for hotter climates. In all this, insulation, which is the most cost-effective way of saving resources, emission and pollution is very insufficient in the walls, some roofs and completely non-existent in the floors," Wangchuk observed. He has proposed eliminating diesel boilers and DG sets (except one stand by), to replace with passive solar heating/cooling through Enhancement of insulation in walls, roof and flooring. Using the roughly 4 MWh solar gain from the south façade of the airport, Using the Geo-thermal heat gain from the 100 Cu M of ground water pumped daily, Using efficient Heat Pumps instead of diesel boilers, Using waste heat recovery from the standby diesel generator (in conjunction with heat pumps), in times of simultaneous cloudy weather and grid failure. He thanked the heads of Airports Authority of India for being cooperative and supportive for sharing data and design details which enabled him to propose a new concept which will make the Leh airport completely carbon neutral and will save the exchequer foreign reserves to the tune of 10 crores per year and of course carbon emissions to the tune of 10 tons per day. "If executed well, this airport could become a glorious example for the whole country and the world," he hoped while thanking the PMO and other concerned authorities for the promptness of action.