

JUICCASH organizes awareness lecture

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As a part of lecture series, Jammu University Internal Complaints Committee Against Sexual Harassment (JUICCASH) in collaboration with the office of Dean Students Welfare, University of Jammu organized its second awareness lecture on "Prevention of Sexual Harassment in Educational Institutions", today at Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium, JU. Chief Guest for the event Nisha Nathiyal, Deputy Inspector General, Armed Police, Jammu addressed the students and highlighted the importance of such programmes. She shared her working experi-



A dignitary delivering lecture at University of Jammu on Thursday.

ence in handling the cases related to sexual harassment and emphasized upon the courage of the victim to unveil the acts of harassment so that justice can be done. The keynote speaker for the session, Seema Khajuria Shekhar, Senior Advocate High Court of Jammu and Kashmir improvised the gathering about sexual

harassment in general emphasizing upon the social, legal and psychological aspects of the same in particular. She appraised the newly admitted students of the University with the provisions and importance of constituting an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) in higher educational institutions. With the examples of

real life experiences, she inculcated the sense of courage among the students. At the outset, Prof. Namrata Sharma, Presiding Officer, JUICCASH formally welcomed the audience along with highlighting the role of Internal Complaints Committee and assured about the importance of such lectures to the student com-

munity. Prof. Prakash Anthal, Dean Students Welfare, JU apprised the audience with the importance of the event and its implications. Dr. Bindu Sangra, Assistant Professor, Law School and a member of the committee shared the details of the academic achievements of the speaker. Sonia Sharma, Representative of non-teaching staff in the committee delivered the formal vote of thanks. The proceedings of the event were conducted by Aroosa Mattoo, Scholar Representative of JUICCASH. The lecture was attended by more than 130 newly admitted students of various departments of University of Jammu.

Delegation of AJBRCEAK Meets Chief Secretary J&K Atal Dulloo

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JAMMU: A delegation of All Jammu Based Reserved Category Employees Association Kashmir (AJBRCEAK), led by Chairman Vipen Kumar held an introductory meeting with Chief Secretary J&K, Atal Dulloo in his office chamber here in Jammu. Chairman AJBRCEAK highlighted the genuine issues of Jammu based reserved category employees working in Kashmir and urged the Chief Secretary to issue the notification for comprehensive Transfer Policy, for which an empowered com-



AJBRCEAK delegation calling on CS Atal Dulloo.

mittee has been already constituted, last year. AJBRCEAK also briefed Chief Secretary about other concerns including security and safety of employees, safe accommodation.

Chief Secretary assured the delegation to address justified demands of employees including comprehensive Transfer Policy for Jammu based employees.

J&K Apni Party holds meeting at Bhalla



JKAP Provincial Secretary Dr Rohit Gupta with newly joined members.

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DODA: Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party on

AIBCU welcomes SC judgement on Abrogation of Art 370

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JAMMU: All India Backward Classes Union (AIBCU) welcomed Supreme Court verdict on on the Abrogation of Art 370. "Jammu & Kashmir had a special status under Art 370 under which state subjects of the state had the full rights on the land and employments, which were great beneficial factors for them," said Prof Kali Dass, General Secretary, AIBCU. "But on the other hand the majority population of Jammu & Kashmir belonging to Other Backward Classes were never accepted nor respected. The identity of these "other backward classes people" was maligned and was given the status as other social castes. This means there were many other social castes but these castes got names of their exclusive categories like SC (Schedule Caste) and ST (schedule tribe) but the other social castes (OSC) who are known as OBC (Other Backward Classes) in rest of the country, we're missing in J&K state," he said.

"This decision of the apex court over the abrogation of Art 370 was threadbare discussed and arrived at the conclusion that abrogation will in a long way go in favour of the population called Other Backward Classes whose population is about 60% of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Wednesday held meeting at Bhalla area in Doda district. The meeting was presided over by Provincial Secretary Incharge Membership Drive Jammu Dr Rohit Gupta in presence of Provincial Joint Secretary Incharge Membership Drive Jammu Adil Hussain.

During the meeting, the

party leaders discussed the measures required to bolster the party's presence on the grassroots level.

The leaders expressed their satisfaction over the ongoing party activities in the region and vouched to work with more dedication and hardwork in coming times.

Awareness programme on 'Drug Abuse' organized at GHSS Bhaur Camp



SP South Jammu, Shaheen Wahid posing with students during an awareness programme.

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JAMMU: A drug awareness programme was organised Jammu and Kashmir Police under Civic Action Programme at Government Higher Secondary School, Bhaur Camp, here on Thursday. Shaheen Wahid, SP South Jammu was the Chief Guest of the event flanked by I/C PP Gadigarh Insp Ravinder Singh. Various other staff members of the schools were also present in the event. SP South Jammu draw the attention of the participants and made them aware about the effects of drug addiction, government policies to curb it, laws and police actions against the suppliers. She also enlightened the participants on drug menace and motivated them to

aware their families and surrounding people.

"It is the duty of every citizen of the country to contribute towards drug-free society and help police to curb smuggling/ menace of drugs from the country," she said.

She further added that police is committed towards public welfare and urged the students to inform us if they suspect any illegal activity in the area. She further added that students had to strongly come forward to make the area free from the menace of drug abuse. She also spoke on the various matters like eve teasing, excess usage of mobile phones, importance of education, sports and exercise for all the students.

SP South Jammu advised the students to channelize the ener-

gy in sporting activities to make their future better.

She said that sports is the best way to be focused person in life. It not just keeps the physical health of a person well but also brings more mental robustness. It makes one disciplined in real sense and students should opt sports so that they can learn the sense of discipline that sports teaches us.

She also highlighted that the journey of any addiction begins with the "use" and develops into "abuse" and very quickly graduates to becoming an addiction.

In the end she asked students to be aware of their surroundings and come forward to actively contribute towards a drug free society and help Police to curb trafficking of drugs.

ICSI signs MoU with IMA to enhance professional skills and competencies of its members

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JAMMU: The ICSI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IMA (Institute of Management Accountants) at the 2nd Regional Conference of Corporate CS of ICSI-SIRC, hosted by Bengaluru Chapter in Bengaluru, to foster collaborative alliances for the benefit of the members of both organizations.

Aimed at advancing the highest standards of ethics and professional conduct in members of both organizations, the MoU will promote excellence in financial

management, corporate reporting, and governance.

Sharing his views, CS Manish Gupta, President The ICSI, emphatically stated that "Understanding the rising needs and expectations of the stakeholders, it is utmost important to raise the bar and continuously upgrade the professional knowledge & skills. The association with IMA will provide a collaborative platform for sharing best practices, enhancing knowledge & skills, and will open the doors to addressing various challenges faced by professionals

working in the area of finance, governance and strategy". Mike DePrisco, IMA President and CEO, highlighted the strategic importance of the collaboration, and said, "Our focus is on empowering Company Secretaries by advancing their professional skills and competencies through collaborative training programs and certifications. Our partnership will facilitate discussions and partnerships among Company Secretaries and other stakeholders for collectively tackling challenges in finance, governance, and

strategy." The MoU outlines a comprehensive scope of collaboration, encompassing joint research projects, seminars, conferences, workshops, and professional development programs. Members of both institutes will have the opportunity to participate in programs organized by IMA and ICSI, ensuring continuous learning and skill development.

In addition, the five-year partnership will also focus on international cooperation to share developments in areas of common interest at the global level.

IEI Jammu Centre celebrates Energy Conservation Day

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JAMMU: The Institution of Engineers (India) (IEI), Jammu Centre celebrated Energy Conservation Day at Institutional Complex, Sector -3, Channi Himmat, Jammu. A webinar on the topic "Energy Efficiency & Conservation- A path for Sustainability" in which Prof. (Dr.) Bhawna Sharma, Er. Sachin Tiekoo, Honorary Secretary besides large number of engineers, scholars & academicians participated.

Santosh Takale, Sr. Scientist, Baba Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai was key note speaker on the theme topic.

The Energy Conservation Day is celebrated on 14th December every year since 1991 to aware people about the importance of energy as well as saving or conserving more energy by using less energy.

At the outset, Prof. Dr. Bhawna Sharma presented the welcome and said that Energy Conservation Day is celebrated with a shared commitment to raise aware-



Santosh Takale, Sr. Scientist, BARC Mumbai and others at a programme.

ness about the critical importance of energy efficiency and conservation as we navigate the path towards sustainability. She said that Energy efficiency is not merely a buzzword; it is a tangible solution that can significantly reduce our carbon footprint and mitigate the adverse effects of climate change. She advocated for adopting energy-efficient technologies, practices, and lifestyles so that we can not only conserve precious resources but also pave the way for a cleaner and greener future.

It was followed by Keynote Address by Santosh Takale, Sr. Scientist, Baba Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai, who in his address highlight-

ed the role of green energy and use of artificial intelligence in minimizing the energy usage and contributing towards action on climate change.

Er. Sachin Tiekoo, MIE, Honorary Secretary, in his address said that when we limit our energy usage, we lower our impact on the environment. The longer we go without making significant changes, the greater the threat of global warming and climate change becomes to our daily lives. He presented the Vote of Thanks to the august gathering and media personnel for active participation" the above deliberations have been stated in a press release received from the concerned.

Court awards life-imprisonment for killing 11 years old child

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JAMMU: Principal Sessions Judge Jammu Sanjay Parihar today awarded life-imprisonment to Tilak Raj for killing 11 years old child for rituals.

According to the police case that complainant Manohar Lal filed an application in police station, Satwari, Jammu that on 16.12.2013 his nephew Sahil Kumar, aged 7/8 years was playing near the temple in village Khandwal, Tehsil Jammu and was found missing after 6.30 PM and could not be traced. A missing report was lodged in police post Chatha. That on 17.12.2013 during search, the dead body of Sahil Kumar was discovered in the fields in Khandwal village in the haystack and that the throat of the deceased had been slit and his right eye was also taken out and wounds were present on the

stomach. That some person(s) had cut the throat of Sahil Kumar with sharp edged object and murdered him. On the receipt of this complaint, FIR No.241/2013 under section 302 RPC was registered in police station, Satwari and investigation commenced.

During the course of investigation, accused Tilak Raj was arrested by the police who made a disclosure statement and thereafter got recovered a sickle (Dharati) and clothes of accused which were blood stained. It was found that accused had made a Ziarat in his house where people used to come for prayers and accused was indulging in Tantrik rituals and in this regard accused on 16.12.2013 at 6.45 PM, enticed the deceased Sahil Kumar and took him to the fields outside the village where the accused had hidden a sickle to commit murder and whereas accused had taken a knife from his house. That accused took the deceased in the area between two haystacks and taking advantage of darkness murdered deceased Sahil Kumar and to conduct his Tantrik rituals, the accused took out the right eye of the deceased with the knife and threw the eye in the river Tawi. On finding accused Tilak Raj guilty of offence under sections

302/201 RPC, the challan in hand was presented against the accused for his trial.

Principal Sessions Judge Jammu Sanjay Parihar after hearing PP Suresh Sharma for the UT whereas Adv Ashok Beotra for the accused, observed that crime is a haunting shadow that lurks in the corners of society, casting a pervasive darkness that not only shatters lives but fractures the very foundation of our collective well-being. In this intricate tapestry of human existence, an act of crime threads a narrative of pain, fear and irreparable loss. Beyond these courtroom walls, the repercussions reverberate, echoing in the hearts of victims and staining the conscience of a community. This Court, thus, is placed at a unique junction of confronting such transgressions and molding its future. The gravity of this moment cannot be understated; it is the juncture where the rule of law is set out to achieve accountability, and the trajectory of an individual's life intersects with the destiny of a community. As this Court grapples with the aftermaths of crime, there is a delicate balance that the court must achieve. In the realm of sentencing, this court not only shapes the fate of the accused but also the collective destiny of a

society that is striving to achieve principles of justice and fairness.

While the crime, particularly the tragic death of an 11-year-old child is undeniably horrific, imposing "rigorous life imprisonment without remission and fine of Rs. 02 laes is envisioned" as a measure to compel the offender to confront and reflect on the brutality of his actions. Opting for this path rather than an expedient death penalty is rooted in the belief that true repentance and transformation can only be achieved through sustained contemplation and the opportunity for rehabilitation. A comprehensive consideration of all factors, including mitigating circumstances, is thus, imperative in addressing the complexities of crime and punishment. In the case of the accused, through the weight of this sentence, is compelled to confront the transgressions of his acts and embark on a path toward genuine remorse. In default of fine he shall face further imprisonment of one year. Besides out of the awarded fine amount, Rs. 1.50 laes be paid as compensation to the victim's family. Sentence is accordingly drawn.

DB dismisses appeal of NIA challenging bail of ex-Deputy Supt Jail

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Rajesh Sekhri dismissed the appeal filed by NIA that challenged the order of Special Judge, NIA J&K granted bail to Feroz Ahmed Lone former Deputy Supt of Jail.

In CrI A(D) No. 35/2019 filed under Section 21 of the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 (NIA Act, for short), challenge has been thrown to order dated 15.12.2018 propounded by learned Special Judge, NIA J&K (3rd Additional Sessions Judge), Jammu (trial Court, for short), vide which, interim bail has been granted in favour of respondent on the ground that there is prima facie no sufficient material against him for the commission of offences under Section 120-B RPC and 13, 18 and 18-B of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 [UA(P) Act, for short]. The interim bail granted in favour of respondent was made absolute by the trial court vide order 11.11.2019 against which appellant has filed CrI A(D) No. 5/2020 before this Court.

Brief facts of the case are that on information that some terrorists have taken shelter and hidden themselves, SI-Harvinder Singh No. 09274/ARP along with other

police staff was deputed to cordon and search duty in Manigaha area District Kupwara on 30.10.2017 and two persons namely Danish Ghulam Lone and Sohail Ahmed Bhat were apprehended. During preliminary investigation, it revealed that with the connivance of other accused persons, namely, Daulat Ali Mughal, Ishaq Palla, Liyakat Ali Khan etc., they were trying to cross the Line of Control (LOC) to enter Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK) for arms training with criminal intention to wage war against the State. Accordingly a case bearing FIR No. 279 of 2017 under Sections 120-B and 13, 18 and 18-B of UA(P) Act was registered by Kupwara Police against aforesaid person and were arrested in the case. The Central Government on receipt of information directed National Investigation Agency (NIA), appellant herein, to take up the investigation and case was re-registered in Police Station NIA New Delhi Vide Case No. RC-07/2018/NIA DLI dated 21.02.2018. During investigation, it came to fore that six accused persons, namely, Sohail Ahmed Bhat, Danish Ghulam Lone, Liyakat Ali Khan, Daulat Ali Mughal, Ghulam Ali Mughal and Haroon Ahmed Sheikh were arrested by Kupwara Police in connection with aforesaid FIR. The examination of all

the accused was conducted in which accused Suhail and Danish revealed that they had met accused Ishaq Palla in Central Jail Srinagar on 25.10.2017 and conspired to cross over the LOC to get the arms training in POK and to join militancy. The said accused also mentioned the name of another inmate Parvez Ahmed Lone (who was lodged in Central Prison, Srinagar) for meeting on the direction of Ishaq Palla through Blackberry Messenger (BBM). Accused Feroz Ahmed Lone, respondent herein, was deputed as Deputy Superintendent in Central Jail Srinagar on 25.10.2017 who was assigned the work to supervise meeting with visitors. It also surfaced that respondent knowingly and wrongfully facilitated Suhail and Danish to meet accused Ishaq Palla in the name of another inmate Parvez Ahmed Lone. Statements of witnesses under Section 164-A Cr.P.C. were recorded and accused Suhail and Danish were examined. Respondent came to be arrested on 28.08.2018. He was admitted to interim bail by the trial court on 15.12.2018, which was extended from time to time.

Division Bench after hearing DSGI Vishal Sharma for the NIA whereas Sr. Adv Abhinav Sharma with Adv. Parkhi Parihar for the respondent,

observed that the allegation against the respondent is that he facilitated the meeting between Ishaq Palla and other two terrorists in the jail premises and, therefore, he was part and parcel of the offences committed by rest of the accused persons. Learned trial court on appreciation of material adduced by the prosecution has observed that there is no material on record to conclude that there are reasonable grounds for believing that accusations made by the prosecution against respondent are prima facie true. It is pertinent to note that interim bail granted in favour of respondent was made absolute after presentation of the final report by the prosecution in terms of section 173 Cr.P.C. There is consensus between learned counsels appearing on the rival sides that respondent has been formally charged now and case is pending for prosecution evidence. Respondent at the relevant time was working as Deputy Superintendent of Jail and, therefore, trial court has rightly observed that there are least chances of his jumping over the bail or taking any undue advantage. Therefore, we do not think that any purpose will be served by cancelling the bail already granted in favour of the respondent and remanding him to custody. In view of the above, both the appeals are dismissed and impugned orders are upheld.

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