

# All JK colleges to start skill courses this year: Kansal

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: 'A good college strives to give employability to youth and its strength lies in its academic excellence. The quality and quantum of improvement it brings in lives is the true test of its impact on society.' The remarks were made on Monday by Principal Secretary Higher Education Department, Rohit Kansal during e-inauguration of an additional block in Government Degree College Marh.

The Principal Secretary assured that construction of the college campus would be started in this financial year and it would be ready to move by early next year. The college runs from a pre-fabricated structure at present.

It was assured by the Principal Secretary that the UT administration would provide more pre-fabricated structures for the college in the present financial year. It was also suggested that the college submit detailed project report, to Director Planning, for additional infrastructural requirement of the college.



Principal Secretary HED, Rohit Kansal e-inaugurating additional block in GDC Marh.

During his address, the Principal Secretary lauded the college for attracting sizeable number of student admission particularly girl students. He called the feat 'signs of a good college' and said that the college has been successful in fulfilling local aspirations and requirement of young

students. He also appreciated the college for successful commencement of skill development and skill enhancement courses.

Among other things, the Principal Secretary directed colleges to prepare framework of courses to be provided under the National Education Policy

and provide holistic development to young students. He also urged them to improve in rankings and get accredited under NAAC norms. With regards to the policy, the Principal Secretary announced that all government colleges would start giving skill development courses.

He called for giving students facility to provide feedback on quality of instruction through feedback system. In return, it would provide teachers a chance to improve and build on their strengths, said the Principal Secretary and added that set guidelines in this regard would also be introduced.

The Principal Secretary suggested for starting pre-admission and career counselling facility in colleges and advised them improvement of surroundings, cleanliness of common areas and toilets.

The online event was attended by Director Colleges, Dr Yasmeen Ashai, Principal GDC March, Dr Aekta Gupta and HoD Mathematics, Prof Dr Ram Dayal among others.

## Petrol price hiked



# PHDCCI Jammu delegation calls on ICCC members



PHDCCI Jammu members presenting memento to ICCC delegation members.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PHDCCI) Jammu chapter delegation led by its Rahul Sahai met Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) Delegation headed by its President Ripudaman Singh Dhillon, here today.

Rahul Sahai briefed ICCC Delegation about Robust Industrial development scheme in J&K, Discussed Core areas of investment opportunities in J&K and Canada, Discussed some regional focus areas of handicrafts, IT, Agriculture, Medicinal plants, Tourism opportunities.

Sahai briefed delegation about working of PHDCCI Jammu and Kashmir chapters in policy advocacy, bridging gaps between Govt and Entrepreneurs.

Sahai said India-Canada bilateral ties are underpinned by shared values of democracy, pluralism, expanding economic engagement, regular high level interactions and long-standing people-to-people ties also bilateral ties with Canada have witnessed strategically significant

transformation during our Prime Minister's visit to Canada from 14-16 April 2015.

He visited Ottawa, Toronto and Vancouver He held extensive discussions with Canada's political, business and academic leaders and also addressed some 10,000 PIO's & friends of India, at Toronto on April 15, 2015.

Sahai discussed major items of India's exports to Canada include gems, jewelry and precious stones, pharmaceutical products, ready-made garments, mechanical appliances, organic chemicals, light engineering goods, iron & steel articles, etc. India's imports from Canada include pulses, newsprint, wood pulp, asbestos, potash, iron scrap, copper, minerals and industrial chemicals, Deliberated that how J&K could be included in export Import too.

Ripudaman Singh Dhillon President ICCC appreciated the Knowledge and work done by PHDCCI in J&K as well as at the national Level, Dhillon shared that they are very much interested in the areas of Infrastructure,

Medical Tourism, IT & Manufacturing, Dhillon said IT sector could be the most helpful sector of investment and job creation in J&K.

He assured Sahai that it's a beginning and regular interactions would be held on different sectors, Dhillon said yes during the visit of Prime Minister of India, Canada have witnessed strategically significant transformation. He thanked and appreciated role and support by National PHDCCI leadership too.

Others present from Indo Canada Chamber Of Commerce (ICCC) were Bhavik Parikh Director IT, Virender Rathi CS & EVP Membership Engagement, Sunil K Chadha Adviser Hinduja Group, Kalpesh Joshi MD Vaastu Vision, Manjeet Singh Bhondhi Group Chair Registration Committee Council of the college of Medical radiation and imaging technologists of Ontario, From PHDCCI Jammu Kuldeep Gupta Co chair, Sanjay Aggarwal CO Chair and Bhupesh Gupta attended and deliberated with the delegation.

# Rana flags-off Sukrala Mata Charri Yatra, prays for well-being of people



Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana and others flagging-off Charri Yatra from Dev Sthan Maa Sukrala.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Monday flagged off Charri Yatra from Dev Sthan Maa Sukrala at Satwari Narwal Pain here, in the presence of Purnima Sharma, Deputy Mayor Jammu Municipal Corporation amid chanting of Bhaints and Bhajjans, hoping that the pilgrimage up to Maa Sukrala Devi Shrine in Billawar will be spiritually blissful for the devout.

Being taken out on the third Navratra every year for the past 18 years, the Yatra passes through vari-

ous townships enroute its final destination with devotees joining the pilgrimage in large numbers.

Devender Rana paid obeisance at the Devi Sthan and prayed for well being of the people across the country as also in Jammu and Kashmir. Such pilgrimages provide an opportunity to devotees to seek spiritual solace while being amid the serene atmosphere; he said and hoped that this yatra will be a harbinger of peace and tranquility between various segments of the society.

Rana hoped that the Yatra will culminate in true spirit

of togetherness with the devotees getting their spiritual thirst quenched. He urged them to spread the message of peace, tranquility and righteousness, adding that these are the hallmark of Sanatan Dharma.

He extended Navratra greeting to the participants them peace, prosperity and well being. He also complimented the organizers for making available all the facilities to devotees and conducting the Yatra in a spirit of camaraderie and bonhomie.

The devotees, attired in traditional dresses, recited Bhajans and Bhaints in reverence of The Mata while the Yatra took off for its spiritual destination amid atmosphere of piety and religious gaiety.

Those present at the flag-off ceremony included former Dy Mayor Dharamveer Singh Jamwal, Sucha Singh, Ravinder Singh Peter, Sanjeev Singh, Vidushi Chouhan, Mohinder Singh, Bunt Singh, Rakesh Singh, Dharampal, Parveen Singh, Sanju, Sahil and Parveen Kumar.

# BJP accuses Cong of unleashing propaganda against delimitation commission

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Expressing satisfaction over the functioning of Delimitation Commission, Jammu and Kashmir BJP president Ravinder Raina on Monday accused Congress of unleashing a "propaganda" against the independent body after losing credibility among the people.

Raina made the remarks shortly after meeting the members of the Delimitation Commission headed by Justice (Retired) Ranjana Prakash Desai at the convention centre here.

Talking to reporters after meeting the commission, Raina said Justice Desai led the commission with chief election commissioner Sushil Chandra and state election commissioner K K Sharma as its members have done a tremendous job and came out with its draft proposal after over two years of hard work.

"They are available to hear the grievances and are meeting various delegations including elected panchayat members, represen-

tatives of public and former legislators. People put forth their concerns and grievances and the commission heard them. We are hopeful that the commission will seriously look into the representations for redressal before preparing its final report, the BJP leader said.

Asked about Congress terming the exercise as an eyewash to put a stamp on the report allegedly made at the behest of BJP, Raina said the commission is an autonomous body and headed by former chief justice of Supreme Court.

Some political parties have lost their credibility in Jammu and Kashmir and are involved in such type of propaganda and Congress is one among them, he said.

The BJP leader said the commission is expected to submit its final report by its timeline of May 6 and we are hopeful that it will be followed by assembly elections which will take place within six to eight months as announced by the Prime Minister and Home minister.

# J&K Cong stages protest against Delimitation Commission in Jammu

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir unit of Congress on Monday staged a protest against delimitation commission here, urging the visiting team to provide sufficient time to the party so that it can highlight the irregularities in its draft report in a proper way.

The protest led by J&K Pradesh Congress Committee president G A Mir coincided with the start of the public sitting of the delimitation commission on its report which was made public last month after nearly a two-year-long exercise.

The commission headed by Justice (Retired) Ranjana Prakash Desai reached here on a three-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday. The delegation started interaction with delegations from across Jammu region on Monday morning and they are scheduled to visit Srinagar later in the day for a similar exercise on Tuesday.

Carrying placards and shouting slogans, the Congress activists led by Mir and other senior party leaders including former ministers and legislators assembled outside their



Congress leaders raising slogans during a protest at Jammu.

party headquarters at Shaheedi Chowk in the heart of Jammu and staged a sit-in against the delimitation commission.

We are holding this peaceful protest against the delimitation commission over its draft report which is against settled norms, ground situations and containing large scale irregularities, Mir told reporters.

The Commission had invited claims and suggestions from all political parties, organizations and individuals from March 14-21 after putting draft report in public domain.

The Commission had received over 400 suggestions and objections which were in addition to those already received from five Associate Members including Union Minister Jitendra Singh and Jugal

Kishore Sharma, both BJP MPs from Jammu division and Farooq Abdullah, Mohammad Akbar Lone and Hasnain Masoodi, all three National Conference MPs from Kashmir.

We have submitted a detailed objections to the commission and want the commission to hear us for the benefit of the aggrieved population. We have not been given any time that shows they are on a picnic and fulfilling the formalities to put a public stamp on their report made at the behest of BJP, Mir said.

Suggesting the commission to extend their stay in Jammu and Kashmir by one more day to give sufficient time to all parties especially Congress to explain its objections before it, Mir claimed that the report had given tension to the public as it was

prepared in violation of the set parameters and rules like population, terrain and means of communication.

After downgrading J&K to a union territory, the report has now completely bulldozed the local units...What are they going to understand in a short time and by clubbing delegations? People are angry and there is nobody to listen to them neither the commission nor the administration, he said.

Terming the report as highly objectionable, Mir said several constituencies have less than 50,000 voters while others more than 1.50 lakh. He said Congress was hoping for one more Lok Sabha seat for Jammu region but the commission's readjustment of Anantnag Lok Sabha seat and inclusion of Rajouri and Poonch dis-

tricts in it is most unreasonable and against the public interests and convenience.

There are several irregularities and violations which need to be fully reviewed and reconsidered but the Commission is merely doing an eye wash to complete the formality, he said.

Prominent others who joined Dharna included Working President Raman Bhalla, Vice President Mula Ram, Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma, General Secretaries Yogesh Sawhney, Th. Balwan Singh (Ex-MLA), T.S. Bajwa (Ex-MP), EX-MLAs Th. Balbir Singh, Ved Mahajan, Ashok Dogra, Indu Pawar, Kuldeep Raj Verma, DCC President Hari Singh Chib (Jammu), K.C. Bhagat (Udhampur), Pankaj Dogra (Kathua), Sanjeev Sharma, Babal Gupta (Samba) Rajesh Sadotra (Reasi), Vinod Sharma, Corporators Dwarka Choudhary, Ritu Choudhar, Kamal Singh, Uday Chib (PYC), Shiv Kumar Sharma (INTUC), Dr. Rashid Choudhary, Shashi Sharma, Pawan Raina, Pranav Shagotra and others.

## Pro-freedom speeches of Dr Farooq Abdullah

# DM Srinagar granted final opportunity to file affidavit

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant order, Justice Sindhua Sharma of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (Jammu Wing) has granted a 3-week last and final opportunity to District Magistrate, Srinagar to file an affidavit in response to status report filed by SSP Srinagar wherein he had submitted that SHO Police Station Nageen, Srinagar had taken up the matter with the District Magistrate, Srinagar and had submitted a detailed report in this regard to

him. In the said status report, it was further submitted that appropriate response from the District Magistrate, Srinagar is awaited.

The directions were passed in the much publicized writ petition (OWP No.1437/2017) of Sukesh C Khajuria for initiating action against Dr Farooq Abdullah, former Chief Minister, J&K and Chief

Patron, National Conference for his seditious/ Pro-Azadi speeches made on occasion of 111th birth anniversary of Late Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah at Naseem Bagh (Hazratbal), Srinagar and another speech on February 24, 2017 at N a w a - e - S u b h Headquarters of National Conference at Srinagar during 2nd Death

Anniversary of Former General Secretary of National Conference, Sheikh Nazir Ahmed.

Advocate Sheikh Shakeel Ahmed appearing for petitioner, invited the attention of the Court towards orders dated February 10, 2022 and March 24, 2022 whereby the Court had granted time to AAG Amit Gupta to file affidavit of District Magistrate

Srinagar particularly after submission of status report by SSP Srinagar based on steps taken by SHO, Police Station, Nageen.

Advocate S S Ahmed further submitted that more than five years have elapsed in the matter and it seems that District Magistrate Srinagar is not inclined to proceed further in matter against former Chief Minister of erstwhile

J&K State as despite specific directions issued by Court, the affidavit was not filed by the District Magistrate Srinagar.

At this stage senior AAG S.S. Nanda and AAG Amit Gupta and Advocate Sanchit Verma vice AAG Raman Sharma appeared for District Magistrate Srinagar and SSP Srinagar and requested for extending time for fil-

ing the affidavit of District Magistrate Srinagar, after which Justice Sindhua Sharma reluctantly granted last and final opportunity of 3 weeks to District Magistrate Srinagar to file an affidavit in terms of previous orders and looking into importance of matter directed Registry to re-notify the same on April 22, 2022.

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