

International Conference concludes at MIER College of Education

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: MIER College of Education (Autonomous) organized NAAC sponsored Two Day International Conference" on May 19 and 20, 2022 at H.L Gupta Auditorium.

On the second day, three keynote addresses were presented via Zoom. Professor Beena Girdharan, Dean-Learning and Teaching, Curtin University, Malaysia presented her deliberations on the theme "Re-imagining Higher Education: Technology Enriched Learning and Teaching and Assessment".

Prof Jakó Olivier, UNESCO Chair on Multimodal Learning and Open Educational Resources, North-West University, South Africa spoke on the theme "Self-directed Learning through Renewable Assessments: Students as Producers in Open Education" and Dr. Ram Sharma Pro Vice-Chancellor University of Petroleum and Energy Studies (UPES), Dehradun, India presented on the theme "How to Create MOOCS on a Budget".

The keynote address sessions were ably conducted by Dr Moolraj Sharma, Head PG Department and Dr Monika Bajaj, Dy. Head UG



MIER faculty and other participants posing for a photograph.

Department and Dr. Bharti Tandon, Associate Professor, MIER College of Education.

In simultaneous sessions, 37 participants from Jammu and other states, including Delhi, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Kolkata, South Bihar, Indore, Rajasthan, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Mumbai, presented papers on a variety of topics. Academicians, professionals, researchers, teachers, policymakers, and students from Education and related sectors from across the country were part of the conference. Maj. General S.K. Sharma (Retd), former Director Academics MIET, Prof. R.G Kothari, former Vice-Chancellor, Veeer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat, Prof. Deepa Kauts, Head Department of Education, GNDU Anrnisar, Prof. H.R.Shan, Controller of Examinations, MIER College

of Education Jammu, chaired the sessions.

The rapporteurs of various sessions were Suman Gupta, Komal Sharma, Pallavi Anand, Arpana Koul, Vishal Dogra, Ruchika Sharma and Poonam Soni, Assistant Professors MIER College of Education.

The conference concluded with a valedictory session.

Dr. Adit Gupta, Director, MIER extended a formal welcome to the Chief Guest Prof. Rajeev Rattan Dean, Department of Education, University of Jammu and other dignitaries.

Dr. Nishita Rana, Center Head CER and Dr. Moolraj Sharma Head PG Dept. presented the day-wise reports of the conference.

Prof. Sarika Sharma, Dean and Head, Department of Education, Central University of Haryana was the Guest of

Honour on the occasion. She addressed the audience and said that online learning, like most teaching methods, has its own set of advantages and disadvantages.

Prof. Rajeev Rattan stated that the COVID-19 pandemic has prompted innovative approaches to education. Educational institutions all across the world are turning to online learning platforms to continue the process of educating pupils. The new normal currently is a modified educational idea, with online learning at the heart of it.

Dr. Rohnika Sharma, HOD UG Dept. formally thanked the Chief Guest, thedignitaries and the faculty members for sparing their valuable time for making the programme successful. Thesession was ably conducted by Dr. Bindu Dua, Assistant Prof. MIER College of Education.

SDDPTA delegation calls on Kavinder, submits memo Kavinder assures to take-up highlighted issues with Union I&B Minister

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of All Jammu and Kashmir Song & Drama Division Private Troupe Association (AJKSD-DPTA) on Friday called on the senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and former Dy. Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta and apprised him of the problems being faced by them. The association members also submitted a memorandum of demands to the BJP leader.

During their interaction with Kavinder Gupta they highlighted their multiple issues including the need to separate the Song & Drama Division from the Regional Outreach Bureau for its proper and efficient functioning, shifting of the platform from Jammu to Chandigarh in order to promote and ensure better inter-state artists' interaction and the dire need to extend the next audition date to 2025, as due to Covid 19 Pandemic, the programmes could not be conducted in a normal way besides the lack of availability of funds further adding to the problem.

The Association members informed the former Dy Chief



SDDPTA delegation calling on Ex-Dy CM, Kavinder Gupta.

Minister that the Private Registered Troupes have already sent a representation to the Union Minister Anurag Thakur, Ministry of Broadcasting, Information and Broadcasting Govt of India in this regard seeking redressal of their problems and issues by sitting across the table but the said meeting could not mature due to which the problems continue to remain unresolved till date. They appealed to Kavinder Gupta to use his good offices to get their issues resolved at the earliest.

Kavinder Gupta after giving a patient hearing to the association members, said that he has already taken up the matter with the then Minister Information & Broadcasting, Prakash Javadekar and apprised him of the problems

being faced by the registered parties of Song & Drama Division with Regional Outreach Bureau. He assured the delegation of taking up the matter with the present Union Minister Information & Broadcasting and would request him to consider the genuine demands of the registered parties of Song & Drama Division.

The registered private parties of Song & Drama Division of J&K UT who were part of the delegation include Kashmir Damali Dance, Kashmiri Youth Entertainers, Haseem Akhtar & Party, Vishwanath & Party, Prem Ka Jadoo, Krishen Kala Kendra, Nagni Cultural Troupe, Elite Productions, Youth Cultural Organization, Bishwa Nath & party and Sangam Kala Kendra.

People fatigued with bureaucratic rule in J&K: Harsh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Asserting that bureaucratic rule in J&K had proved a flop show, Harsh Dev Singh former Minister and senior AAP leader said that the general masses were fast losing faith in the present dispensation which had failed to address even their basic concerns. With people across the new UT protesting on day to day basis for un-interrupted power and adequate water supply, restoration of roads and other essential services, there did not appear to be any takers for their shrill cries, said Mr. Singh. The Advisors and Secretaries had though organized 'public hearing' campaigns for some time after the state's re-organization in the past. But the practice was abandoned shortly thereafter as these had failed to inspire the people in view of their lack of productivity. The Advisors and



Senior AAP leader, Harsh Dev Singh addressing a gathering.

Secretaries marked the public representations to their junior officers who hardly responded to the concerns highlighted therein thus making a mockery of the whole process. He was addressing public meetings in Dadi and Bindla villages of Chenani constituency today.

"The condition of educational institutions was equally pathetic Acute deficiency of teaching staff in the remote areas had rendered several schools defunct. The students

were forced to protest in the open for provision of adequate staff especially in Basantgarh, Khamed, Punara, Pattangarh villages outside their respective schools which unfortunately failed to elicit any favourable response from the concerned quarters. Several schools had been closed down in rural areas in the zones of Dudu, Chenani and Latti with an imbecile administration averse to the problems faced by the people of the said areas", said Singh. Decriing the withdraw-

al of notification for recruitments in various govt Deptts after issuance of advertisements, Singh said that there were several other instances to show that the present regime was moving in fits and starts accompanied by reverses.

"Youth were repeatedly assured of an employment package which was nowhere to be seen. The DRWs and other casual workers, despite being assured of regularization were left high and dry and made to languish on the roads. The govt's apathy towards their concerns had antagonized the youth with all assurances of the helmsmen having proved mere hyperboles. The Govt earlier constituted a committee for redressal of the grievances of the college and school lecturers only to announce eventually that they had no right to claim regularization. Non-provision of employment

avenues has had the educated unemployed youth boiling with rage with the govt clearly miscalculating the possible blow-back", rued Singh.

Asserting that general masses were fatigued with the bureaucratic rule, Singh called for an end to proxy rule in J&K and early restoration of democracy in the erstwhile state. The elected representatives alone could appreciate the concerns of the public as against the outside bureaucrats who hardly had any accountability to the people.

He appealed the Lt. Governor to put on official website of various Deptts, the details of representations received in various public interaction programmes, issues discussed therein and action taken in pursuance thereof so as to make the 'public hearings' relevant and meaningful.

Yudhvir, Priya inaugurate Home Décor Exhibition

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President and Priya Sethi, former minister and National Executive Member BJP today inaugurated three days Interior Exterior Home Décor Exhibition at Hari Niwas Jammu.

Speaking on the occasion, Yudhvir and Priya Sethi appreciated the efforts of Atulya Bakshi and Sameer Bakshi Organizers for organizing this exhibition. They expressed confidence that the products displayed in the exhibition will be able to cater to the needs and demands of consumers of Jammu and Kashmir.

They complemented the organizers for their efforts in hosting this exhibition which has become a source of inspi-



J&K BJP Vice President, Yudhvir Sethi and former minister Priya Sethi after inaugurating exhibition.

ration for others also.

The senior BJP leaders said that this Expo is one of the biggest décor exhibition organised in first time in the Jammu and Kashmir. They said that wide range of Interior Exterior Home Décor items were displayed in the Expo. They said that such exhibitions should be a regular feature to provide a

Committed to political empowerment of J&K people: Bukhari

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In an extraordinary meeting Jammu Kashmir Apni Party (JKAP) on Friday decided to kick off public outreach and party membership campaign across the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir. According to a press statement issued here, JKAP held a meeting at party headquarters in Srinagar on Friday. The meeting was presided over by the party president Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari. He urged party leaders and workers to gear up for the public outreach and ensures people across the board are well versed with the political ideology of the Apni Party. He said leaders and workers of our party must be available to the people in terms of helping them to bring their problems and issues to the concerned government officials. Bukhari said, "We are people's party and people have a lot of expectations with us. We must always stand by the masses to ensure their grievances and collective problems are addressed and solved properly." He added, "JKAP is committed to ensuring political and economic empowerment of common people irrespective of their faith, ideology, and so on. We must be linked with people on the grass-root level."

JKGPA extends support to May 24 strike call



General Secretary, JKGPA, Kamal Jit Sawhney talking to reporters.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: General Secretary, Jammu Kashmir Govt Pharmacist Association (JKGPA), Kamal Jit Sawhney highlighted the long pending demands of health employees.

"Departmental Promotion Committee (Promotions) of all categories in the health department is pending from the last 4 yrs which is supposed to be held twice a year despite repeated representations, deputations nothing has been done so far,"

he said in a press conference here on Friday. Many health employees have been retired without getting the benefits of promotion, he said adding that several posts are lying vacant in the health department.

Service subordinate recruitment rules SRO-20 file was lying pending in the office of Secretary - General Administrative Department Civil Sectt, Jammu for the last four months for final approval, he said. Sawhney said that

administrative department fails to frame rules of promotion and leaving us no other choice than to go to Kam chhor hartal / Strike. He urged government to register all the leftover Govt Pharmacists and restoration of old pension scheme for all UT employees on the analogy of neighbouring states like Rajasthan. JKGPA Gen Secretary appealed to all health employees of the Jammu Division to participate Kaam Chhor Hartal and suspends the work in all health institutions of Jammu division on May 24, 2022 to awaken the Govt from its deep slumber over the genuine demands of health employees.

Those who were participated in press conference include Dharminder Singh, Subash Choudhary, Shaffkat Hussain, Deep Singh, Dalip Choudhary, Madan Sharma, Kuldeep Parihar and Anil Raina.

DDC Jammu accords farewell to former DC Anshul Garg

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: District Development Council (DDC) Jammu today accorded a warm and affectionate farewell to former Deputy Commissioner Jammu Anshul Garg.

Speaking on the occasion, DDC Chairman Jammu Bharat Bhushan lauded the phenomenal spell of the outgoing officer who took many revolutionary decisions while remaining at the post of DC Jammu. He said that there is a voluminous account of good work accomplished by former DC Jammu therefore recalling each and every bit of good deeds by him is beyond the scope of this brief function.



DDC Chairman Jammu Bharat Bhushan presenting memento to former DC Jammu Anshul Garg.

On the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Jammu Avny Lavasa and members of District Development Council Jammu were also present during the function.

Bharat Bhushan said that Anshul Garg extended full cooperation to every member of District

Development Council Jammu and played a vital role in the development of Jammu.

In his address, Anshul Garg, who has recently assumed charge as Chief Executive Officer at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, thanked all the members of DDC Jammu

for their supportive role during his tenure as DC Jammu. He also thanked Bharat Bhushan for organizing this farewell function.

Later, Bharat Bhushan introduced the members of DDC Jammu to new Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Avny Lavasa and assured full cooperation.

He stressed on coordination between District Administration and DDC members so that the plights of people of Jammu district can be resolved timely.

Avny Lavasa reciprocated with the same spirit and assured wholehearted support in the coming time.

Prominent among those who were present include Suraj Singh, Vice Chairman DDC Jammu, Suresh Sharma, Joginder Singh, Prof Gharu Ram, Devinder Kumar, Bhushan Bral, Balbir Kumar, Surekha, Vidya Motton, Taranjit Singh, Shamim Begum, ADDC Romesh Kumar and ACD Satish Sharma.

JKPF to organise Sankalp Sabha at Doda on May 22



JKPF member, Satish Rana talking to reporters.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To remember the pious soul of civil society, VDC, defence force or police personal who sacrifice their precious life to maintain the peace and tranquility of Doda, Bhaderwah Ramban and Kishtwar region, Jammu Kashmir Peoples Forum (JKPF) is going to organize the Shardhanjli and Sankalp Sabha at Sports Stadium Doda at 11:00 AM on May 22, 2022.

this was informed by JKPF member, Satish

Rana in a press conference.

"The various incident occurred by anti national element against nationalist people to degrade the moral of masses which always maintain the peace and integrity of nation such as Kalmadi M, Shartal Bus Incident, Chapnadi incident, Kishtwar killing, Kulhand maascare, Barshalla incident, Dessa killing etc," he said adding that the message of this program is that every nationalist person have to take a Sankalp that we will work for the development of this region and will take oath to maintain peace and tranquility in country.

The dignitaries who will attend the Shardhanjli and Sankalp Sabha to include Monika Arrora (Senior Advocate Supreme Court) from Delhi, Dinesh Bharti (Sant), Purshotam Didichi President Jammu and Kashmir Sanatan Dharam Sabha, Raghu Mehata Senior Advocate High Court Jammu and Kashmir beside various respected personality of society , social and religious personality and Pujnya Sant.



Principal Secretary, SED UT of J&K interacting with CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson had a meeting with the Principal Secretary, School Education Department, UT of J&K at the Council Secretariat, Leh on Friday. Dy Chairman/EC Education, LAHDC Leh, Tsering Angehnik, and Director, School Education Department, Ladakh, Dr. Safdar Ali was also present during the meeting. CEC Gyalson discussed various pertinent issues concerning the career progression cases of the teaching fraternity of School Education Department Ladakh which have been pending with the UT of J&K for a long period. He further sought assistance from the Principal Secretary to resolve the pending apportionment of the employees between UT Ladakh and UT J&K.

Taking note of the concerns raised during the meeting, the Principal Secretary has assured the Chairman and the Dy Chairman in resolving all the issues within a stipulated period.

CJM rejects bail plea of fake AE of MES

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: CJM Jammu Amarjeet Singh Langeh on Friday rejected the bail application of one Amandeep Singh, son of Surinder Singh, resident of Govind Nagar Revenue Complex, Jammu who posed himself as AE in Military Engineering Service (MES) and obtained an amount of Rs 19 lakhs from complainant and his two friends for providing appointment and appointment letter to them.

CJM Jammu Amarjeet Singh Langeh after hearing APP Kuldeep Bhat for the UT observed that investigation carried out till now reveals that petitioner pretended himself as AE in Military Engineering Services Department and allegedly obtained an amount of Rs. 19 lakh in total from complainant and two others against promise of providing

them job and appointment letter; that in this end, petitioner also conducted their interview and written test and when complainant and two others as named in the FIR insisted for provision of appointment order and joining letter; petitioner resorted to dilly dallying tactics and it is at this stage when complainant and two others realised that they have been duped of their hard earned money and accordingly lodged complaint with respondent police station where FIR no. 172/2022 for offence under section 420 of IPC.

Investigation also shows that petitioner used to roam freely in army uniform and publicly conducted himself as Engineer in Military Engineering Services.

The investigation is at initial stage and till date no recovery of appointment

orders/joining report etc. has been affected. The Investigating Agency is in the process of collecting electronic evidence against the petitioner. The initial stage of investigation is therefore one sterling circumstance which does not warrant grant of bail to petitioner at this stage.

Court further observed that only an individual with mischievous and fraudulent inclination can have the audacity to wear army uniform publicly and lure unsuspecting youth with job dreams and thereafter leave them in dire straits. The web of complexity that petitioner has demonstrated by his aforesaid conduct not only needs thorough probe which is at initial stage as aforesaid and grant of bail to him at this stage would thus be detrimental to interest of public at large. With these observations, the Court rejected the bail application.