

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!
AC approves filling...

30-7-2019, Health and Medical Education Department issued SRO-505 of 2019 dated 20-8-2019 vide which admission to Nursing and Paramedical courses offered by Government/Private Institutions/ Universities were to be made by J&K BOPEE on merit basis. Subsequently vide SRO- 640 of 2019 dated 24-10-2019, the notification SRO-505 of 2019 dated 20-8-2019 was to take effect from academic session 2020-21. Admissions were made by J&K, BOPEE but majority of seats in Government/Private Institutions remain unfilled.

The case was examined and the model in State of Punjab was also studied. Thereafter the Health and Medical Education Department took a decision to frame SoPs in consultation with Registrar, J&K, Paramedical Council. In consultation with GAD and J&K BOPEE, H&ME Department submitted the instant proposal for the approval of Administrative Council.

The Administrative Council also approved creation of 05 Special Courts along with posts for trial of offences under NDPS Act along with supporting staff and infrastructure, one each in districts of Anantnag, Baramulla, Jammu, Pulwama and Srinagar in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

This has been done in compliance to the orders of High Court in case titled Thana Singh vs Central Bureau of Narcotics and High Court J&K in case titled Arshad Ahmad Allaie Vs UT of J&K.

A resolution of Committee of Judges of J&K High Court have recommended that Special Courts must be created at-least in those districts where pendency of NDPS cases is more than 500 which has also been approved by the Chief Justice. The step will have annual financial implications of Rs.4.65 Cr for the UT.

GAD reshuffles JKAS...

in the Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited, with immediate effect. The officer shall be deemed to have been relieved, the order states.

As per another the order issued by Sanjeev Verma (IAS) Commissioner/Secretary GAD, Nazir Ahmad Bhat, Private Secretary, under orders of transfer to J&K Special Tribunal has been posted in the Office of Chief Electoral Officer, J&K; Ajaz Ahmad Qureshi, Private Secretary transferred from Office of Chief Electoral Officer, J&K and posted in J&K Special Tribunal, J&K; Aakash Kumar, Junior Stenographer, transferred from the Hospitality & Protocol Department and posted in the Transport Department to work with the Administrative Secretary; Dinesh Kumar, Junior Stenographer, awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department has been posted in the Office of Chief Electoral Officer, J&K; Raman Kumar, Daftari, transferred from the Agriculture Production Department and posted in the Office of Chief Secretary, J&K; Manzoor Hussain, Daftari, has been transferred from the J&K Public Service Commission and posted in the Office of Chief Secretary, J&K and Ashish Singh, MTS, transferred from the General Administration Department and posted in the J&K Public Service Commission.

Confident winter sports...

Youth Affairs & Sports and Home Affairs also graced the occasion.

The Lt Governor conveyed his best wishes to athletes from all over the country participating in different winter-sports disciplines. "It is a momentous occasion for more than 600 athletes who have been preparing for this spectacular event," he said.

He invited the athletes, team officials and sports enthusiasts to enjoy the warm hospitality of Jammu Kashmir, enjoy the thrill of Alpine Ski, Nordic Ski, snow Mountaineering competitions and also enjoy the incredible sights and cuisine of the paradise on earth.

At the inaugural ceremony, the Lt Governor highlighted the efforts of the government to promote robust sports culture in cities and villages of the Union Territory.

Our talented sportspersons have proved their mettle in national and international sports events. Their achievements are inspiring the budding athletes to bring laurels to the UT and the nation, he said.

He also expressed gratitude to Government of India, Union Sports Ministry, Sports Authority of India for their support and cooperation. Under PMDP, national and international level sports infrastructure has been developed in J&K, he added.

Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Youth Affairs & Sports, through a video message, extended his best wishes for the successful conduct of the Khelo India Winter Games event and encouraged the participating athletes to give their best in the tournament.

Nisith Pramanik, Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs & Sports and Home Affairs lauded the Lt Governor led UT Administration for developing sports infrastructure at grassroot level and setting a milestone for other states as well.

Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Dr Hina Shafi Bhat, Vice Chairperson, J&K KVIB; Maj Gen J. Fernandes, HAWS; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Vidhi Kumar Birdi, IGP Kashmir; Yasha Mudgal, Commissioner Secretary, Tourism; Sarnad Hafeez, Secretary Youth Services & Sports; Minga Sherpa, Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla, senior officials, representatives of Sports Authority of India and various sports organizations, prominent sports personalities and sports enthusiasts in large numbers were present.

Secy Health reviews functioning of JKMSCL

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Secretary, Health & Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah undertook a comprehensive review to assess the functioning of Jammu and Kashmir Medical Supplies Corporation Limited (JKMSCL) during a meeting at Civil Secretariat here today.

The meeting was attended by Managing Director, JKMSCL, Special Secretary Health and Medical Education, Director Finance, H&ME, Financial Advisor / CAO, General Managers, Deputy General Managers and Medical Officers of the JKMSCL.

Addressing the officers during the meeting, the Secretary instructed the management of JKMSCL to work in mission mode and ensure the seamless and timely supplies to the health care institutions across the J&K especially the availability of the medicines under Essential Drug List (EDL).

He also emphasised on the need to strengthen supply chain management. He instructed them to ensure

the procurement of quality medicines with zero tolerance on substandard drugs. He further emphasised on setting up a fool proof mechanism for testing regime.

The Secretary also instructed the officers to take advantages of State-of-Art testing Laboratory of D&FCO at Kathua inaugurated by the Prime Minister during his recent visit to the UT of J&K.

Dr. Abid further directed the management to thoroughly review the empanelled labs of the Corporation and take strict action against that suppliers whose supplies are declared as "Not of Standard Quality" (NoSQ).

The Secretary also stressed on the officers to ensure 100% usage of Drugs and Vaccine Management System portal (DVDMS) and directed them to take all necessary steps in this regard including launch of the beta version of the DVDMS mobile app. He further directed the MD JKMSCL to ensure timely procurement of drugs, diagnostic as well as machinery and

equipments to prevent any disruptions in patient care services. He further emphasized in facilitating necessary procurements for operationalization of State Cancer Institute, Jammu on top most priority.

Dr. Abid also stressed upon augmentation of infrastructure particularly in terms of Machinery Equipments and Drugs of seven new Medical Colleges. He further impressed upon the management of corporation to maintain due transparency in the procurement process and ensure that tenders are finalized within the fixed timeframe. He also asked them to draw out timelines for tendering process and bottlenecks in this process should be addressed promptly. The Secretary instructed all the officers to ensure due compliances in respect of audits of accounts in the Corporation.

During the meeting, MD, JKMSCL gave a detailed power point presentation regarding the functioning of the Corporation.

HC takes strong exception to disclosing name of victim, directs all Criminal Courts of J&K and Ladakh to remain careful while dealing with such cases

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Justice Sanjay Dhar of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court Srinagar Wing, while dealing with an acquittal appeal in rape case, on Wednesday recorded its strong exception to the judgment of the Sessions Judge, where the name of the victim has been repeatedly mentioned.

"It is well established that in the cases relating to sexual offences, the name of the victim is not to be mentioned in any proceeding", the court observed and directed all the Criminal Courts of Union Territory of Jammu and

India, China hold military talks on Ladakh border row; no breakthrough

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India and China held a fresh round of high-level military talks to resolve the over three-and-half-year-old border row in eastern Ladakh that saw both sides agreeing to maintain "peace and tranquillity" on the ground but there was no indication of any breakthrough.

The 21st round of India-China corps commander level meeting was held at Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on February 19, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Wednesday.

The Indian side strongly pressed for resolution of the lingering issues at Depsang and Demchok, people familiar with the matter said, adding there was no tangible forward movement in the talks.

The MEA said the two sides agreed to maintain communication on the way ahead through the relevant

military and diplomatic mechanisms.

"The discussions built on the previous rounds, seeking complete disengagement in the remaining areas along the LAC (Line of Actual Control) in eastern Ladakh as an essential basis for restoration of peace and tranquillity in the India-China border areas," it said in a statement.

The MEA said the two sides shared their perspectives on this in the talks held in a "friendly and cordial" atmosphere.

"The two sides have agreed to maintain communication on the way ahead through the relevant military and diplomatic mechanisms. They also committed to maintain peace and tranquillity on the ground in the border areas in the interim," it said.

In Beijing, China's ministry of national defence said the two militaries have agreed to

maintain communication on current border issues.

It said the talks were held at the Moldo-Chushul border meeting point on the Chinese side.

The two sides conducted positive, in-depth, and constructive communication on resolving border issues of mutual concern, it said.

Both sides agreed to continue communication through military and diplomatic channels, guided by the important consensus of the leaders of the two countries, to reach an acceptable solution as soon as possible and "turn the page" in the border situation, the Chinese readout said.

The 20th round of military talks were held on October 9 and 10.

Following that round of talks, the MEA had said that the two sides exchanged views in a frank, open and constructive manner for an early and mutually accept-

able resolution of the remaining issues along the LAC.

Last month, Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande said that the situation along the LAC in eastern Ladakh is "stable" but "sensitive" and asserted that the Indian troops are maintaining a "very high state" of operational preparedness to effectively deal with any eventualities.

Gen Pande also said that both India and China continue to hold talks at military and diplomatic levels with an aim to return to the "status quo ante" that existed in the middle of 2020.

The Indian and Chinese troops are locked in a stand-off in certain friction points in eastern Ladakh even as the two sides completed disengagement from several areas following extensive diplomatic and military talks.

The Indian delegation at the talks was headed by Lt Gen Rashim Bali, the

Commander of the Leh-headquartered 14 Corps while the Chinese team was led by the commander of the South Xinjiang military district.

India has been maintaining that its ties with China cannot be normal unless there is peace in the border areas.

The eastern Ladakh border standoff erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong lake area.

The ties between the two countries nosedived significantly following the fierce clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process in 2021 on the north and south banks of the Pangong lake and in the Gogra area.

Improve skiing infrastructure in Gulmarg: Omar to Centre

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GULMARG : National Conference leader Omar Abdullah on Wednesday asked the Central government to improve the skiing infrastructure in Gulmarg to attract more winter sports lovers to Kashmir.

"Skiing in Gulmarg has its own charm, but I have noticed the skiing infrastructure is same that we had left in 2014. Nothing new has been added in the past 10 years," Abdullah told reporters here.

"There was probably just one time (in two days) that the Gondola (cable car) went up interrupted," he added.

The former chief minister, who demitted office in 2014, claimed that several skiers who used to come to Gulmarg earlier were now going to places like Kazakhstan.

"My request to the Central government is that they should not look at Gulmarg only from the perspective of

holding Khelo India games but develop the place into a complete skiing destination. Gulmarg has the potential for that," he said.

Abdullah said he was happy that Khelo India Winter games were being held at Gulmarg.

"I am happy but Khelo India is using the infrastructure that we had built. Nothing new has been added," he said.

The fourth edition of Khelo India Winter Games began at this skiing resort on Wednesday. Around 800 players will take part in the five-day event. Gulmarg has hosted all four editions of the winter games held so far.



Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare, Sheetal Nanda and others releasing calendar.

Pahari Speaking People, Sapna Kotwal, Additional Secretary SWD, Kamlesh were also present on the occasion among other officers and officials.

Speaking on the occasion, Sheetal Nanda emphasized the importance of such initiatives in promoting unity, diversity, and inclusive development within J&K UT. She said recognition and celebration of unique cultural identities within the region, reaffirms administration's commitment towards building a more equitable and harmonious society.

The unveiling of the calendar, brochure, and Geo-locational map represents a significant step forward in the ongoing journey towards empowerment and inclusivity for the Pahari Speaking community in the UT", maintained the Commissioner Secretary.

While addressing at the event Sapna Kotwal expressed her gratitude to the Commissioner Secretary for her guidance and support in welfare and development of Pahari Speaking people.

Principal Secretary Finance presides over public outreach camp at Moughla Rajouri

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Principal Secretary Finance, Santosh Dattatreya Vaidya, on Wednesday presided over a public outreach camp at Moughla block in Rajouri district.

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat and other senior officers of different departments were present on the occasion

The camp witnessed significant turnout of residents from Moughla and adjoining parts who projected their issues and concerns seeking speedy redressal of the same.

Several issues were brought to the notice of Principal Secretary during the event, which inter alia included construction of roads from Badgai to Sagoon, from GHSS Moughla to Lano Kheter and from Kanchi Morh to Dreari, augmentation of power infrastructure, installation of



Principal Secretary Finance, Santosh Dattatreya Vaidya during visit to Rajouri.

electricity poles, requirement of additional transformers, paucity of staff in educational and health institutions, dilapidated condition of roads, construction of bridge for Paltha in Treru, repair of road from Solki to Khabbar, expediting work on JJM schemes, sanctioning of 33 KVA Receiving Station for Terayth, inclusion of eligible left out beneficiaries under PMAY-G, sanctioning GDC for

Moughla, renewal of gun licenses, forest clearance issues, providing an ambulance for Moughla, sanctioning adequate funds under TSP, Gujjar Hostel for Moughla, subdivision status to Moughla, creation of separate post of Munsif Judge, construction of building for mobile school, J&K Bank Branch at Gai Bas etc.

The Principal Secretary inspected the stalls established by various depart-

ments, highlighting their respective schemes and initiatives being implemented for welfare and development of common masses.

Addressing the event, the Principal Secretary said that the primary objective of holding these public outreach camps is to bridge the gap between the public and the government. These camps serve as a platform to engage with the public directly, listen to their concerns and gather feedback on various government schemes and initiatives.

"By establishing direct communication channels with the public, the government aims to create a more inclusive and participatory governance system. This enables the government to understand the needs and aspirations of the people and make the policy decisions as per needs and aspiration of public at large", he maintained.

The Principal Secretary assured the people that their concerns would be given

careful consideration, and appropriate action would be taken to address them effectively. Regarding repair of old handpumps, the Principal Secretary directed the concerned officers from the Jal Shakti department to take effective measures to address this issue on priority. He also urged upon the public to take advantage of various government schemes, like Ayushman Bharat meant for their welfare. He emphasized the importance of government's holistic agriculture development program in raising the living standards of farmers. Others present in the outreach camp were DDC Member Moughla, ADC Kalakote, ASP Kalakote, CPO, DMO, DSWO, CEO Education, CMO, LDM, Executive Engineer REW, Executive Engineer PDD Rajouri, Executive Engineer PMGSY Rajouri, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Nowshera, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mechanical and other district and sectoral officers.

Two young students suffocate to death in Bandipora

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Two students of a religious seminary died due to suffocation in north Kashmir's Bandipora district on Wednesday.

As per details, two students from Dar-ul-Uloom Faiz-ul-uloom tragically died due to suffocation in Ashtangoo village of Bandipora.

The incident occurred on Wednesday morning when the Darasgah officials found the children and their father unconscious.

"Despite being rushed to

the nearby hospital, the boys couldn't be revived," he said, adding that their father is undergoing treatment at district hospital Bandipora.

The deceased have been identified as Muneer Ahmad Chechi (10), and Tanveer Ahmad Chechi (9) sons of Qasim Ahmad Chechi from Malangam, Bandipora.

He said the police is investigating the incident and preliminary findings suggest suffocation as the cause of death.