

# Taxpayers' awareness campaign held in Pulwama

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
PULWAMA: In continuation to ongoing outreach programmes across the UT of J&K and Ladakh, on the 3rd day, Taxpayers awareness campaign, 'Mulaqaat' was held in district Pulwama of Kashmir Province. The proceedings were chaired by MP Singh (IRS Officer of 1990 Batch), Principal Commissioner of Income Tax, Srinagar (PCIT), District Magistrate Pulwama, Baseer Chaudhary and other officers of CGST Department were also present on the occasion. The interaction was with representatives of local youth, trade community, industrialists, saffron growers, small shopkeepers & businessmen, who attended the programme in a large number. Besides spreading awareness amongst taxpayers regarding Income Tax Slab rates, the



PCIT, MP Singh chairing a taxpayers' awareness campaign, 'Mulaqaat' in district Pulwama.

PCIT urged the audience to contribute to Nation Building process as honest and proud tax payers. He further emphasized that economic development without financial discipline cannot bring self-respect among people. The first step towards financial discipline is to pay due taxes and file ITRs which is a very essential process. He reiterated that

there is no scope of any bias or harassment any more under the new transparent and accountable tax regime. He further spoke about the Faceless Scheme under which all scrutiny proceedings would be conducted online to ensure smooth compliance and transparency of the proceedings. Singh emphasized that for redressing genuine grievances of the

tax payers, officers are resolved to go the extra mile, sit for late hours and are actually doing so. Beyond this, feedback from the people was taken by the officers regarding taxation issues and their aspirations from the Union Budget. The local traders and small shopkeepers were also informed about sections of the Income Tax Act, 1961, under which they

can avail presumptive taxation scheme. Taxpayers' awareness and facilitation camp was also organised at Kathua and Katra. People from different walks of the society including professionals attended these camps and raised queries which were resolved on the spot. Most of the issues raised by them were related duplication of PAN, e-filing facilities, technical glitches on e-filing portal, DSC pairing with PAN, physical returns sent to CPC but not available on portal, online appeal filing issues, registration of PAN of legal-heir, mismatch of TDS, non-availability of old record on new e-filing portal etc. A visit of young students was also organised to apprise them of the working of Income Tax Office, role of TRP & NSDL and incentives available for them as start-up entrepreneurs.

Article 370 revocation, A blame game



## Govt committed to ameliorate condition of differently abled persons: Sham Sharma

Asks people to come forward, display philanthropy to help needy

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
AKHNOOR: Former Minister and Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) State Vice-President, Sham Lal Sharma on Friday asserted that the BJP Govt led by PM Narendra Modi stands fully committed to provide succour to all the sections of the society with special focus on ameliorating the poor, needy and disabled persons.

The BJP leader was speaking at a function organized as part of World Disabled Day organized by All Jammu and Kashmir Disabled Welfare Trust, Akhnoor under the chairmanship of Trust Chairman Sushil Sharma here. Sham Lal Sharma was the Chief Guest in the programme in which the chairman of the trust, Sushil Sharma, highlighted before the Chief Guest the problems being faced by the differently-abled people.

After patiently listening to the issues and problems, Sham Lal Sharma appreciated all those present to celebrate the 'Divyang Diwas' in honour of this significant section of the society.

He specially lauded the Trust management for organizing the programme



Former Minister, Sham Lal Sharma along with others during a programme.

on the day specially dedicated to the disabled persons besides providing basic facilities to the differently-abled people.

He said that the Trust is doing a commendable job by providing various facilities to this lot especially by presenting to them the specially designed scooters, tricycles, etc that enhance the mobility of such people.

He appealed to the people at large to come forward and get involved in multiple philanthropic activities especially focussing on the differently-abled persons.

He assured that he would leave no stone unturned in resolving all their issues so that there is no hurdle at all in ameliorating the differently-abled persons.

He said that he would soon

take all their problems with the concerned the higher authorities and get the same addressed at the earliest.

Meanwhile, the Trust had organized free medical check-up camps and provided free medicines to the disabled people in collaboration with the J&K Health Department.

On this occasion, District Development Council member Bhalwal Brahmna, Bushan Bral, Dr Ashok Kumar, Chairman Trust Sham Lal, Chairman Disable Care Foundation Umesh Sharma, Seema Mehra, Ritika Sharma, Tarsem Lal, Shamsher Singh, Sham Singh appreciated the members of the Trust for coming forward displaying philanthropy in facilitating the lives of the differently-abled people.

## IT Secy calls for rejuvenating CSCs in J&K

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Secretary Information Technology (IT) and Chief Executive Officer, J&K e-Governance Agency, Amit Sharma called for rejuvenating Common Service Centres (CSCs) in J&K in a Programme organised in Jammu to award top performing CSCs and distribute Certificates being generated through CSC here.

Amit Sharma, who was the Chief Guest on the occasion, made a special call to all the CSC teams to make the best out of this opportunity to reach out and serve the last mile citizens who are sitting in far-flung areas of all twenty districts of J&K.

He emphasised that at present, CSC 2.0 version is going on under which doorstep delivery is the ideal model wherein VLEs should visit individual households to deliver public services such as Aadhaar Card, e-



Secretary IT, Amit Sharma honouring a CSC member.

Sharm Card, Domicile Certificate, Driving License and even conduct Banking Operations using Banking Correspondent Model.

Amit also appreciated the work done by top performing CSCs and awarded them for giving best per-

formance in past few months, especially during pandemic times in the districts of Reasi, Kathua, Ramban and Udhampur Districts of J&K.

He mentioned that these role model CSCs should mentor other CSCs of the respective districts to

take a lead in making a difference thereby helping people to derive maximum benefits through presence of CSCs who work while using Information Technology tools.

Amit Sharma advised CSC-SPV, Head Operations Shahnawaz Hussain in J&K/Ladakh to finish necessary work to enter into an MoU with JaKeGA so that maximum government services can be covered with the synergy effect in J&K and the same can be used to give maximum benefits in public service delivery through the usage of this Model which is already in place in other states and UTs.

Before culmination, IT Secretary J&K assured the audience comprising primarily of CSC owners and beneficiaries that the Department of IT is always available to address all genuine issues and expected that a rejuvenated spirit shall JE exhibited by them to serve public in coming times.

### World Disability Day observed at JU

## Div Com Jammu announces setting-up CRC at Jammu

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Dr Raghav Langer on Friday said that a Composite Regional Centre (CRC) is being set up in Jammu to aid the cause of persons with special needs. Dr Raghav Langer, as the Chief Guest, said this while addressing a programme marks the World Disability Day organized by Department of Home Science, University of Jammu in collaboration with Jiger Institute of General Education and Rehabilitation, The Association of Deaf and Aphasie, and Kalpana Kala Kendra at Jammu University. Prof. Manoj Dhar, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu presided over the function. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Langer mentioned that the disabled face barriers due to our attitudes. In his presidential remarks, Prof. Dhar reiterated the resolve of the university to make it fully accessible for the PwDs. He also underlined the various initiatives taken by the University in this direction. He also appreciated the collaborating NGOs and the Department of Home Science for their continuous drive for fighting for the rights of the disabled community.



Div Com Jammu, Dr Raghav Langer and VC JU, Prof Manoj Dhar posing with students with disabilities and others.

He announced that an Equal Opportunities Cell shall be set up at the Department of Home Science, to give impetus to making the University disabled friendly.

Prof. Samridhi Arora (HOD) Deptt. of Home Science in her introductory address highlighted that the department works for the cause of marginalized and weaker sections of the society especially the persons with disabilities.

She offered that certain specific facilities and services available in the department meant for the welfare of disabled can be availed free of cost.

Earlier, Dr Sarika Manhas, Associate Professor, Deptt of

Home Science in her welcome address mentioned that every year 3rd of December is celebrated to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well being of persons with disabilities.

She mentioned that university is committed to true community inclusion based upon personal connections, common interests, shared values, and upon ongoing interactions on a regular basis in natural settings, and today's event is a reflection of this resolve. Jiger President Sandhya Dhar highlighted the problems faced by disabled in various sectors of society especially in the context of COVID. The theme of this year's Disability Day is

"Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world". She mentioned that there is a need for hand holding so that the disabled are included in the mainstream of society.

On the occasion a felicitation programme was conducted for the persons who are role models for the society. Those felicitated were Archana Devi (orthopedic disability 70%) teacher JRC home for handicapped, Tilak Raj (spinal cord injury 100%) from Rajouri, Jagjit Singh (spinal cord injury 80%) from Poonch employee of police department, Purshotam (spinal cord injury 100%) from Udhampur Social

activist & running NGO, Shiv Kumar (spinal cord injury 100%) from Doda, Shivani Misri (visual impairment) B.A LLB, Pardeep Kumar (spinal cord injury 100%) from Jammu, Kalvin Bhatti (paralysis 80%) social worker and recipient of Gandhi Global Family, Irfan Mir (visual impairment 100% by birth) from Pulwama, mountaineer. Raman Gupta, Managing Director PANS & POTS Co. A Corona warrior & Philanthropist was also felicitated during the programme and other Corona warriors felicitated during the programme were Arjun Kumar, Sumeet Bhat who served the society during the peak period of the corona pandemic. Others present were Rahul Sahai, Chairman, Chamber of Commerce And Industry, Jammu; Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Spl Secretary to VC; Vijay Puri, Academic Director, Shemford Futuristic School; Dr. Suminder Singh, MD of IDPS School, Jammu; and Dr. Atul Hans, Director of IRDS School. Sukanaya Bhan, sign language interpreter presented a formal vote of thanks.

Vinish Malik, research scholar, Deptt of Home Science and Kusum Tiekoo conducted the proceedings of the event.

## Sharda Temple in Teetwal LoC to be rebuilt

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Save Sharda Committee (SSC) on Friday laid the foundation stone of Mata Sharda Devi situated near LoC in Teetwal for its rebuilding. The ancient temple and its centre located in northern Kashmir's Kupwara district will be rebuilt with a view to revive centuries old pilgrimage to Sharda Peeth Temple in the Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK), the committee said.

Sharda Peeth -- "the seat of Sharda" -- is the Kashmiri name for the goddess Saraswati. Sharda Peeth was one of the foremost ancient universities of the Indian subcontinent.

Sharda Peeth is an abandoned temple located in Sharda village along the Neelum River, which was a major centre of learning. It is regarded as one of the 18 highly revered temples across south Asia.

"After reclaiming the land of ancient Dharmshala that used to exist during 1947-48, a foundation laying ceremony of Sharda Yatra base camp temple and centre (annual Sharda yatra to Sharda peeth PoK up to 1948 called Charri Mubarak), at LoC Teetwal was held today", SSC head Ravinder Raina Pandita told reporters.

The programme was arranged by SSC and locals at Teetwal close to the Line of Control

(LoC) at erstwhile yatra route. Around 200 locals from across faiths took part in this event, he said. Sacred water' was immersed in the Kishenganga River on LoC white line bridge that is manned together by Indian and Pakistan Army, Raina said. About 10 supporters of the Sharda mission from across LoC also came to greet the SSC head.

Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson Waqf Development Committee of Union Ministry of Minorities affairs and BJP National Executive Member, laid the foundation stone of the temple. She stressed on the need for reviving the Sharda Civilisation and its exploration.

Andrabi demanded that government set up a Sharda Centre and also a Sharda University.

She said it is a historical site that has been reclaimed by the efforts of Save Sharda Committee. The SSC also demanded cross LoC heritage and religious tourism to begin in earnest.

LoC Teetwal was a traditional route of pilgrimage to Sharda Peeth which was stopped in 1948 after tribal raids and partition, Pandita said. "Ever since the raids, no yatra has taken place. The committee comprising civil society of Tangdhar Karnah and other parts of the UT is actively engaged for recreating this ancient heritage", he said.

## Director Sainik Welfare Deptt calls on LG



Director Sainik Welfare Department (J&K), Brigadier Gurmeet Singh Shan interacting with Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Brigadier Gurmeet Singh Shan, Director Sainik Welfare Department (J&K) on Friday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan. The Director briefed the Lt Governor on the preparations for the upcoming celebration of Armed Forces Flag Day on 07

December and about various activities of the department related to the welfare of the Ex-servicemen and Veer Naris.

He expressed gratitude towards the Lt Governor for landmark approvals to set up 100 bedded children hostels, one each at Srinagar and Jammu, and promulgation of the policy to provide relaxation in age and physical

endurance tests to ex-servicemen for recruitment in government jobs in J&K.

Brigadier Gurmeet Singh Shan also apprised the Lt Governor of the efforts made to reach out to veterans in the border areas and far-flung regions, which include adhoc offices been set up in Bandipora and Akhnoor, proposal to set

up new offices in other remote areas, use of digital technology, digital life certificate generation at all 13 ZSWOs, adoption of e-office, the launch of department's website, besides various other initiatives and steps for the welfare of Ex-Servicemen.

He also apprised about the campaign being undertaken to sensitise citizens about the importance of contributing towards the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund, which is used for welfare activities.

The Lt Governor appreciated the remarkable work done by the Sainik Welfare Department for Veterans and Veer Naris. He impressed upon the Director to continue his endeavors for the welfare of Ex-Servicemen and their family members.

## Srinagar Admn all set to face weather vagaries amid MeT advisory

**SHAKEELA ANDRABI**

SRINAGAR: There is no respite from cold wave in Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh as minimum temperature settled minus 2.4 degree celsius on Thursday and Friday intervening night in Srinagar which was second most cold night of the season. Meteorological Department (MeT) official has said, a western disturbance (WD) is approaching J&K and Ladakh under influence of which rain/snow is likely to occur there with main activity between December 5 and 7. The Meteorological Department has predicted a three-day wet spell in the form of light snowfall in plains and moderate snowfall in higher reaches of Kashmir: As probable impacts of forthcoming inclement weather, there would be temporary disruption of air and surface traffic in passes like Zojila, Sinthan Top, Razdan Top, Mughal Road etc due to snow and freezing temperatures.

Earlier, Srinagar recorded a low of minus 2.5 degrees Celsius during the

intervening night of Tuesday and Wednesday, down from minus 1.5 degrees Celsius during Monday and Tuesday, as per MeT data. It was lowest minimum temperature recorded in the summer capital of Union Territory this winter.

Amid Metrological department forecast for snowfall in coming days, Jammu and Kashmir administration has directed all Deputy Commissioners (DCs) of Kashmir division for taking all necessary measures to ensure that people do not suffer due to blockade of roads post snow accumulation. "All the Deputy Commissioners shall ensure that no death shall happen due to the blockade of road in view of snow accumulation and also no fire incident happens," reads a note of minutes of the meeting chaired by the Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Farooq Khan. "All road clearing departments/agencies have been asked to put in place a comprehensive snow clearance Action Plan while taking into account the weather forecast," it added.

Srinagar Municipal Corporation, which has taken control of several link roads in Srinagar under 74th Amendment, has also been asked to ensure clearance of snow. "SMC shall be ready for snow clearance of roads transferred from the Roads & Buildings Department in addition to other roads, lanes, by-lanes mechanically as well as manually. Moreover, SMC shall explore possibility of procuring small machines which can undertake snow clearance of inner lands in addition to already procured machinery. The divisional administration has devised a snow clearance plan for 17,000 kilometers of road length in the Kashmir division," it reads. Notably, Administrative council under chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha earlier this year has stressed for keeping snow clearance plans ready to ensure hassle-free movement of people post snowfall. Officials informed that R&B and MED have already submitted a snow clearance plan before the divisional Kashmir administration.