

CS releases 3rd edition of IASOWA magazine 'Udaan'



Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta and other dignitaries releasing third edition of IASOWA, J&K Magazine 'Udaan' at Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Friday released the third edition of IAS Officers Wives Association (IASOWA), J&K Magazine 'UDAAN' at Convention Centre here.

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar; Secretary General Administrative Department (GAD), Dr. Piyush Singla; President, IASOWA, Dr. Amita Mehta; senior officers and other members of the

IASOWA were also present on the occasion.

Speaking after the release of magazine, Dr. Mehta applauded the efforts of IASOWA for timely publication of the magazine which covers diverse contents of public importance.

He commended the management of magazine and members for establishing such a good platform to promote different kinds of social activities.

The Chief Secretary expressed happiness on the fact that despite having

pressing engagements at home, the ladies have carved out time for such a noble work. He advised them to continue this good work and create awareness among public about various positive things happening on the ground through this publication.

Speaking on the occasion, President IASOWA, Dr. Amita Mehta applauded all the members of IASOWA and others associated with this publication for bringing out such a vibrant publication.

In her speech, Dr. Amita also highlighted the various activities carried out by IASOWA like donation drives, plantation drives, health camps and other events of public importance.



IIM Jammu's MDP jointly with ICAI for CAs concludes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu in association with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) successfully organized a three-day management development residential programme from December 7 to 9, 2022 for the Chartered Accountants of India at its Srinagar Off-Campus.

The valedictory ceremony was graced by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director IIM Jammu, CA Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal, Chairman, CMIB, Dr. Pankaj K Agarwal, Chairperson, Executive Education and CA Rajat Jain, FCAO, IIM Jammu on virtual mode.

In all, 32 Chartered Accountants of ICAI working across various domains and in practice from all over India participated in the three-day residential programme.

Speaking on the valedictory ceremony, Prof. Sahay quoted anecdotes from his rich experiences from the past, spoke extensively about the programme, and the facility at IIM Jammu Srinagar Off Campus along with a mention of the state of art permanent campus of IIM Jammu coming up at



Director IIM Jammu Prof. B.S. Sahay virtually addressing valedictory ceremony of MDP programme.

Jagti.

He also mentioned that IIM Jammu is always been committed to the creation of leaders through its innovative programmes, outstanding faculty and thought leadership.

CA Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal mentioned that the three-day Programme strengthened the Chartered Accountant's leadership capabilities and enhanced their managerial skills.

He further mentioned that ICAI in collaboration with IIM Jammu will contribute to research in Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) and sustainable finance paving the path for the development of the nation at large.

The three-day management development residential programme sessions fea-

tured interesting sessions by Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, Dr. Baljeet Singh, Assistant Professor, Dr. Apurva, Assistant Professor, Dr. Muqbil Burhan, Chairperson Srinagar Off Campus.

The participants further requested to launch MDPs for a longer duration in hybrid mode for the members of ICAI.

The various tools used to enhance learning included role-plays, case studies, individual and group exercises, theme-based discussions, and experience sharing. The programme also included practitioner sessions.

A certificate of participation was issued to all the participants with a group photograph at the end of the programme.

JMC celebrates Int'l Anti-Corruption Day; Mayor leads rally

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Municipal Corporation on Friday celebrated International Anti-Corruption Day.

An impressive Pad Yatra was organized by JMC under the leadership of Mayor Jammu, Rajinder Sharma.

The Rally started from Parade Ground and culminated at Hari Singh Park after passing through Parade Ground, Raj Tilak Road, Purani Mandi, Super Bazaar and Raghunath Bazaar.

Besides Councillors, officers and officials of Jammu Municipal Corporation, Students from various Schools, Colleges, Universities, Chamber of Commerce, a number of Traders Associations, Market Associations, Social Organisations, NGOs, Religious Gurus (Dharam Gurus), Senior Citizens, Park Associations, Morning Walkers Associations, Resident Welfare Associations, Hotel Associations, Various Trusts, Printer Associations, Taxi



Mayor Jammu, Rajinder Sharma leading Pad Yatra during International Anti-Corruption Day at Jammu.

Unions also participated with great enthusiasm.

The Mayor along with all the participants took an Integrity pledge to make the system corruption free. One more pledge was taken on the road safety.

Mayor, Jammu said that the main motive behind marking this day is to spread awareness about a corruption-free society. "Everyone knows that corruption affects every section of the society. The purpose behind a day of this kind is to make people aware of the repercussions of indulging in corruption and motivate them to follow a

righteous path," he said.

The Mayor said "Each and every individual and even the organization should pledge not to be a part of any kind of corruption. While combating corruption can be hard, it isn't impossible if everyone decides to back out and refuse to participate in corruption. Any act of bribery or misuse of public positions that leads to the fulfillment of selfish motive is wrong. By saying no to corruption, we can help create more employment opportunities, achieve gender equality and secure wider access to essential services. Above all, we can

make a system fair for all."

He further said "We aim to take Jammu to the frontline cities of India. Corruption is not just a matter of a few rupees. On the one hand, corruption hurts the development of the country and at the same time corruption disrupts the social balance. And most importantly, corruption plagues the trust that one places on the system of the country and the sense of belongingness. And hence, combating corruption is not just the responsibility of an agency or an institution but is a collective responsibility. The onus of responsibility to change this situation is on all of us.

He said International Anti-Corruption Day is observed on December 9 to raise awareness on the importance of getting rid of corruption.

Corruption affects every area in our society and preventing corruption unlocks progress towards sustainable development goals.

It is not up to countries to unite and face this global problem but every single person, young and old has a role to play, prevent and counter corruption in order to promote resilience and integrity in society. To achieve this, policies, systems and measures must be in place for people to be able to speak up and "SAY NO TO CORRUPTION".

Mayor, Jammu thanked all the Councillors, officers and officials of Jammu Municipal Corporation, Students from various Schools, Colleges, Universities, Chamber of Commerce, a number of Traders Associations, Market Associations, Social Organisations, NGOs, Religious Gurus (Dharam Gurus), Senior Citizens, Parking Associations, Morning Walkers Associations, Resident Welfare Associations, Hotel Associations, Various Trusts, Printer Associations, Taxi Unions and urged them to come forward in eradicating the corruption to make our INDIA Corruption free.

State Taxes Deptt holds valedictory function at NIELIT Jammu



Commissioner State Taxes, Rashmi Singh posing with officials at NIELIT, Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: State Taxes Department (STD) on Friday today held a valedictory function after the conclusion of five-day advanced MS-Excel and data analysis training programme for its Officers & Officials at National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT), Jammu Campus.

On the occasion, Commissioner State Taxes, Rashmi Singh, and Additional Commissioner State Taxes Jammu, Namrita Dogra were present.

Commissioner State Taxes, while addressing the participants appreciated Additional Commissioner State Taxes Jammu for taking an initiative to provide such quality training which will contribute in an effective data analysis by the officials of the State Taxes Department. The purpose of the training was to acquaint the officials of State Taxes with various advance features of Ms-Excel and data analysis. The Executive Director NIELIT said, "The training will help in upskilling of the officials and we look forward to

have a long term association with the department.

It is envisaged, that in addition to building capacities in terms of IT skills, NIELIT can provide its expert guidance in bridging gaps related to IT infrastructure and build various software solutions from which the department can immensely benefit."

The training was conducted under the supervision of Executive Director, Deepak Wasan. Later, Rashmi Singh also distributed Certificate of course completion among participants.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: State Election Commissioner, KK Sharma on Friday asked the officers to undertake the exercise for updating and revising the Panchyat Electoral Roll of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in a time bound manner.

The SEC was chairing a meeting to discuss the schedule for updation/revision of Panchayat Electoral Roll in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners through virtual mode, Director RDD, Jammu/ Kashmir, Director Panchayati Raj; Secretary State Election Commission; Additional Secretary Chief Electoral Office Jammu, State Informatics Officer, NIC



State Election Commissioner, KK Sharma chairing a meeting in Jammu on Friday.

Jammu, AERO Migrant Jammu, Deputy District Election Officer Jammu District Informatics Officers NIC (All), District Panchayat Officer, Jammu and other Senior officers.

The meeting held a threadbare discussion with regard to the revision of schedule for updation and revision of Panchayat Electoral Roll

which included availability of soft /hard copies of the last Electoral Rolls, position of updation of supplements due to updation of voter lists, printing of Electoral rolls / forms and availability of Infrastructure, Publication of draft rolls in online/ offline modes. Besides SVEEP activities to be undertaken by the Districts and tentative

schedule of revision was also discussed.

Also, the meeting discussed availability of ERO/AERO/Panchayat Level Booth Officials (PLBO) for revision of electoral roll.

The new rolls will be prepared with reference to 01.01.2023 as the qualifying dates for all those who have attained the age 18 or were left out.

The meeting was informed that under the guidelines to be issued by State Election Commission the concerned Election Officer shall also refer to the names of all persons whose name figure as electors in the latest electoral rolls (of concerned Assembly Constituency).

It was also given out that after due process and through proper out-

reach names of all those found eligible as electors with reference to 01.01.2023 as qualifying date would be included in the Panchayat Electoral Rolls.

The SEC directed the officers to work in a coordinated manner to ensure that the revision is done in accordance with the guidelines already prescribed for the same. He said that we have to ensure that the Panchayat Electoral rolls updated with in the stipulated time in a very systematic and hassle free manner.

SEC also deliberated on the suggestions put forth by the Deputy Commissioners.

Earlier the Secretary, SEC gave a brief overview about importance of the revision of the Panchayat Electoral Rolls.

Ban private practice by doctors for better healthcare system

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: Though J&K Government has imposed a ban on private practice by doctors during official hours and warnings have been issued that strict vigilance shall be kept on doctors and paramedical staff and all such cases will be recommended for strict action by regulatory authorities, it has been observed, particularly in Kashmir valley, that certain doctors borne on establishment of Health & Medical Education Department are indulging into private practices, in sheer violation of Civil Services Conduct Rules as well as various guidelines issued from time to time and also against the ethics of public service for which doctors have been appointed by the Government.

In this regard, even government seems accepting that certain doctors are rec-

ommending medical intervention in their private clinics instead of attending patients in Government health institutions, where they are posted. The government order read, "This results in loss of public exchequer under Ayushman Bharat/SEHAT scheme and hence tantamount to offence under the provisions of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. This is also to be construed as misconduct and violation of Civil Services Conduct Rules."

Meanwhile, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) said that it is ironical that government doctors are allowed to run private hospitals in Kashmir. DAK President Dr Nisarul Hassan said that public hospitals are places where poor seek health care. "Majority of population is still poor and cannot afford expensive treatment in pri-

vate hospitals. Diverting human resource from government hospitals to private sector deprives poor and underprivileged of essential health care," he said. DAK President further said government doctor is a government servant 24 hours of the day and does not cease to be one during spare hours when he/she is away from duty. "Permitting private practice at any time in the day is bound to affect discharge of official duties by government doctor," he said.

He further claimed that private practice has eaten away our premier health institutions which not only are crucial life-saving assets but also full-time centers for medical education and research. The academic character of the health institutions has damaged and profession of healthcare has affected to

great by private practice. "Government should ban private practice of government doctors particularly in medical colleges to ensure round clock availability of doctors for patients," he added. STATE TIMES published several reports to highlight the issue that common public are being affected by such practices of medicos. People further complained that many doctors are indulging into private practice in other cities/towns, which means that they are not available at their places of posting in case of any emergency arises. Skipping duties and indulging into private practices in other places by doctors should be viewed seriously as patients are suffering a lot. Moreover, same instructions should be applied to Para-medical staff also, which is also found indulged in private practices quite often.

Balvinder calls on R R Bhatnagar, demands enhancement of lateral quota of GNM from 20 pc to 50 pc

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A number of aspirants for GNM course blocked road near Bahu Plaza and gherooed BPOEE office, protesting for making reservation of only 20 per cent lateral entry quota for GNM aspirants, thereby denying them of the admission in private Nursing colleges of J&K UT. Later, the students led by renowned RTI/ Social activist Balvinder Singh met Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to LG and urged him to enhance the GNM lateral entry Quota from 20 pc to 50 pc to serve justice & equality, with rider that seats remained vacant in lateral entry must be shifted to quota of direct entry, after comple-



RTI Activist, Balvinder Singh talking to reporters during protest of GNM aspirants.

tion of counseling of lateral entry aspirants. Since number of candidates from the quota of lateral entry are very low. They further stated that more than 60 per cent of seats remained vacant in all the private colleges of J&K UT.

Singh further brought it to the notice of Advisor that before the abrogation of article 370, the criteria for admission in colleges for letter head quota students was comparatively very easy and now introduction of BOPEE has made the admission

process very complicated. He further said that students from Ladakh are bonafide victims in this ongoing situation as before August 5, 2019 the students from Ladakh were applicable for the same but now after abrogation of Article 370, they are facing a lot of distress and harassment and urged for entertaining students from Ladakh as well in letter entry quota for admission in private colleges at Jammu. The eminent students present on the occasion included Altaf Ahmed, Muskan Bali, Meetu Devi, Shilpa Kotwal, Zohra Bano, Zahra Khatoon, Mohd Hassanain (President All Ladakh Student Welfare Association Jammu).