

FICCI FLO JKL partners with JU for Health and Social Initiatives

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The FICCI FLO Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh (JKL) Chapter, a leading women's business organization, has taken a significant stride towards fostering health and social initiatives in the region.

A delegation from FICCI FLO JKL held a meeting with the Vice Chancellor of the University of Jammu (JU), Prof. Umesh Rai.

During the meeting, the FICCI FLO JKL delegation proposed a collaboration with the JU for their upcoming Marathon'24 Run4Health.

This marathon aims to raise funds for addressing crucial health concerns in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly focusing on Tuberculosis care, nutrition, and eradication. The Vice



FICCI FLO JKL Chapter members presenting bouquet to VC JU Prof Umesh Rai.

Chancellor graciously agreed to support this noble cause. The FLO JKL delegation also shared insights from their recent meeting with the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, who expressed his desire for FICCI FLO JKL to focus on Tuberculosis Eradication.

His vision is to make Jammu and Kashmir Tuberculosis-free by 2025. In line with this directive, FLO JKL plans to conduct multiple health camps throughout the year in both rural and urban areas, targeting schools and colleges. Prof. Umesh Rai welcomed the proposal and pledged

support from various university departments, including the Department of Physical Education, NSS, and Students Welfare.

The collaboration extends to furthering FLO's health objectives and ensuring the success of the FLO Marathon'24 Run4Health targeting tuberculosis eradication, mental health, cancer care and drug de-addiction.

Highlighting the importance of their initiative, Ruchika Gupta, Incoming Chairperson of FICCI FLO JKL, stated, "We believe that a collaborative approach is essential to make a meaningful impact on health issues in our region. The FLO Marathon'24 RUN4 HEALTH is not just a run; it is a collective effort to

promote health and well-being in Jammu and Kashmir."

Representing FLO JKL were Varuna Anand, Chairperson, along with Ruchika Gupta, Incoming Chairperson, and Aarti Chowdhary, Vice Chairperson. Ranjeet Kalra, Teaching Faculty at UGC-HRDC, University of Jammu, was also present in the meeting.

This partnership marks a significant milestone in the collective efforts to address health challenges in the region. FICCI FLO Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh Chapter and the University of Jammu are united in their commitment to creating a healthier and stronger future for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Keshav organises Aadhaar Camp

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To provide Aadhaar services at one place Samvedna Society Chairman Keshav Chopra organised an Aadhaar enrollment Camp for the employees and their dependents of Horticulture Marketing and Planning office Narwal Jammu. The Camp was inaugurated by Deputy Director Ayaz Ahmed Natnoo.

The Camp was organised in collaboration with Aadhaar Sewa Kendra Jammu.

Natnoo said that due to their busy schedule in their office employees could not spare time to get Aadhaar Services and it's a very good initiative of Samvedna Society for providing Aadhaar card related services to the employees and their dependents of Horticulture (P&M) at one place.



Employees enroll at Aadhaar Camp at Horticulture Marketing and Planning office Narwal.

Keshav Chopra said that Mission of Samvedna Society is to provide all types of services to the government employees and common man at their doorstep and Samvedna will continue to organize these camps in future also.

Jagdish Raj Area Marketing Officer; Arvind Panjgotra AD Marketing,

Dr Punkaj Gupta Auditor, Vasu Pradha JSA Planning, Jagmohan Koul JA, Jagdeep Raj AMO Kisan Ghar, Operational Head Aadhaar Sewa Kendra Peer Mubassir Shah, Operator Rahul Lalotra, Vikas Kumar, Sushil Gupta, Sourav, Abhishek Gupta, and others were also present.

Dr Rohit Gupta calls on Director Health Services, Jammu



JKAP Provincial Secretary, Dr Rohit Gupta calling on Director Health Services, Jammu, Dr Rakesh Magotra.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Anpi Party Provincial Secretary and Incharge Membership Drive, Dr Rohit Gupta on Tuesday called on Director Health Services, Jammu, Dr Rakesh Magotra and discussed various issues with him.

As per a press release, Dr

Rohit met the Director Health Services, Jammu and held a threadbare discussion regarding various issues of public health.

During the discussion, Rohit Gupta informed the Director Health Services, Jammu about the shortage of staff, paramedics and doctors in the Primary Health

Centers (PHCs) across the Region and the vacant posts shall be fulfilled to provide better health care services.

While demanding 24/7 emergency services in the hospitals and PHCs, he said that the anti-venom vaccines should also be provided in the PHCs to ensure that the people get the vaccine at proper time.

He also demanded strengthening of the ambulance services, employing drivers for ambulances as well as the fuel so that they can be utilized whenever required during the emergency service.

After hearing him carefully, the Director Health Services, Jammu assured that the suggestions put forward by him will be considered.

Three prominent DPAP members join Congress

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Three prominent members of Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP), including a District General Secretary, joined Congress here on Tuesday, a party spokesperson said.

DPAP Ramban District General Secretary Fareed Ahmad Malik, Tehsil President Ramsoo Mohd Nasir Sheikh along with Abdul Latif Malik were welcomed into the party fold by Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee president Vikar Rasool Wani, the spokesperson said.

"The doors (of Congress) are open for the people who want to contribute in the party's efforts to see Jammu and Kashmir out of the present mess," Wani



JKPCC president Vikar Rasool with newly joined members.

said. He appealed to the people to strengthen the hands of former Congress president Rahul Gandhi by joining the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra and said the yatra aims to spread the message of peace and brotherhood and to defeat the nefarious designs of "communal and divisive forces" in the country.

remote and backward areas.

Targeting the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Wani alleged that the "insensitive government" has pushed the people to the wall due to rising unemployment, inflation and lack of developmental activities.

"In an atmosphere of uncertainty and political instability, the people of the Jammu and Kashmir in general and the Jammu region in particular are living through the most difficult times," the Congress leader claimed.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Mahila (women) Congress led by Shameema Raina launched the 'Nari Nyay Campaign' from the party headquarters here on

Tuesday. "Our leader is currently on the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra, as part of which he is meeting scores of people from all backgrounds. We at All India Mahila Congress are consistently reaching out to the women to hear their views. We have received different suggestions and we are hereby outlining our demands in the form of Nari Nyay," Raina said.

The main demands raised under the campaign include political representation for women, price rise control, equal pay for equal work, comprehensive health package along with ensuring basic health infrastructure and protection against violence and need for justice, she added.

Retirees Police League District Jammu holds monthly meeting

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The monthly meeting of the Retirees Police League District Jammu, chaired by Karanjit Singh, President, was held on Tuesday at the league's office, here.

The gathering commenced with a respectful two-minute silence in memory of departed souls, including Inder Mohan Bakshi, SSP (retd), and Harvinder Singh, DySP, along with Inspectors Sanjeev Gupta and Raj Mohd.

The main issues addressed encompassed enhancing medical facilities for retired police personnel, advocating



Retirees Police League District Jammu members during a meeting at Jammu on Tuesday.

for priority access and free medicines akin to other armed forces, and ensuring practical implementation of welfare measures at the grassroots level.

Urgent repairs for the league's office building were

highlighted, with a call for assistance from the Police Headquarters (PHQ).

Attendees also emphasized the need to exempt retirees from fees at the G.O. Mess and expressed concerns over the absence of meetings at

various administrative levels.

Large number of legendary Retired Police personal including Ranjit Singh IPS SSP Makhan Lal Sharma Prabhdayal Sharma, Savita Parihar SSPs SP Ch Gulzar S R Datta J D Pawan

Khajuria CPO Vijay Gupta DSPs Kr Yoginder Singh Mohinder Singh Ch Bhag Ram Khalil ur Rehman Mohan Singh Kamal Sharma Insp Mohd Sadiq vice president Insp Mohd Taj Satpal Manohar Kumar Parkash Kumar SIs Ashok Kumar ASI attended the meeting.

Notable attendees included Ranjit Singh, IPS, SSP Makhan Lal Sharma, and other distinguished retired officers.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to address the raised concerns and advocate for the welfare of retired police.

SKUAST-J to host 6th J&K Agricultural Science Congress from Feb 8

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J) in collaboration with J&K Science, Technology and Innovation Council, Department of Science & Technology, UT of J&K is organizing a three-days' J&K Agricultural Science Congress from February 8 to 10 at its main campus Chatha. Manoj Sinha, LG, UT of J&K and Chancellor SKUAST Jammu will be the Chief Guest on the occasion.

Dr. B. N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu and Conference Chair of 6th J&K Agricultural Science Congress told the media persons that more than 300 participants are expected to participate in the event in which lead lectures will be delivered by eminent scientists of the country in their respective fields of specialization. He further informed that diversification of agri-

culture for self-reliant mountain agroecology attaining livelihood security, sustainable food production and environmental protection has always been a challenging task and the main focus of the JK Science Congress shall be the technological innovations, opportunities and challenges for sustainable agriculture in order to attain food and livelihood security.

The Congress will cover all the topics related to agriculture and allied sectors. The three-day deliberations shall include alternate agriculture systems, digital agriculture, start-up culture, climate resilient agriculture for sustainability, economic, marketing and business opportunities, advances in veterinary sciences, agriculture and socio-economic dynamics of farming and innovations in basic and data sciences, he said adding that all the details of the Congress are available on University website www.skuast.org.

LIC of India introduces new plan 'LIC's Index Plus'

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chairperson, Siddhartha Mohanty, Life Insurance Corporation of India launched a new plan, LIC's Index Plus with effect from February 5, 2024. The Unique Identification Number (UIN) for LIC's Index Plus is UIN: 512L354V01.

"LIC's Index Plus is a Unit Linked, Regular Premium, Individual Life Insurance Plan which offers life insurance cover cum savings throughout the term of the policy," Siddhartha Mohanty said adding that Guaranteed additions as a percentage of Annualized Premium shall be added to the unit fund on completion of specific duration of policy years under an in-force policy and shall be utilized to purchase units.

"There is an option to choose any one of the two funds to invest premiums initially and at the time of switching, i.e. Flexi Growth Fund and Flexi Smart Growth

Fund wherein investment will be primarily in selected stocks which are a part of NSE NIFTY 100 index or NSE NIFTY50 index respectively," the release said.

According to the release, the minimum age to buy the policy is 90 days (completed) and the maximum age is 50-60 years (nearer birthday) based on the basic sum assured. This basic sum assured is 7-10 times of annualised premium for individuals at entry age of 90 days to 50 years (nearer birthday) and 7 times of annualised premium for age at entry 51 years to 60 years (nearer birthday).

The minimum age at maturity is 18 years and the maximum is 75-80 years based on the basic sum assured. The minimum policy term is 10-15 years, while the maximum is 25 years based on the annualised premium. The release states the premium paying term is equivalent to the policy term.

"Minimum premium ranges from Rs

30,000 (yearly), Rs 15,000 (half-yearly), Rs 7,500 (quarterly), Rs 2,500 (monthly) (NACH) depending upon the mode/premium payment frequency. Maximum premium-no limit subject to underwriting decision," said the release.

On the date of maturity, an amount equal to the unit fund value shall be payable.

"Amount payable on the death of life assured differs depending upon whether the death of life assured is before the date of commencement of risk or after the date of commencement of risk. Refund of mortality charges are subject to terms and conditions," said the release.

Individuals can avail of LIC's linked accidental death benefit rider: Simultaneously, one can partially withdraw the units at any time after the five-year lock-in period. However, these withdrawals are subject to conditions. One can apply for the plan online through the official LIC website or offline through an authorised agent.

KDP Wing of DPAP demands creation of employment avenues for Kashmiri displaced youth

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Kashmiri Displaced People (KDP) Wing of Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) J&K President Sanjay Dhar, Chairman Piaray Lal Pandita, Raj Kumar Tickoo General Secretary, Naveen Youth President and Rahul Raina Youth Vice President along with other members in statement issued on Tuesday put forth demands before the Govt. of India as well as J&K for earliest consideration to the Kashmiri Displaced youth from starvation.

They demanded reservation of 5 percent employment quota in J&K U.T for Kashmiri Displaced Hindu Youth, being the community falling in Minority category of Kashmir Valley, besides reservation for said youth in Central Government Employment.

They demanded creation of two special police recruitment Battalions in J&K Police among low educated youth of Kashmiri Displaced People, with relaxation of recruitment norms, creation of direct reserved employment avenues in Private Sector of Valley for Technical educated youth of Kashmiri Displaced Hindus, providing subsidised loan schemes for overaged educated youth with relaxation of all norms, providing Govt. Subsidised Commercial light vehicles as stands provided in Kashmir Valley for ensuring earnings to the displaced youth, providing monthly stipend to the unemployed youth of Kashmiri Displaced People, creation of such a scheme for the youth of Displaced People, so that the thousands of youth having undergone Engineering in

Different Trades, can serve in Valley Private or Govt. Sector Projects, requires to be called back through any new scheme, so that the progress of development in each sector; providing of special employment scheme in shape of self help group projects for Kashmiri Hindu educated daughters at Jammu especially in Camps with special financial help, and other facilities, either through Social Welfare, or through other such agencies.

All KDP wing leaders appealed all unemployed low and highly educated youth to unite and to avoid every evil, to strengthen the Society and to help for getting employment avenues created, for which a good road map will be devised on which the Youth wing of KDP Wing of DPAP will lead as front liner.

Ladakh bodies threaten hunger strike, demanding sixth schedule, Statehood

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Leaders in Ladakh on Monday said that it would intensify protests and threatened to go on a hunger strike if there is no positive outcome during their meeting with the High Powered Committee on Feb 19.

Former Member of Parliament Thupstan Chewang and founding member of Leh Apex Body addressing a news conference in Leh ahead of their talks with the High Powered Committee (HPC) led by MoS Home Nityanand Rai on February 19 reiterated their 4-point agenda.

Talking to reporters, the Apex Body Leh Chairman said that the talks with the centre have been going on for a very long now, but the last meeting with the HPC was the commencement of deliberations officially which was recorded as well.

"The High Powered Committee (HPC) had asked both KDA and Apex Body to submit demands in writing. After consultations, a draft proposal was submitted with the hope that it would lead to a second round of talks immediately. We were also assured by the HPC that the next round of talks would resume shortly, but it took a long," said the Apex Body Chairman.

Chewang said that they responded to the long haul in the shape of a protest across Ladakh which was also supported by the region's prominent environmentalist Sonam Wangeluk.

He said that they will wait for the outcome of the 19th February meeting with HPC and if that turns out to be positive and in favor of the people of Ladakh will be welcomed. "In case, he said if there is nothing positive they will strengthen their protests across the region post-19 February," he added.

Chewang said that they have also decided to form a committee to hold deliberations with people and include everyone including youth.

He informed that the Apex Body formed committee has been tasked to prepare for the hunger strike of both Thupstan Chewang and Sonam Wangeluk in case there is no positive response from HPC.

He said that no matter what, the hunger strike will continue until their demands are not met. "If there is a proper positive response from HPC, then further course of action shall be deliberated upon and shared accordingly. In case of no positive response, then the strategy

already discussed shall be implemented and walked upon," the Chairman said. To a query, he said that if there is any positive commitment from HPC, then there is a need to hold further rounds of talks. "HPC still has time, and even if they can provide something through an ordinance it would be acceptable. Any positive commitment would also lead to engaging in further talks," he said.

Sonam Wangeluk, a key campaigner for constitutional safeguards for Ladakh, on Monday said they would launch a fast unto death from February 19 to press their demands and that details of participation of local residents in the agitation were being worked out.

The Ramon Magsaysay Award winner said a sense of desperation is growing among the local residents over their unfulfilled demands, including safeguards under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution and full statehood for Ladakh.

He said he was earlier planning to go on a three-week-long fast from February 3 but postponed it after Chhewang, the chairman of the Leh Apex Body (LAB), asked him to wait till February 19, when prominent leaders from the Union territory would

meet Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai in New Delhi.

Rai heads a high-powered committee, set up to look into various issues pertaining to the protection of rights of Ladakh residents.

Ladakh witnessed a major protest rally on Saturday when the Union Territory observed a complete shutdown in response to calls given by the Leh Apex Body (LAB) and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) in support of their four-point agenda.

"People came out in numbers like 30,000, which is unprecedented in the history of Ladakh. It's like one third of the adult population of Ladakh came out to tell the government that it was not the voice of one person but everyone wanted the safeguards for the region," Wangeluk said.

Wangeluk said the prevailing desperation was making people say that they were better off being with the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, which was bifurcated into Union territories in 2019. "...many people are saying that. I think that's the extent of their pain. I don't think that people really want to be in a state where their peculiar environmental conditions do not match. But people are expressing their anguish and pain..." he said in reply to a question.