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AC transfers over...

these projects with a special focus on developing affordable housing on these land parcels.

Recently, during Real Estate Summit-2022, decisions were taken to develop housing stocks in both the capital cities of Srinagar and Jammu.

By another decision, the Administrative Council approved the strengthening of Corporations under the administrative control of the Power Development Department by creating various posts in view of the unbundling of the Department.

The AC sanctioned the creation of 64 posts at various levels in the J&K Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (9), J&K Power Corporation Ltd. (16), Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Ltd. (18), and Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Ltd. (21). These newly created posts include Managing Directors, Executive Directors, Law Officers, Administrative Officers, Secretaries, Account Officers, Public Relations Officers, etc.

Further, the Power Development Department was directed to notify respective Recruitment Rules at the earliest to speed up recruitment against the new posts.

Additionally, the Administrative Council also approved the creation of 09 posts under different categories in the J&K Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO), Department of Industries and Commerce. These posts include Managing Director, Financial Advisor/CAO, General Manager (GM) Operations and Administration, Manager (Branding & Marketing/ Exports), Company Secretary, Assistant Manager (Branding & Marketing), Assistant Manager (Exports), Accountant, and Personal Assistant.

The Jammu & Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization is the nodal agency for investment promotion in the Union territory by engaging with various national and international stakeholders and serves as the reference point of the J&K administration. The newly created posts will serve the manpower need of the organization to efficiently address investment-related issues towards boosting industry-led employment generation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Nearly 1,700 'KPs'...

Home Nityanand Rai said as per the data provided by the government of Jammu and Kashmir, 44,684 Kashmiri migrant families were registered with the Office of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants), Jammu, comprising 1,54,712 individuals. In order to rehabilitate Kashmiri migrant families, the government of Jammu and Kashmir has appointed 1,697 such persons since August 5, 2019 and selected an additional 1,140 persons in this regard, he said replying to a written question.

Two detained under...

police spokesman said. Both the accused are notorious criminals and are continuously involved in a number of criminal activities. They have become a threat to the public peace and tranquillity, thereby forcing authorities to detain them under PSA, the spokesman said.

He said many cases including those related to the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act stand registered against the accused at police station Vijaypur.

Given their repeated involvement in criminal and drug smuggling activities, dossiers were prepared by Senior Superintendent of Police, Samba and forwarded to District Magistrate Samba who formally issued the orders of their detention under PSA, the spokesman said.

He said the detention warrants were executed by the police team of Police Station Vijaypur. While Yogeshwar has been lodged in District Jail Amphalla in Jammu, the other accused was shifted to District Jail Kathua, the spokesman said.

PSA is an administrative law that allows detention without charge or trial for up to two years in some cases.

Hizb terrorist killed...

gullible youth to join terror folds and other criminal activities, he said, adding incriminating material and arms and ammunition were recovered from the site of encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation. In this regard, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigation has been initiated.

Sidhu pays obeisance...

and straightway flew to the 'Bhawan' (sanctum sanctorum) to offer prayers at the revered shrine, they said.

The officials said Sidhu is likely to stay for the night at the shrine to participate in the morning prayers before returning to his state on Thursday.

Warmth, love and affection at the heavenly abode is heart rendering, the Congress leader wrote on his Twitter handle, sharing a video of some devotees taking selfies with him. In another tweet, Sidhu wrote On my way to Mata Vaishno Devi The eternal grace of the divine mother has always protected me on this path of Dharma At

her lotus feet for blessings Dushtaan da vinaash kr, Punjab da Kalyaan kar Sach Dharam di sathapana kr Punjab will go to the polls on February 20.

Acid attack on...

The accused duo revealed that they had purchased the acid from one of Rather's acquaintances Mohd Saleem, who worked as a motor mechanic at a shop, they said.

Saleem has also been arrested for questioning, the officials said, adding the shop from where the acid was purchased, in violation of the Supreme Court directions, has been sealed.

Srinagar Municipal Corporation Mayor Junaid Azim Mattu visited the acid attack victim at SMHS Hospital and gave his one month's salary to her family.

Mattu assured the victim's family of full medical, legal, and administrative support.

He also asked the team of doctors treating the victim to ensure that she receives the best possible medical care.

"I will be writing to the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor requesting that the victim is offered full financial and logistical assistance to facilitate her rehabilitative treatment at the best possible specialized health facility in the country for the purpose, Mattu said.

The Mission Director, Women Empowerment, Shabnam S Kamili also visited the hospital, took stock of the facilities available to her and assured her family of all possible support from the Government. She strongly condemned the act of acid throwing and reiterated that such crimes degrade us as humans and society. While talking to the media, she said that this is the second incident in the last six months therefore ringing alarm bells to the society that the inculcation of values with regard to the respect and dignity of women need to be upheld. The Mission Director was accompanied by District Social Welfare Officer Srinagar and her team from One Stop Centre for Women and Mahila Shakti Kendra.

2,304 new COVID...

such cases were reported from Leh district and 88 from Kargil district, they said.

The union territory has recorded 225 Covid-related deaths -- 166 in Leh and 59 in Kargil -- since the outbreak of the pandemic last year, they said.

As many as 147 patients were cured and discharged from hospitals in Ladakh on Tuesday. Of these, 99 were discharged in Leh and 48 in Kargil, they said.

SC collegium reiterates...

Joshi Phalke and B P Deshpande, as Judges in the Bombay High Court.

The Supreme Court Collegium..., on reconsideration, resolved to reiterate its earlier recommendation for elevation of Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, Judicial Officer as Judge in the Jharkhand High Court, another statement said.

Now the Centre, as per the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) on appointments in higher judiciary, is bound to clear the names reiterated by the collegiums for the judgeship. The collegium has approved the proposal for elevation of five judicial officers and seven advocates as judges of the Telangana High Court. The judicial officers whose names have been proposed are -- G. Anupama Chakravarthy, M.G. Priyadarshini, Sambasivarao Naidu, A Santosh Reddy and D Nagarjun. The advocates whose names have been proposed include Kasaju Surendhar, Chada Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy, Surepalli Nanda, Mummineni Sudheer Kumar, Juvvadi Sridevi, Mirza Safulla Baig and Natcharaju Shrivann Kumar Venkat. It has recommended the names of six judicial officers, Poonam A Bamba, Neema Bansal Krishna, Dinesh Kumar Sharma, Anoop Kumar Mendiratta, Svarana Kanta Sharma and Sudhir Kumar Jain, for judgeship in Delhi High Court.

There are three women judicial officers whose names have been recommended for judgeship of the Delhi High Court which is functioning with 30 judges as against the sanctioned strength of 60 judges.

Besides, the Collegium approved the proposal for elevation of advocate Rajiv Roy as judge of the Patna High Court. The decisions were taken by the Collegium at a meeting held on February 1, 2022 and the resolution was uploaded on the apex court website on Wednesday.

Digital rupee can...

printing, and logistics management of cash. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced that India will launch a

'digital rupee' in 2022-23 using blockchain and other technologies.

UPSC civil services...

1 to March 7 till 6 pm. "No request for withdrawal of candidature will be entertained after the expiry of the specified period by the commission under any circumstances," the notification said.

High Court quashes...

Chak, Kathua District. The contention of the petitioners is that whatsoever was published by the petitioners in their newspaper was on the basis of the proceedings of the Court. The petitioners have placed on record the application moved by the Professor S. K. Bhalla bearing No. CMA No. 276/2012 6 CRMC No. 224/2013 & CRMC No. 496/2014 in WPIL No. 19/2011. In the title of the said application, the applicant had prayed for issuance of directions to respondents to retrieve/restore 92 kanals 6 Marlas of State land situated at Village Krandi Khurd, Tehsil Hiranagar, District Kathua that is presently under the illegal and unauthorised possession of Ch. Lal Singh, Member of Parliament, Kathua, Udampur and Doda Constituency as encroachment stands confirmed by the State Vigilance Organisation vide their communication No. SVO/06/PRK63/05-SC/4605 dated 24.04.2006 and further directing Principal Secretary to the then Chief Minister to file the action taken report pursuant to the report mentioned above. In the said application it has been pleaded by Professor S. K. Bhalla that on the complaint of one Col. V. S. Mangotra, the State Vigilance Organisation conducted an enquiry regarding the illegal/unauthorised occupation of 92 kanals and 6 marlas of State land situated at Village Krandi Khurd, Tehsil Hiranagar, District Kathua by Ch. Lal Singh, Member of Parliament.

The SVO in its enquiry indicted the illegal occupant Ch. Lal Singh and then Vigilance Commissioner vide communication (Supra) sent his report to the then Principal Secretary to then Chief Minister of J&K where a request was made for restoring the aforementioned 92 Kanals and 6 Marlas of State land from the unauthorised possession of Ch. Lal Singh. Further in the said application, it was also

mentioned that despite lapse of six years, the encroachment in question has not been removed as the occupant was highly influential being a Member of Parliament and a Former Health Minister of J&K.

As per the case, a PIL was initially filed against daughters of former Minister Taj Mohi-ud-Din and there under an application was filed by Prof S K Bhalla regarding illegal and unauthorised possession of respondent over a piece of land.

In this regard, the Division Bench passed various orders from time to time and the same used to be carried by all newspapers in erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir. During the pendency of aforesaid PIL, then MLA Kathua, Charanjit Singh filed another application bearing CMA No. 597 of 2013 and prayed for permitting him to intervene in matter and place on record some facts within his knowledge.

Division Bench Court passed orders on March 8, 2013 and another on April 25, 2013, which were carried in newspapers on next very day.

Senior Advocate R K Jain further submitted that no offences under sections 501 and 502 of RPC were made out and it seems that trial court has issued a process in a casual and mechanical manner without even perusing the contents of the complaint. He further said that no case is made out against newspaper and he is being falsely implicated by respondent Lal Singh just to harass and pressurise the newspaper for carrying out news item against him.

He further argued that newspapers are not guilty of committing any offence as they were performing their professional duties and had simply published proceedings of PIL.

After hearing both the sides, Justice Rajnesh Oswal observed that petitioners had simply discharged their professional duties and published contents of applications and proceedings of the court. "Needless to mention here that petitioners being the correspondent, printer and owner of the newspapers had every right to bring to notice of their readers the day to day events including conduct and behaviour of public figures. Trial Court should have directed complainant/ respondent to produce record i.e. applications, orders passed by Division Bench and various reports and had it done so, the whole truth would have come on record as petitioners did not publish news item without any basis but on basis of pleadings before Division Bench, the Court observed and quashed impugned order of trial court, whereby process for commission of offences under sections 501 and 502 of RPC was issued against petitioners.

Fresh snowfall, rains...

degrees Celsius down from the previous night's minus 0.3 degrees Celsius. The nearby south Kashmir town of Kokernag recorded a low of minus 2.6 degrees Celsius, they said, adding the mercury in north Kashmir's Kupwara settled at a low of minus 2.2 degrees Celsius. The MeT Office has said there is a possibility of rain or snow "at fairly widespread to widespread places" for two days from Wednesday and at scattered places on Friday.

KC College of Education observes World Wetland Day

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Environmental Club of KC College of Education observed World Wetland Day by organizing an online poster making activity on the theme 'Wetlands and biodiversity' ON Wednesday.

World Wetland Day is celebrated every year on 2nd February with the aim to raise global awareness about the significance of wetlands.

Nine students from Semester 3rd namely Kanchan, Shweta, Bharti, Deepshikha, Arpita, Priti, Meenakshi, Ruby and Supriya participated in the activity.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal, Dr. Sanjay Tickoo appreciated the efforts made by the participants and added that such activities should be conducted more often and awareness should be raised about the importance of protecting and conserving the wetlands.

This whole programme was convened by Puja Sharma, Convener, Environmental Club.

Army imparts bakery training to 20 women



Army officials along with NGO members and participants.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NOWSHERA: Kadal Rashtriya Rifles in association with Aseem Foundation, a Pune based NGO conducted a Bakery Cadre for women at Mangal Devi A and Gagrote villages, from 28 January to 02 February 2022.

A total of 20 women were imparted training as part of the workshop and four women were selected to run the bakery. On completion of training cadre, the candidates

Majority of MCs of Kathua District meet conditions for ODF+ certification

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Municipal Council and Municipal Committees of Kathua District have met conditions for ODF+ certification.

As per the concerned authorities, Municipal Council Kathua, Municipal Committee Parole, Municipal Committee Basholi,

Municipal Committee Hiranagar have met all the necessary conditions for ODF+ certification.

Municipal Council Kathua has completed all the IHHL targets, community Toilets and Public Toilets construction. Toilets available are also on Google Toilet locator app for the convenience of the

public. Municipal Council Kathua has been working towards the upgrading of toilets so as to achieve the certification of ODF+ for the town. Accordingly, Municipal Council Kathua developed service level benchmarks for toilets which are available in the Municipal Council office and on the official website of

DULBJ. Objection and feedback can be submitted within 15 days for the release of this notification either in the office of Municipal Council Kathua or in the Grievance section of the official website of DULBJ. Municipal Council Kathua shall declare the town ODF+ post completion of the period.

ADC Ramban conducts surprise inspection of offices

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Harbans Lal Sharma on Wednesday conducted surprise inspection of district offices and directed for strict action against those who were found playing truant from their duties.

The ADC inspected the office of State Forest Corporation, Block Development Officer, Sheep Husbandry and Animal Husbandry Department offices and Industrial Training Institute, Polytechnic College Ramban and other district and sectoral offices.

During the inspection several officials were found absent from duty without permission. The ADC asked for initiating action against the absentees as per the service rules.

plaudited the efforts of the NSS team and Cyber Jagrookta Club in respond to the call. She also congratulated the students for their active participation.

Dr. Sunil Sharma, Program officer, NSS Unit and Prof. Poonam Rainu, Convener, Cyber Jagrookta Club of GDC Jindrah supervised the whole activity and Dr. Seema, Librarian and member of NSS team compiled and reported the whole online activity.

The whole activity was conducted through online mode. The students used social media platform to send their write-ups. The posters, slogans and essays depicting consequences of substance consumption and drug abuse prevention were show-

cased beautifully by the students of all the semester. The Essay competition pertaining to the theme Cyber Crime Awareness was especially organised for the students of 5th sem only, wherein Dr. Seema and Prof. Jasneet of Pol. Science Deptt. acted as jury members. Shamim Akhtar was placed in 1st position whereas 2nd and 3rd positions were claimed by Rajni Jamwal and Deepika respectively. In the competition pertaining to Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions were claimed by Manisha Devi of 5th sem; Pallavi of 3rd sem; and Pinky Kumari of 1st sem respectively. The Principal and staff cheered the students for their active participation.

GDC Purmandal organises online intra-college bird photography contest

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PURMANDAL: Eco-Club of Government Degree College, Purmandal under the Patronage of worthy Principal 'Prof. Seema Mir' organised online intra-college Bird Photography contest to commemorate "World Wetlands Day" to mark the date of adoption of Ramsar convention wetlands under

the banner of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav on Wednesday. A large number of students from the college participated in the competition. The participants were judged by Prof. Nirlape Kour (HOD, Pol. Science). Priya Devi and Vikas Sharma of B.A. Semester 3rd and 1st shared the 1st and 2nd position while the 3rd position

was shared by Shivali Sharma of B.A. Sem 3rd. Principal of the college, Prof. Seema Mir congratulated the students for their participation in the event with full enthusiasm. The event was organized by Prof. Shahima Akhter, Convener, Eco-Club and Head, Department of Environmental Sciences of the college.

BJP allies will get majority in Punjab elections: Varinderjeet

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Vice President of Jammu and Kashmir BJP, Varinderjeet Singh, who is campaigning for elections in Taran Taaran as District Incharge, said that the party coalition will win absolute majority in Punjab Assembly.

"I am in regular touch with the party's campaigning teams in different districts also and the feedback, as received, shows our victory in maximum seats", he said while expressing satisfaction over the constitution of organizational set up at the lowest level.

Varinderjeet Singh said that in Taran Taaran district, BJP has fielded one candidate and on other three seats, our coalition partners are contesting.

He said that as per our electoral understanding we have shared seats to win in large number and form government. The response in rural and urban areas is very positive. The people are



Vice President J&K BJP, Varinderjeet Singh along with others during the programme.

appreciating Modi government's welfare schemes for ex servicemen, weaker sections, women, youth and have made up their mind to vote BJP and its partners.

People of Punjab want double engine government which is in Power in centre also. The people of Punjab are happy with the announcement of Bal veer Diwas on 26 December, opening of Kartarpur corridor and Shri Hemkund Sahib Ropeway work.

Pertinent to mention here

that from Jammu and Kashmir unit of BJP besides Varinderjeet Singh party leaders for three other districts too are campaigning in Punjab.

General Secretary, Organization, Ashok Koul is camping in Pathankot as District Incharge, MP Jugal Kishore Sharma in Gurdaspur as District Incharge and former Deputy Chief Minister Dr. Nirmal Singh is campaigning as District Incharge of Amritsar.

IN THE COURT OF DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONER, JAMMU

No:801/Reader/DivComJmu/1220
Dated: 02-02-2022

CIRCULAR

While ensuring the compliances of various guidelines and instructions issued by Government of J&K regarding measures to be taken for containment of new Covid variant Omicron infection and with a view to adopt measures to ensure social distancing and reduce physical presence; it has been decided that hearing/ filing of cases in the court of Divisional Commissioner, Jammu with regard to the cases put for arguments, shall be conducted through virtual mode, henceforth till further orders with the following guidelines:

1. Ordinarily, the hearing of cases listed before the Court of Divisional Commissioner, Jammu shall be conducted through virtual mode, however, physical hearing in respect of any listed matter will be at the discretion of this Court subject to the satisfaction regarding urgency involved in the matter and thereafter such matter can be taken up for physical hearing on the date fixed by this Court.
2. For smooth hearing of cases through virtual mode, link shall be created in advance and shall be provided to the advocates/ litigants by making it available on the official website of this Court/ other available means.
3. Both appellants/ respondents or their counsels shall consent to avail said facility and shall provide requisite details to the Court in advance.
4. That the timings of hearing along with the link for virtual hearing shall be informed in advance to the appellants/ respondents or their Counsel.

Sd/-
Divisional Commissioner
Jammu