

District admin bids affectionate farewell to outgoing DC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDERBAL: The District administration Ganderbal today organized a farewell to honor and bid adieu to the outgoing Deputy Commissioner (DC), Shyambir, for his dedicated and exemplary service to the district.

The event, held in the lawns of the DC Office, showcased deep respect and appreciation for DC's significant contributions during his tenure in the district.



On the occasion officers commended Shyambir's tireless efforts in advancing the developmental agenda of Ganderbal and praised his unwavering commitment, dynamic leadership, and innovative approach that has left an

indelible mark on the progress of the district.

His proactive approach to addressing public grievances and fostering teamwork among departments earned him widespread respect and admiration.

In his farewell address, the DC expressed his gratitude to the district officers and the people of Ganderbal for their support and cooperation. "It has been a privilege to serve the people of Ganderbal. I am deeply humbled by the affection

and encouragement I have received during my time here," he said. The event concluded with the presentation of mementos and a vote of thanks, wishing Shyambir success in his future endeavors.

Among others, the ceremony was attended by SSP Ganderbal, Ragav S, Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Gulzar Ahmad, SDM Kangan, CPO and other senior officers and officials from district administration.

Schools have critical role in preventing drug abuse among youths: Sakeena

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JAMMU: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, on Friday addressed the annual function of SGSD International School at Baba Jitto Auditorium SKUAST here.

The Minister, who was chief guest on the occasion, in her address reaffirmed government's special focus on health and education under the leadership of Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, ensuring that necessary assistance will be provided to all institutions working for bringing vibrancy in these important areas.

She further highlighted the critical role of schools in preventing drug abuse among the younger generation. She urged the parents and teachers to extend cooperation to the government agencies in curbing this menace collectively.

Acknowledging the talent among the children of J&K,



Sakeena appreciated outstanding cultural performances and the talent displayed at the event. She emphasized the importance of schools in shaping the future of young minds, helping them realize their dreams of becoming doctors, engineers, administrators, or social workers.

Minister for Agricultural Production, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election departments, Javed Ahmad Dar, also attended the programme.

He lauded SGSD International School for its commitment towards pro-

viding quality education and empowering students to excel in academics and sports. He appreciated school's dedication towards ensuring holistic development of the children enrolled there.

Encouraging the students to keep learning and upgrading their skills in line with modern advancements, the Minister described SGSD International School as a model institution contributing significantly to the upbringing of responsible and capable citizens.

The Minister assured that the government will extend all possible support to help such schools grow and continue their mission of academic excellence and social development.

During the programme, the students presented various cultural programs showcasing multi cultural and traditional folk and local dance forms of various states.

GMC Srinagar accords sendoff to MS SMHS, Dr. Tasneem Showkat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar bade farewell to Dr. Tasneem Showkat, Medical Superintendent SMHS Hospital Srinagar, on her superannuation.

The farewell was attended by Prof. Dr. Iffat Hassan, Principal/Dean GMC Srinagar; Mohammad Ashraf Hakak, Administrator; Associated Hospitals, GMC, Prof. Sabiya Majeed Head Deptt of Biochemistry; Prof. Dr. Iqbal Saieem HOD, General Surgery; Prof. Dr. Manzoor Latoo, HOD, Department of ENT; Prof. Dr. Rakesh Kaul HOD Medicine; Prof. Afroz Khan, Tahleela Asmat, Chief Accounts Officer; Prof. Dr. Saleem Itoo, Deputy Registrar, Academics; Prof. Dr. Arshid Hussain, Department of Psychiatry; Prof. Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Chalkoo, Dr. Muzafar Jan, Medical Superintendent, Lal Ded Hospital, Dr. Farah, Block Medical Officer, Hazratbal, casualty Medical Officers, Resident Medical

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Biotechnology, GGM Science College Jammu, in collaboration with J&K Science Technology and Innovation Council Udhampur; organised 'One day soft activity on Biotechnology Park-Kathua: Awareness and its potential utilisation' here on Friday.

The Program aimed at highlighting the park's role in fostering innovation, entre-

preneurship, and scientific research in Biotechnology. The highly anticipated event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of more than 100 students.

The program started with the welcome address by Head Department of Biotechnology Prof Kiran Bala.

The host College Principal Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta the Chief Guest spoke about the career prospects in biotechnology research, industry, and academia. He encouraged the students to actively participate and learn in such events.

District Coordinator JKSTIC-DST Udhampur Shruti Khanna emphasized the importance of Biotechnology Park which intends to create research opportunities with incubation centers providing support to the Agri entrepreneurs, scientists, scholars and students to connect with the outside industrial

houses. Head Department of Biotechnology, PSPS Govt. PG College for Women Gandhi Nagar Dr. Rahul Sharma, first speaker of the event, elaborated on the role of Biotechnology Park Kathua in biotechnology research, industrial growth, and entrepreneurship. He also discussed the Government schemes and funding opportunities for Biotech startups.

Associate Professor SMVDU Dr. Parvez Singh Slathia delivered a keynote speech on the importance of herbal extraction, analytical labs, fermentation and plant tissue facilities in Biotech Park. He discussed the significance of cultivating entrepreneurial mindsets and navigating the challenges associated with building innovative ventures.

The One-Day Awareness Programme on Biotechnology Park,

Kathua, was a resounding success. The event effectively promoted the importance of Biotechnology in economic development and innovation in Jammu & Kashmir.

All the members of organizing committee Prof. Gourav Gupta, Prof. Kirti Sharma and Dr. Richa Sharma actively participated in the event and other faculty members Dr. Vandana Khajuria, Prof. Kamal Kishore, Dr. Ashiq Hussain, Dr. Pankaj Gupta, Dr. Nisha Slathia, Dr. Neha Sharma, Dr. Pankaj Mansotra, Dr. Arti Heer, Dr. Mateen, Dr. Arjun Rathore, Dr. Ram, Dr. Amit Bali and Prof. Sunita Kumari were also present during the activity.

The proceedings of the function were carried out by Dr. Nancy Gupta and concluded with a vote of thanks, by Dr. Neha Mahajan Assistant Professor Department of Biotechnology.

DM Jammu directs biomedical waste management audit

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: District Magistrate Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya on Friday called for a detailed report on all government and private health facilities in the district on their current waste disposal practices, including any shortcomings in complying with biomedical waste protocols. The directive was issued during a District Level Monitoring Committee meeting chaired by the DM to review the implementation of Bio Medical Waste Management and Handling Rules, with the goal of improving biomedical waste management throughout the district.

Chief Medical Officer Dr Harbaksh Singh has been tasked to ensure the operational

status of bio-medical waste handling, disposal and processing facilities across public and private health facilities. The entire exercise is to be conducted under the supervision of Additional District Development Commissioner, Sher Singh.

Furthermore, the District Magistrate underscored the necessity for all health facilities to be thoroughly informed about the imperative of strict compliance with biomedical waste management and disposal regulations. Facilities are also instructed to implement robust tracking and recording mechanisms for waste processing and transfer, utilising appropriate software solutions.

THE BANQUET WITH A DIFFERENCE

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