

JKI to focus on export market: CS

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In a major boost towards increasing JKI sales especially exports, Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, along with Principal Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Ranjan Prakash Thakur, on Saturday inaugurated Export Centre cum Liaison Office of JKI located at State Emporia Building, New Delhi.

The facility, having a total floor area of 2700 square feet spread over two floors, will facilitate display cum sale of silk and wool products being manufactured by JKI besides would also be used for institutional sales and as a liaison office for exports.

Principal Secretary informed that modernization of govern-



Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta along with Principal Secretary, I&C, Ranjan Prakash Thakur after inaugurating Export Centre cum Liaison Office of JKI at State Emporia Building, New Delhi.

ment woollen mills Bemina is under progress and expected to be completed by the end of January 2022 which besides helping in generation of revenue for JKI would also provide a market to the sheep rearers of the UT.

Chief Secretary appreciated the efforts of management of JKI for becoming an economically viable entity and also for providing much needed market to the cocoon and sheep rearers of J&K. He directed the officers of JKI to undertake the branding of its Kashmir silk and wool products besides design support so that the products manufactured are according to market fashion and trends for optimum sale and export as well.



Govt PG College Rajouri holds regional seminar on 'Human Rights & Women Empowerment'



Principal of the College, Prof. (Dr.) Shakeel Ahmed Raina speaking at a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: The Women Development Cell of the Government PG College Rajouri held regional seminar on 'Human Rights and Women Empowerment' on Saturday.

Prof. (Dr.) Shakeel Ahmed Raina, Principal of the College was Chief Guest whereas Dr. Rani Mughal, Head, Department of Botany, GDC Poonch, Dr. Naim-un-Nisa, Head, Department of Arabic, GDC Thanamandi and Nazma Sheikh, District co-ordinator, Mahilla Shakti Kender (MSK) Rajouri were resource persons on the occasion.

Prof. Aasia Rashid Bhat, Convener, Women Development Cell in the college, co-ordinated the event.

In their keynote addresses, Dr. Rani Mughal and Dr. Naim-un-Nisa explained various aspects of human rights and values that can efficiently be applied to empower the women.

They highlighted women rights in various religious texts with regards to women empowerment.

They also said that the media can play very important role in the empowerment of women. Nazma Sheikh briefed about various government schemes to

empower women.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Raina said that the women empowerment is inevitable in the context of promotion and protection of human rights. Men and women are complementary to one another and progress of one is not possible without the empowerment of other especially women. He appreciated the Women Development Cell for organizing such event while involving the exemplary resource persons from the Pirpanjal region.

Prof. Iqbal Raina from Department of Physics in College, Abdul Jabbar from Department of Industry, commerce, Rajouri, Shivangi Kant, Legal advisor of Juvenile Justice Board, Rajouri and Dr. Atiya Sayeed, from Department of Chemistry in College, also spoke on the occasion.

Earlier, Prof. Aasia Rashid Bhat introduced the audience about the programme and welcomed the guests whereas Prof. Fatima Parveen, Department of Chemistry, conducted the proceedings of the programme. Prof. Supriya Gupta from Department of Computer Science presented the formal vote of thanks.

Prominent among others

present on the occasion were Prof. Farooq Mirza, Dr. Anwer Shah, Prof. Ghulam Abbas, Prof. Manzoor Ahmed Dar, Prof. Asif Aijaz Lone, Prof. Amit Bhalla, Prof. Anjad Bhatti, Prof. Salma Farooq, Prof. Rabya Kosser and Prof. Rubina. A large number of students, scholars and faculty members participated in the seminar.

Power shutdown

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDC/L, Jammu has informed that the power supply to the areas being fed from Gris Stations- Gangyal, Sidhra-I and II, Janipur, Hajjarkotli, BB-I, BB-II, Akhnoor and Kalakote shall remain affected on December 26 from 7 am to 3 pm.

Dogri song 'Jammu De Loko Dikho' released



Dignitaries releasing Rajesh Sharma's Dogri song 'Jammua De Loko Dikho' at KL Sehgal Hall, Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dogri got its rightful recognition after getting included in 8th schedule of Parliament and is now being popularised by the sons of Duggar. In one such attempt, son of soil, Rajesh Sharma, who is presently working as a Territory Manager with Bharat Petroleum in western UP, attempted to bring laurels by writing and singing a

Dogri song 'Jammua De Loko Dikho'. Though efforts of depicting Dogra culture have become popular among masses by the people associated with art and culture, but this attempt of writing and singing a Dogri song by a working corporate executive is really a unique initiative.

In a function held at K L Sehgal Hall on Saturday, this song was released by

Dogra bureaucrats of J&K namely B R Sharma, Chairman PSC and Sanjeev Verma, Commissioner Secretary, Forests & Ecology Department. Editor-in-Chief STATE TIMES, Raj Daluja along with other prominent persons present on the occasion.

While Rajesh Sharma described having written this song on three fronts i.e., Dogra cuisines, spirituality

and people of Jammu, Sanjeev Verma stressed on the need of preserving the language through similar attempts by youngsters. He also informed the gathering that Dogri has a significant history, going back to Vedic times and is quite close to Sanskrit as it is abstract of Sanskrit only.

Speaking on the occasion, B R Sharma said that we, as a community, must feel honoured to remain connected

with our roots and nothing is better than to start speaking Dogri with our children first, as charity always begins from home. The song has been composed by Deepak Kumar, who is also known as Kishore Da of Jammu. Other prominent people who also spoke on the occasion included Vijay Sambyal, former Director All India Radio; Vijaya Thakur and famous singer Suraj Singh.

Shah launches Governance Index, Dr Jitendra unfolds Modi's Governance model

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: On the occasion of Good Governance Day today, Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched "Good Governance Index 2021" at a function organised by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) at Vigyan Bhawan here.

Speaking on the occasion, Amit Shah dwelt at length on the hallmarks and pro-poor decisions taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the last seven and half years while Dr Jitendra Singh, the Minister Incharge DARPG and DoPT, unfolded PM Modi's Governance Model.

Prominent among those



Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Union Minister Incharge DoPT/DARPG Dr Jitendra Singh speaking at a function to commemorate 'Good Governance Day' at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on Saturday.

who attended the event were Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, DoPT Secretary Pradeep Tripathi, DARPG Secretary Sanjay Singh, Special Secretary DARPG V Srinivas, senior officers from various ministries of Government of India as well as senior government functionaries and administrators connected from 23 loca-

tions in different States and Union Territories of India. Amit Shah said that in the last 70 years, several government schemes were launched but the poor remained the same. It was for the first time that there was a government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi which had addressed every sector in a

wholesome manner. He referred to houses being provided to more than 2 Crore people, Cooking Cylinders being made available to 14 Crore and the target of drinking water in every house by December 2022. In addition, he said, during Corona, over 80 Crore people received Ration free of cost.

Shah further said that the Modi government brought in such a policy which could eliminate the root cause of the problem. Technology was brought for the convenience and comfort of common citizens. He also referred to vaccination being received by more than 100 Cr people.

Dr Jitendra Singh, speaking on the occasion, said that soon after Narendra Modi took over as Prime Minister in 2014, one of the earliest decisions taken by him was to end the practice of getting certificates or documents attested by a gazetted officer. This was not only a governance reform but also sent out a message to every nook and corner of the country that the government headed by Modi had the capacity to trust the youth of this coun-

try and was ready to take them along after earning their respect and trust. Similarly, he said, abolition of interview had provided a level playing field for all the job aspirants.

Dr Jitendra also informed that from next year onwards, there will be a Common Eligibility Test (CET) for all the government jobs. This, he said, will be a huge game changer because many youth from lower economic strata as well as women aspirants found it unaffordable and also inconvenient to make themselves available for entrance tests for jobs in different departments at different centres. This combined test, he said, will have at least one Examination Center in each of the over 750 districts of India.

LG needs to get examined why vacancies of MOs in J&K are remaining 'without' Doctors?

In 1980s masses from all three regions of J&K state had started seeing people's care taker in the person of then Governor Jagmohan. People had started feeling like that for LG Manoj Sinha also who too had been observed physically moving outside Raj Bhawan much more frequently in comparison to the earlier Governors. But inspite of Sinha expressing common man friendly intentions & promising good governance even non-political people do not appear reasonably satisfied, why? must investigate the LG.



A Look through the Mist

One reason could be that people in the '1st arena' of LG may not be providing the feedbacks about the real status of the executions to the LG worth applying needed reforms / deploying the lacking resources/ inputs. One of the sectors that could be referred here could be the health sector. Manoj Sinha has been very explicitly expressing his concern for providing proper health care to the common people which he had also shown just in few months of his taking over by ordering the policy for accelerated recruitment for the appointment of Allopathic Medical Officers to make good the lack of 'availability' of medical officers in the rural / distant areas which was not only due to lack of sanctioned posts but was also more due to either posts lying vacant or in service doctors managing urban postings or in service doctors pursuing PG courses keeping post locked or to some extent terms of appointment being offered to doctors are irrational (not fair).

J&K Government had initiated recruitment of about 950 Allopathic Medical Officers (min qualification MBBS only) on September 27, 2018 against regular gazetted posts lying vacant and issued appointment order of 921 medical officers under NO: 4 7-HME of 2019 Dated: January 14, 2019 (probation of 5 yrs and no increments & allowances during probation) out which a number of posts still remained vacant either due to some candidates not joining or some leaving after joining. Another requirement was floated on June 10, 2020 for about 950 Medical Officers, min qualification as MBBS degree, with conditions of service again as per SRO 202 of June 30, 2015 and first appointment order for only 459 candidates under accelerated recruitment process was issued on December 31, 2021 vide G.O No. 938 - JK(HME) of 2020 of December 31, 2020, no doubt 2584 candidates had applied (this time the conditions of service were a little better than

order NO: 4 7-HME of 2019 Dated: January 14, 2019 since only the probation period had been reduced from 5 to 2 years in terms of J&K Probationer (Condition of Service, Pay & Allowances) and Fixation of Tenure Rules, 2020 S.O 192.

TABLE-A	Gazetted Group-A Medical Officers	
"Likely Wages a MO is entitled to get for appointment outside S.O 192/194 of June 17, 2020 as has been in the case of other Gazetted service Level-8 (47600-151110) appointment made vide order No 1100 - JK(GAD) of 2020, Dated: December 9, 2020 and ** Likely Wages the Mos Level-9 (52700-166700) appointed under Order 938 - JK(HME) of 2020 of December 31, 2020 will be getting w.e.f July 1, 2021 (DA and HRA as on July 31, 2021). * there could be some difference but surely that is not likely to be much.	Level-9 (52700-166700)	
	*Normal Regular Entitlement	**Under S.O 192/194
*1st Yr 52700+ DA Say @31% (16337)+ HRA@18%(9486)+TPTA 1800x1.31 (2358)+MA(300)= 81181	81181	53000
*2nd Yr 54200+DA Say @31% (16802)+ HRA@18%(9756)+TPTA 1800x1.31 (2358)+MA(300)= 83416	83416	53000
*3rd Yr 55700+DA Say @31% (17267)+ HRA@18%(10026)+TPTA 1800x1.31 (2358)+MA(300)=85651	85651 +**18000	81181 +**18000
*1. Annual increment taken @1500. 2.D.A is taken as 21% without increase 3.Transport allowance is taken as 1800/pm plus DA **3. Child Education Allowance @ Rs.2250/pm plus Child Hostel Subsidy allowance @ Rs.6750/pm for 2 children is also due in normal course i.e Entitlement of CEA&CHSA could be drawn upto Rs. 18000/ per month.	Plus upto **18000/pm as CEA/CHSA	Nil for atleast first two years

It appears that those at the helm of affairs in the bureaucracy were not that serious about executing the intentions of the LG, Manoj Sinha, as regards filling the gaps in rendering the minimum health services to common masses and had not taken shortfall / poor response even against appointment order of December 31, 2020 seriously. Had the top rung of Bureaucracy been serious they would have analysed the reasons for the regular substantive posts having remained unfilled even when post was of Level- 9 (Level-9, 52700-166700) requiring only MBBS degree holders (that too even fresh could apply) against the two orders referred here., did

not try to work out what minimum improvement in terms of conditions of appointment was possible so as to apprise the LG about the needed action / amendments since had that been done the UT Government would not have once again initiated another recruitment through an indent placed on atleast on similar terms (S.O 192 of June 17, 2020 no increment , no allowances during probation) with PSC under HD-Gaz/Gen/ 47/2021 dated November 18, 2021 for recruitment of 705 Medical Officers including 258 unfilled posts out of earlier indents. From the recruitments initiated since 2018 it could be seen that there were about 2500 posts of graduate Medical Officers lying vacant and that must be putting the distant & backward areas under health cover distress. Otherwise also before placing new intent in November 2021 with PSC the UT Administration should have taken 'wisdom' from lead paras of G.O No. dated December 31, 2021 itself where in among other justifications for recruitments the order also said. Quote <"Where as taking cognizance of the lack of medical care facilities in the rural / peripheral areas of UT of J&K due to acute shortage of Medical Officers , the Health and Medical Education department worked out a proposal to utilize all the vacancies of Medical officers including those earmarked for Leave, Training & Deputation Reserves by referring the vacancies to the J&K Public Service Commission for selection purpose on the fast track basis in larger public interest ">

Surely the LG is not being provided the needed feedback and hence his intentions of doing good to common masses and the poor/ backward/ distantly placed people of UT of J&K too are suffering with the posts remaining vacant and the doctors appointed against the posts also feeling that they are being exploited interns of reduced wages and harsh terms of appointment. No doubt there are some other reasons also for shortage of doctors in the rural/ distant / far flung areas in J&K like (i) appointed doctors making efforts for managing urban postings in terms of attachments / dummy posts (ii) remaining away from duty place for one or other reason (iii) some not liking to stay in rural areas where they do not find private practice that lucrative (iv) the women doctors not preferring to work in rural/ farflung areas even when in J&K government medical colleges 50% MBBS admissions are for girls (v) the provision of special leaves for woman doctors like maternity leave- Maternity and paternity leave SRO-353 Dated October 6, 2015 / Not due Leave off year / child care leave of 2 years -

Child care leave for woman SRO-232 Dated July 22, 2015 (vi) ofcourse some appointed doctors going on 2 to 3 year study leave (there being also provision for study leave with pay though it is in the interest of improving health care) and after PG not preferring to serve in peripheral areas.

May be some rules have been framed in recent years to overcome the shortages due to some compelling reasons as mentioned here in above like putting condition of 5 years for working in area where first posted, putting the condition of 7 years working in the BA/LOC area for candidates who take job under RBA/ LOC reservation category, not allowing a candidate who was pursuing PG course at the time of selection , not allowing regular study leave for first 5 years of appointment and like.

But the condition of no increments & allowances during probation period has no justification and public interest involved when UT government is not applying same condition to L-8 lower level gazetted services against which even a simple graduate of any stream can apply where as for MO post only MBBS can apply.

The socio-economic depression to what one could be subjected could well be read from the likely projected wages and wages actually given as projected in Table-A. No doubt there could be some review on other conditions also, particularly conditions other than the requirement of 7yrs first working in the LOC/BA for the candidates who take appointment against reserved quota for RBA/LOC/IB.

Like review JK Leave rules 1979 R-61-4 amended vide S O 234 of 2107-2020 qualifying service from 3 years to 5 years for study leave again to reduce the condition for study leave from 5 yrs to 3 years provided the Doctor will after PG join at same place/ area to complete 5ys or 7 year service. Similarly the provisions like 2yr child care leave for female only/not due leave for one year need review, more over no such provisions like exist in private sector which could keep a female employee away from job for nearly 4 years. More so in J&K Medical colleges 50 % seats are reserved for female candidates and may be female doctors do have some reservations for remote postings.

Government has to find out some way out to ensure that rural/ remote / backward area posts do not remain vacant and they are not left to be attended by Graduate (MBBS/ BAMS) level doctors only.

(Daya Sagar: Senior Journalist, Social Activist, Analyst J&K Affairs .can be reached at dayasagr45@yahoo.com).