

Dharmarth Trust committed to make temples accessible for physically-challenged: Ajatshatru

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ajatshatru Singh, Trustee J&K Dharmarth Trust on Tuesday asserted that the Trust is committed to make the temples and shrines falling under its ambit inclusive and accessible to the physically-challenged.

He was speaking after laying the foundation stone of a ramp for differently-abled people here at Shree Ranbireswar Temple.

Advocate Ajay Gandotra, President Dharmarth Trust and Dr Gopal Parthasarathi Sharma, Secretary also accompanied Ajatshatru during foundation stone laying of the aforesaid ramp.

On the occasion, Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta, Dr Shiv Kumar Raina, Chairman J&K Dharmarth



Trustee J&K Dharmarth Trust, Ajatshatru Singh laying foundation stone of a ramp for differently-abled people at Shree Ranbireswar Temple, Jammu.

Trust Advisory Committee, S.M Sahni former Director Tourism Jammu, Vishal Abrol (Architect), Mahant Rishiban, Mahant Rajkumar Langar, Corporator Anil Masoom, Rameshwar Singh Jamwal, Parveen Sharma, Onkar Sharma, B.L Bhat, Hira Lal Abrol, Prabhat Singh Jamwal, Ravi Bakshi,

Sanjay Gupta, Darshan Kumar and Anil Sharma were present.

The programme commenced with paying of tributes to Maharaja Hari Singh, the former ruler of the erstwhile state of J&K on his death anniversary. The participants observed two-minute silence.

Talking about laying of

foundation stone for ramp in the aforesaid temple, Ajatshatru said that it was the dream of Chairman Trustee Dr Karan Singh which has been fulfilled today.

Advocate Ajay Gandotra, in his address, said that the Trust is moving apace to provide state of art facilities to devotees and the aforesaid facility is another feather in the cap of those running the affairs of the Trust.

The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Dr Gopal Parthasarathi Sharma.

SEOA delegation calls on Prpl Secy Education, highlights issues

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A deputation of School Education Officers' Association (SEOA), comprising Headmasters, ZEO's & Principals called on Principal Secretary Education Department and highlighted a number of issues, including the one regarding regularization of headmasters/ZEOs on Tuesday. The delegation led by Roop Lal, Coordinator of association.

Speaking on the occasion, the members said that regularisation of Headmasters is pending since December 2012 and during the period, numerous officers have expired while several others attained superannuation. The Principal Secretary gave them a patient hearing and assured for initiating necessary measures for quick redressal of the issue.

Others issues discussed on the occasion included promotion of Masters to headmasters, teachers to masters, transfer of headmasters from hard zones to other places, leave encashment etc.

Others members of the delegation included Subash Chander Sharma, Rakesh Chander Bhagat, Mohan Lal Sharma, Rajinder Padha, Joginder Singh and Neelam Sharma.

Wonder woman of the year, 2021".

The event was honored by the gracious presence of Principal Dr. Sangita Nagari, Dr. Suresh Bhat (Coordinator, IQAC) and the staff members of the college.

The welcome address was delivered by the Principal. She applauded the efforts of the department for organizing such an informative session having relevance to everyone around. She emphasised upon the students to take active part in these types of activities

which can pave the way for their overall development and adoption of correct dietary habits. The audience was also given significant information about the importance of balanced nutrition in our daily lives.

Students were introduced with the concept of rainbow nutrition as well as eating according to the Prakriti. Several queries were put up by the students and the teachers which were well answered by the resource person during the interactive session. Students were also guided to stay away

from fad diets. A total of fifty three students from UG and PG-Food Science participated in the event.

The PG students-Vanshika and Jaskiran Kaur anchored the event elegantly. The organizing committee consisted of Dr. Anuradha Gandotra (HOD, Food Science and Technology), Dr. Shalini Sharma, Dr. Monika Hans, Dr. Jasmeet Kour and Dr. Ameeta Salaria. Vote of thanks was given by Dr. Anuradha Gandotra (Head of Department, Food Science and Technology).

Inter Panchayat Block Level Tournament begins



Participants posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Youth Services & Sports, Gandhi Nagar, has organized Inter Panchayat Block Level Tournament on Tuesday under Sansad Khel Spardha for Under-17 yrs boys in the disciplines of Kabaddi, Volleyball & Tug-of-War at Govt. Boys High School Jammu

Cantt.

The tournament is being held under the chairmanship of SDM South, Abhishek Abrol and overall supervision of District Youth Services & Sports Officer Jammu Sukhdev Raj Sharma and Zonal Physical Education Officer Gandhi Nagar, Chander Kanta.

The tournament was

declared open by the Chief Guest, Arshad Bibi, Sarpanch Panchayat Chowadi in presence of Guest of Honour, Kavita Puri, I/c Headmistress, Govt. Boys High School Jammu Cantt. In all, 180 students/players drawn from Panchayats/Wards of zone Gandhi Nagar are taking part in the tournament.

Kavinder takes up unscheduled power cuts issue with MD JPDCL

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Kavinder Gupta, former Deputy Chief Minister and senior BJP leader on Monday met the Managing Director JKPDCL, Shiv Anant Tayal and discussed with him the problems being faced by the people of Jammu city on account of frequent unscheduled power cuts in this scorching summer.

He was accompanied by the former Minister Sat Sharma; Vinay Gupta, District

President and other party workers. Chief Engineer Sandeep Seth was also present in the meeting. Kavinder asked Managing Director JKPDCL to take adequate steps for immediately mitigating the problems being faced by people of Jammu city.

He said the power failure has also affected the water supply thus adding further to the woes of the people. Managing Director JKPDCL, after giving a patient hearing and then

deliberating at length the issue, said that the Corporation is making its best possible efforts in addressing the power shortage. He assured that the problem of unscheduled power cuts would be sorted out shortly.

Among others present on the occasion were Munish Khajuria District President, Ajay Manhas District General Secretary, Keshav Chopra and Ravish Mengi, Mandal Presidents.

RDD&PR brings laurels to J&K by bagging 8 National Panchayat Awards

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: As the nation celebrated National Panchayat Raj Divas-2022 on 24th of April, but the celebrations in Jammu and Kashmir were unique of its kind as the Prime Minister of the country Narendra Modi celebrated the day with the PRIs of Jammu and Kashmir. A mega function was organised in the Palli Gram Panchayat of Samba district of J&K to mark the occasion wherein some landmark initiatives were taken to further empower the Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRI) for realising the vision of Gram Swaraj in its true essence.

The event also recognised the remarkable performance of the Department of Rural



RDD&PR, J&K members posing with LG Manoj Sinha and Union Minister Giri Raj Kishore.

Development and Panchayat Raj (RDD&PR), J&K towards the socio-economic empowerment of the people through the institutions of Panchayat Raj.

The department, under the able leadership of its Commissioner Secretary, Mandeep Kour has brought laurels to the entire UT of

Jammu and Kashmir by achieving 08 National Panchayat Awards in recognition of the best performance by improving delivery of services and public goods. These awards were given in District, Block and Gram Panchayat categories which is a testimony that benefits of various welfare schemes

and programmes have percolated in the society through different levels of administrative set-ups.

Further, adding more feathers to the cap, the Uttarakhand based NGO, Sanguine We Care Welfare Society has felicitated 03 sarpanches and 01 IEC experts from Jammu and Kashmir in recognition of their exemplary public services rendered by them at grass-roots levels. According to official sources, 03 Sarpanches from the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir namely Makhan Manas, Nanaji Wattal and Pinki Devi along with 1 IEC expert namely Aijaz Ahmad Khan from Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj were award-

ed with "Atmanirbhar Bharat Rashtriya Gramya Sashaktikaran puraskar 2022 at an impressive function held at Dehradun Utrakhand in the wake of the National Panchayat Raj Divas 2022.

The awards were presented by Rekha Arya, Cabinet Minister for Women Empowerment and Child Development, Youth and Sports Affairs, Govt of Uttarakhand along with Subodh Uniyal, Minister for Forest and Technical Education. It is worth mentioning here that Nana Jee Wattal and Makhan Singh Manhas received the trophy and Certificates in person, while Pinki Devi and Aijaz Ahmad Khan participated virtually.

21 Tourism Development Authorities reconstituted

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Tuesday reconstituted 21 Development Authorities of the Tourism Department.

The General Administration Department (GAD) today reconstituted 21 development authorities of the Tourism department, established under The Jammu and Kashmir Development Act-1970.

According to an order each development authority of Tourism department will have 12 members.

"The members of these (21) development authorities shall hold the office for a period of two years from the date of issuance of this order," reads the order.

While three development authorities would be headed by Lieutenant Governor, chief secretary of J&K would chair meetings of remaining 19 authorities.

As per the order, LG has

been appointed as chairman of development authorities for world famous tourist resorts of Gulmarg, Pahalgam and Patnitop.

The CS would head development authorities for Aharbal, Bhaderwah, Doodhpathri, Hygam N i n g l i - Tarzoo, Kokernag, Kishtwar, L o l a b - B a n g u s - Drangyari, Surinsar M a n s a r, P o o n c h - Rajouri, Sonamarg, Shopian-Dubjan-Peer Ki G a l i, Verinag, Wular-Mansbal, Yousmarg, Bani Basholi, Bilawar-Duggan (L a k h a n p u r - Sarthal) and Tosa Maidan.

As per order, administrative secretaries of Finance, Tourism and Planning Development & Monitoring departments would be members of every authority.

Apart from them, these bodies will have concerned deputy commissioner, director tourism, special secretary/ additional secretary

Tourism department, concerned chief executive officer and local officers of Forest department, Wildlife department and Roads & Building department as their members.

These development authorities have been constituted from time to time under The Jammu & Kashmir Development Act-1970.

As per the Act, the objects of the Authority shall be to promote and secure the development of the area for which it is constituted.

The Authority shall have the power to acquire, hold, manage and dispose of land and other property, to carry out building, engineering and other operations, to execute works in connection with supply of water and electricity, disposal of sewerage and other services and amenities and generally to do anything necessary or expedient for purposes of such development.

Cdr Girdhari appointed as Zila Sainik Welfare Officer

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Tuesday appointed Cdr. Girdhari Lal as Zila Sainik Welfare Officer.

"Pursuant to the approval of the President, Rajya Sainik Board, sanction is accorded to the appointment of Cdr. Girdhari Lal as Zila Sainik Welfare Officer [Pay Level 6F (Rs. 40800-129200)] in the Jammu and Kashmir Sainik Welfare (Gazetted) Service, with immediate effect," reads an order issued R.K Goyal, Financial Commissioner (Addl. Chief Secretary), Home Department.

It is further ordered that the terms and conditions of the appointment shall be governed by the Jammu and Kashmir Sainik Welfare (Gazetted) Service Recruitment Rules, 2019 and contract agreement executed by him in terms of clause (f) of Rule 10 of the

said rules.

"The appointment shall be for a period of three years from the date of appointment or upto the age of 60 years, whichever be earlier and shall be further subject to the satisfactory performance; and the postings/transfers shall be effected as per the administrative requirements. The salary of the appointee shall be drawn and disbursed from the date of joining at the place of his posting, which shall be ordered separately," it added.

It is further ordered that in case the appointee fails to join within a period of 21 (twenty one) days from the date of issuance of the appointment order, he shall forego his right to appointment which shall be deemed to have been cancelled abinitio without any further notice, the order stated.

Valedictory function of 2-month Secretariat Assistant Training Course held

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Director General, J&K Institute of Management, Public Administration and Rural Development (IMPARD), Saurabh Bhagat, presided over valedictory function of two month Secretariat Assistant Training Course for Senior and Junior Assistants here on Tuesday.

The training course, which was launched on February 24, was attended by 37 Senior Assistants and 451 Junior Assistants.

In his valedictory address, Director General informed the trainee participants that the content of the Secretariat Assistant Training course is determined by syllabus prescribed by J&K PSC to prepare cutting edge level functionaries of government to take departmental examination which is necessary for their promotion. It will also be crucial for their capacity building so as to deal with various issues and cases more efficiently.

Director General stressed that the best way to impart training is to provide opportunity to trainee participants to interact with one another and update their learning aptitude.

He also highlighted the fact that since the J&K reorganisation Act, 2019, many laws have changed and therefore, training requirements have also changed which has entailed fresh approach to training requirements of candidates at IMPARD.

NCERT's team visits Kashmir to seek feedback on National Curriculum Framework

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A team from the National Council of Education and Training (NCERT), New Delhi, comprising Prof Anita Nuna and Dr R K Sharma on Tuesday interacted with diverse stakeholders at a consultative meet on State Curriculum Framework (SCF) held at the auditorium of Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) at Bemina here.

A cross section of educationists, teacher educators, resource persons, representatives from

Social Welfare Department, parents and neo-literates attended the event jointly convened by State Council of Education Research and Training (SCERT) and JKBOSE.

"The inclusion of local flavour in the curriculum would help cast aside rigidity and exclusivity," Prof Anita Nuna, former head, Department of Curriculum Studies, NCERT, New Delhi, said. "The National Education Policy 2020 has been designed in a manner that it allows-thorough discussions and consultative

meetings with the stakeholders-the inclusion of the local flavour, value systems, socio-economic backgrounds and the best practices of any state or UT before the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) is given a shape."

Earlier NCERT, she said, was routinely tasked with the preparation of the curriculum without such consultative meetings.

"It's for the first time that a bottom-up procedure has been adopted to frame the national curriculum based on several novel concepts such as

competency-based education, experiential learning, flexibility, creative and critical thinking etc," Prof Anita said. "All these features have been included in the NEP 2020 so that a holistic development of a child is brought about."

The objective of the NEP 2020, she added, is to give rise to a knowledge-based society with justice and equitability as its hallmarks so that India emerges as a global superpower.

Elaborating on the strategy, Dr R K Sharma, Assistant Professor, NCERT-RIE, Ajmer, said

the SCFs would be the subsets of the NCF.

"In the initial instance, all states and UTs will prepare their State Curriculum Frameworks (SCFs) passing through the process of District Level Consultations (DLC), mobile app survey and development of position papers by the State Focus Groups in 25 areas/themes identified as per the NEP, 2020," she said. "These draft SCFs will provide inputs to the development of NCFs."

Four NCFs, he said, have been laid out by the NEP 2020 on Early

Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), School Education (SE), Teacher Education (TE) and Adult Education (AE) have been laid out by the NEP 2020.

Academic Officer, SCERT, G H Reshi and Deputy Director, JKBOSE, Dr Arif Jan who have been appointed as nodal officers for SCF, had put in place all the arrangements of the event.

"In all 70 questions-40 for School Education, 10 each for ECCE, Adult Education and Teacher Education-were prepared by the NCERT," Reshi said.

"Accordingly, we distributed the questions among five groups." The responses, he said, will be formed into a single report and sent to the NCERT for their perusal.

Dr Arif Jan apprised the gathering of the mobile app survey, district level consultations and the development of position papers.

"Around 3414 mobile app surveys, 70 district level consultations have so far been conducted in this regard," he said. "Work on the development of 25 position papers is under progress and those will soon be uploaded on NCF tech platform."