

Secretary reviews working of ARI & Trainings Deptt

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Soon after taking over as Secretary, Administrative Reforms, Inspections and Trainings, Amit Sharma, on Friday convened an introductory-cum-review meeting of the department.

The meeting was attended by all officers and HoDs of the department including Director Finance, Suresh Koul, Additional Secretaries, Syed Muried Shah and Sunaina Mehta, General Managers Government Press, Aijaz Ahmed Akhoun and Purshotam Sharma.

Secretary directed the officers to continue with the same spirit of carrying forward



Secretary, Administrative Reforms, Inspections and Trainings, Amit Sharma chairing introductory-cum-review meeting.

administrative reforms in all government departments. He mentioned that this is among one of the most important departments which is involved in finalising recruitment rules, seniority lists of all departments and organising

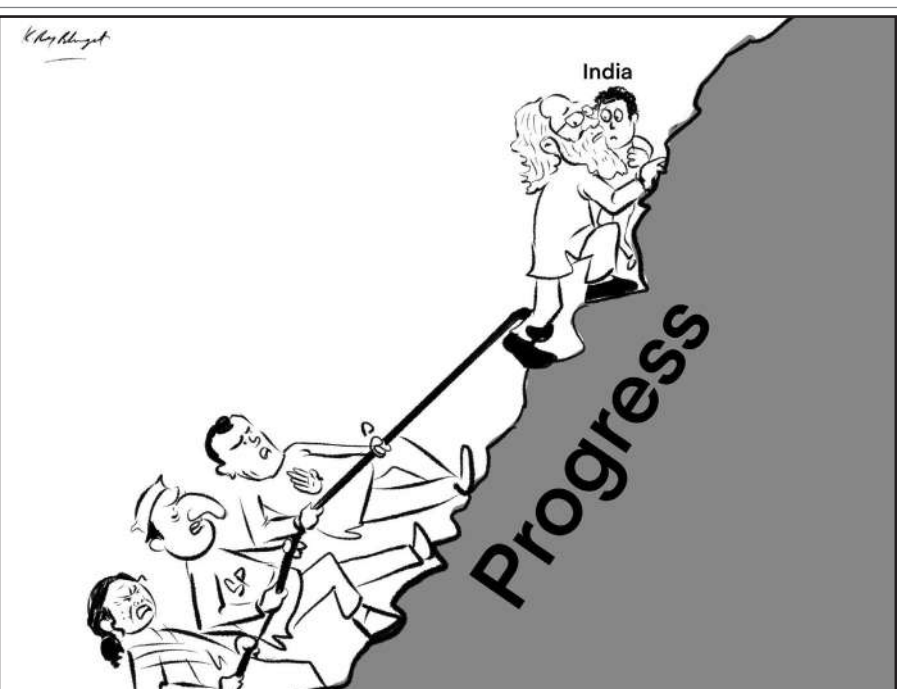
capacity building and trainings of employees on a regular basis.

During the meeting, General Managers of both the Government Presses in Jammu and Srinagar shared the challenges faced by them.

Amit Sharma also directed that all kinds of loan applications, migration related applications, should undergo end-to-end digitization in a time-bound manner so that there is no human interface in same. He further directed for

revamping the existing website of the department, making it completely user-friendly and mobile-friendly for the citizens of the Union Territory.

Secretary emphasized the need for reviving old pristine glory of Administrative Reforms Department. He asked for initiating all steps to impart training to officials through specialised institutes while implementing DARPG, GoI guidelines and administrative reforms.. He also directed for completing winding-up process of Stationery & Printing Department and revamping working of the Board of Professional Entrance Examinations (BOPEE) in J&K.



ICAI signs MoU with DSEK to promote Commerce education



Representatives of ICAI and DSEK after signing MoU.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Committee on Career Counselling of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) with the support of J&K branch of Northern India Regional Council (NIIRC) of ICAI and Srinagar Representative Office on Friday signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Directorate of School Education, Kashmir (DSEK), Government of Jammu & Kashmir for promoting Commerce Education amongst Government and Government aided Secondary and Senior Secondary school students.

The objective of this MoU is to establish mutual Co-operation between both the parties. It is held that DSEK will nominate one representative in each school to coordinate with representatives of Committee on Career Counselling of ICAI for awareness campaign and promotion of Commerce Education more particularly CA

Education. Dr. Tasaduk Hussain Director, School Education, Kashmir was Chief Guest on the occasion. The ICAI was represented by CA. Hans Raj Chugh, Chairman Committee on Career Counselling, CA. Dr. Raj Chawla, Central Council Member, CA. Nakul Saraf, Chairman of J&K Branch.

Earlier, an outreach meeting was held which was attended by number of Principals of government schools (Kashmir) to promote commerce stream and a presentation was also made wherein Chartered Accountant as a profession was highlighted. The meet was also attended by Senior members of the Profession.

CA. Vikas Purlhani, Vice Chairman of J&K Branch, CA Vineet Kohli, Secretary J&K Branch, CA Samriti Kohli, Convener Kashmir CPE Chapter along with number of Chartered Accountants were also present on the occasion.

DGP chairs joint meeting of Administrative Board, Management Committee of Police Public Schools

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Director General of Police (DGP) J&K Dilbag Singh chaired the annual joint meeting of Board of Administration and Management Committee of J&K Police Public Schools at GO's Mess here on Friday.

The meeting reviewed the functioning of J&K Police Public schools established across the Union Territory and discussed different issues and proposals regarding these schools functioning in Jammu, Srinagar, Doda, Rajouri, Anantnag, Baramulla and Kupwara districts.

Various decisions with regard to further improvement in the working, infrastructure of these schools were taken.

The meeting was attended by ADGP, Jammu Zone Mukesh Singh, ADGP Headquarter PHQ M.K Sinha, ADGP Coordination PHQ Danesh Rana, Chairperson Police Wives Welfare Association (PWWA) Dr Rubinder Kaur, DIG Jammu Samba-Kathua Range, Vivek Gupta, DPT, J&K Shridhar Patil, PWWA members Madhu



DGP J&K Dilbag Singh and other police officers along with dignitaries after the meeting.

Lohia, Archana Choudhary, AIG Welfare PHQ, Rajinder Gupta, SSP Tahir Bhat Nodal officer to Police Public School Jammu, SO to IGP Armed/IR Manjeet Kour, AIG Communication, PHQ Manoj Kumar Pandit and Principle Police Public School Jammu.

DIG CKR, Sujit Kumar, DIG NKR Udaybhaskar Billa, DIG

SKR Abdul Jabbar and the Principles of other Police Public Schools attended the meeting through video conferencing.

The DGP impressed upon the members that measures need to be taken to further enhance the quality of education being imparted to the wards of police personnel and other students in the Police Public

Schools.

The DGP also emphasized for harnessing the talent of the school children in sports.

He directed for providing better transport facilities to the students of these schools by providing new buses. He directed the administrative officers and Principals to focus on improving the academics and approved on spot many requirements with regard to infrastructure. He directed the management for working in the missionary mode and focus on the quality education so that the graph of performance level of these schools moves in upward direction. He desired that all possible support be given to the wards of Police martyrs in providing them good education.

He said that students in last two years were studying in online mode through electronic gadgets and directed for organizing the free eye checkup camps in collaboration with police hospitals and local government hospitals for students and staff members of these institutions.

SKUAST-J signs MoU with NIF for joint research projects

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Jammu (SKUAST-J) signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Innovation Foundation-India (NIF), an autonomous body under the Department of Science and Technology, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, whose initiatives are to strengthen the grass-roots technological innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge and help India become a creative and knowledge-based society by expanding policy and insti-



VC SKUAST-J, Prof. J.P. Sharma and Director & CIO NIF-India, Dr Vipin Kumar after signing MoU.

tutional space for grass-roots technological innovations.

The MoU was signed between Prof. J.P. Sharma,

Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu and Dr. Vipin Kumar, Director and Chief Innovation Officer, NIF-India, with the objective to

develop an inclusive Innovation Ecosystem through academic and research co-operation between the two institutes.

Through this agreement, SKUAST-J and NIF-India will together formulate research projects for both the participating institutions and undertake joint research work in the areas of mutual interest and impart training to innovators, farmers, staff, students and technical personnel within the areas of co-operation.

Dr. Hardev Choudhary, Scientist-D, NIF-India

exchanged the MoU and told that through this MoU, the farmers' crops, varieties and innovations in J&K will be identified, commercialized and disseminated in collaboration with SKUAST-Jammu.

The MoU was exchanged in presence of Dr. B.C. Sharma, Professor & Head and Dr. Ramphool Puniya, Scientist, Division of Agronomy and the programme was co-ordinated by Dr. Pardeep Wali, Director Research, SKUAST-Jammu and Dr. Mahital Jamwal, Dy. Director Research of SKUAST-Jammu.

ADGP Jammu greets people on Chaitra Navratri 'Help police in maintaining highest level of security, guidelines during festivities'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu Zone, Jammu Mukesh Singh on Friday felicitated all citizens of Jammu Province, J&K Police personnel and their families on the eve Chaitra Navratri. He has wished the people a blissful festival.

In his message, Singh has expressed hope that the festival will bring joy and happiness among the people of the State including families



of Police Martyrs and their families. He has also prayed for

peace and prosperity of the UT of J&K

Mukesh Singh also made an appeal to people of Jammu province to help the police in maintaining highest level of security during the festivities by keeping a close eye on any suspicious object or vehicle or person and if noticed report the same to the nearest police personnel or police picket, to follow the guidelines and social distancing while celebrating these festivals.

Elections of District Gurdwara Prabandhak Committees Prpl Secy Revenue directed to finalise nomination within two weeks

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a contempt petition filed by Satinder Singh for initiating contempt proceedings against the respondents for not implementing the judgment of the Court dated December 31, 2021, whereby J&K High Court initiate the process of conducting elections to the Gurdwara Prabandhak Committees in Union Territory, in accordance with provisions of the Act of 1973 expeditiously, Justice M A Chowdhary directed respondents to finalize nomination within a period of two weeks and submit the compliance report failing which respondent Principal Secretary, Revenue shall appear in person.

This significant order has been passed after hearing petitioner Joginder Singh, who produced a communication vide No. DMJ/LO/21 -22/5699-5701 dated March 15, 2022 of Additional Deputy Commissioner (Law & Order) Jammu addressed to Divisional

Commissioner Jammu for nomination of District Gurdwara Parbandhak Committees Jammu out of 21 short-listed persons and stated that Divisional Commissioner is sitting over the matter and not finalizing the same.

In contempt petition, petitioner submitted that a perusal of the aforementioned observations in aforementioned judgment, makes it apparent that the respondents were bound to nominate fresh members of Committees from amongst persons of high integrity and social standing, in terms of Rule 63-C of above rules, by issuing a notification in this regard, so that the day to day affairs of Gurdwaras in different districts of UT of J&K, falling under the jurisdiction of the concerned District Gurdwara Prabandhak Committees, can run smoothly. This notification of nominating new members was to be issued within a period of three weeks. Despite the fact that the aforementioned judgment

was served on respondents through speed post delivered on January 6, 2022, and a period of three weeks as was fixed in the judgment within which the respondents had to issue notification for nominating the fresh members of the Committees, having elapsed, nothing has been done by respondents, due to which religious affairs of different Gurdwaras in Union Territory of J&K are suffering a lot, and erstwhile members, who have already been held to be continuing to hold the affairs of different Gurdwaras unauthoritely, are still continuing. It was further submitted that the respondents till date have not taken any steps for initiating process of holding the elections for the District Gurdwara Prabandhak Committees of Union Territory, which makes it clear that the respondents have willfully disobeyed directions issued by the Court, and as such, are liable to be initiated contempt proceedings.

Above normal temperature, a major concern for Valley

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: According to Metrological Department, the average temperature in Jammu & Kashmir is 4 to 8 degree Celsius above normal, which is happening for the first time in 7 decades. Moreover, the hottest days in month of March in Jammu were witnessed after more than seventy years.

On other hand, tourist places like Gulmarg, Pahalgam and Sonamarg have also recorded above normal temperatures due to which snow is melting at a rapid pace. Looking at the situation, Tourism department has called-off winter sports activities in Gulmarg. As per an order by the

Assistant Director Tourism, Gulmarg, winter sports activities including skiing and snow-boarding have been closed inside marked boundaries and slopes of Apharwat. "All concerned are informed through medium of the order that no ski, patrol, rescue will be available in aforesaid areas after March 31, 2022," it read, adding that a violator shall be personally responsible for his safety. "Anyone, foreigner, domestic or local skiing in afore-mentioned area shall ski on his sole responsibility and department shall not be responsible for any kind of injury or loss of life. Besides members of ski patrol team and associated staff

shall report to their respective departments," it said.

Gulmarg has become an epicenter of winter sports in India. Thousands of people participate in winter games every year. Under Khelo India, the administration held various championships to lure adventure-loving to the highest skiing altitude.

According to experts, in 2019 J&K surpassed the world in average temperature rise recorded during last 100 years as against global increase of 0.8 to 0.9 degree Celsius, J&K recorded 1.2 degree Celsius rise in temperature. After analyzing temperature recorded during 130 years by Metrological

Department, it has come to fore that in last 100 years, there has been a rise in average temperature by 1.2 degree Celsius, which is really a cause of concern.

Pertinently, Jammu & Kashmir State Action Plan on Climate Change, a report prepared by Climate Change Cell of J&K government, had also warned that Kashmir is 'heading for peculiar climatic scenario with net temperature rise.' The Met Department has forecasted that heat-wave will continue in coming days, which is major cause of concern, as the rise in temperature will cause several problems for people besides causing water crises and affecting agriculture.

DB sets-aside death penalty in minor's rape, murder case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Justice Sanjeev Kumar and Justice M A Chowdhary set-aside death sentence of one Shanker son of Vijay Lal, resident of Madhya Pradesh, who was allegedly involved in a minor's rape, murder case.

DB, while setting aside judgment of Fast-Track Court, observed that it is indeed a case of gruesome killing of a minor girl aged 7-8 years and, that too, probably after subjecting her to brutal rape, but one cannot held a person accused of commission of crime to gallows or in imprisonment for life in absence of concrete and reliable evidence, more so when there are no-eye witnesses and entire case is rested on circumstantial evidence not proved in the manner prescribed by law. With these observations, the Bench set aside judgment passed by the Trial Court. The appellant is acquitted of all charges. He shall be set at liberty forthwith, if not required in any other case, it directed.

People of J&K upset over BJP's betrayals making their lives miserable: Bhalla

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

R S PURA: JKPC Vice President and former Minister, Raman Bhalla on Friday claimed that Jammu region has suffered a lot under present BJP regime and which will cost BJP seriously as and when assembly elections take place in J&K.

Former Minister was interacted with prominent persons of RS Pura constituency on Friday.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include former MP Rajaya Sabha TS Bajwa, Block Presidents Ch



JKPC Vice President, Raman Bhalla interacting with people at R S Pura.

Mohinder, Sham Lal Mehra, JKPC SC Cell chairman Karan Bhagat, Rajinder Singh Randhawa,

Charanjeet Chib, Ashok Kumar beside others.

Expressing his concern over mounting woes of the

people of Jammu and Kashmir, Bhalla said that BJP controlled administration in the Union Territory is

brazenly indulged in bulldozing democratic institutions.

It is all due to the "misdeeds" of BJP that the Jammu and Kashmir has been plunged into an unprecedented crisis and the woes of the residents are increasing with every passing day.

"After 2014 assembly elections, BJP is directly or indirectly running government in the J&K and during this period and plunged J&K into unprecedented crisis", Bhalla said. He said that the BJP controlled government has bulldozed the system of

governance and eroded the sanctity of democratic institutions just to enjoy power.

"This period would be remembered as a period as a dark period when all the democratic institutions were shamelessly bulldozed by the ruling elites just to enjoy absolute power", he observed.

Asserting that trust deficit was responsible for the prevailing unrest in the country, Bhalla accused the BJP Govt of resorting to diversionary tactics so as to conceal its failures on the governance front.