

# AC approves 3-tier faculty structure for GMCs/SSHs of Jammu, Srinagar

## Gives nod to positioning of advance funds for timely salary of Health, ICDS staff

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Administrative Council in its meeting on Friday, under the Chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha approved implementation of 3-Tier Faculty Structure in Government Medical College/ Super Specialty Hospital, Jammu and Government Medical College/ Super Specialty Hospital, Srinagar as per National Medical Commission's norms on the pattern of New Government Medical Colleges of J&K.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

The decision involves up-gradation of 287 posts of

Lecturers to Assistant Professor. This is in coherence to minimum Teachers Eligibility Qualifications norms prescribed by the National Medical Commission (NMC) in Medical Institutions, which is already followed for new GMCs.

These norms provide for three faculty ranks "Assistant Professor", "Associate Professor" and "Professor" in Medical Colleges. The Chawla Committee, among other recommendations, have also recommended the abolition of the obsolete posts of Lecturers in GMC Jammu and GMC Srinagar.

As the Posts(s) of Lecturer(s) are not counted while carrying out "Head Count" during inspections conducted by the NMC,

### Relaxation in physical standard for "Bot Tribe" in JKP

SRINAGAR: The Administrative Council has approved grant of relaxation in Physical Standard for recruitment in the J&K Police in respect of Buddhist minority "Bot Tribe" of J&K by 2 inches.

For other categories, 5'6" as minimum height standard for male candidates and 5'2" for female candidates is prescribed. 'Bot Tribe' has been notified as Scheduled Tribe by the Government of India vide the Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribe Order, 1989 in the year 2023.

Earlier Himalayan Buddhist Cultural Society, Padder, District Kishtwar had submitted representation before Lieutenant Governor in this regard. More than three thousand Buddhists belonging to the "Bot Tribe" of Scheduled Tribe Category, reside in 04 Revenue villages of Sub-Division Padder of District Kishtwar viz. Hangoo, Lossain, Kabban and Tun and live in close pockets are going to get benefitted by this decision.

which adversely affects the provisioning/enhancement of Post Graduate (PG) seats in of GMC Jammu/Srinagar. This would result in better cadre management through

uniform faculty structure through abolition of dual recruitment system of faculty at entry level.

The Administrative Council also approved a proposal of

Finance Department for providing advance funds in anticipation of central share to meet salary requirement of regular employees of Directorate of Family Welfare MCH & Immunization.

The funds will be spread in two installments i.e. June and November of the financial year. The funds so advance positioned will be recouped from the funds released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India upon submission of audited utilization certificate. This arrangement shall ensure regular disbursement of salary to regular staff of Family Welfare, MCH & Immunization.

Administrative Council also approved proposal submitted by Finance Department to

provide advance funds in anticipation of central share for payment of salary of continued staff and honorarium of AWWs/AWHs of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) from budget provisions under CSS on reimbursement basis.

These funds too will be spread in two installments i.e. June and November of the financial year. This will ensure smooth implementation of CSS programmes/schemes viz. Mission Poshan which is entrusted with implementation of many flagship schemes like ICDS General, Supplementary Nutrition Program, Poshan Abhiyaan, Scheme for adolescent girls, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) and Palna.

## Security agencies to take necessary steps to maintain stability along LoC: GoC

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The situation along the Line of Control is stable and security agencies will take all necessary steps to maintain it, a senior Army officer said on Sunday.

General Officer Commanding (GoC) of Army 15 Corps Lt General Rajiv Ghai was talking to reporters at the Bipin Rawat Stadium in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district after a function to felicitate Kargil War veterans on the 25th anniversary of Vijay Diwas.

"The situation on the borders is stable. Whatever is needed to keep the situation stable will be done by the security agencies," Lt General Ghai said.

Asked about Director General of Police (DGP) RR Swain's statement that 70 to 80 foreign terrorists were active in the Union Territory, he said the police chief's remark was factual.

"As far as the numbers are concerned, the DGP has stated a fact. How the security agencies are proceeding against them, you know very well how the operations are conducted," Lt General Ghai added.

DGP Swain on Saturday told reporters in Pulwama that while the number of local terrorists was dropping, there were 70 to 80 foreign terrorists operating in the Union Territory.

"We are moving from resident terrorism to foreign terrorism. Resident terrorism means when local boys join the ranks. Their number has come down ... There are 70 to 80 foreign terrorists who have come in. They have been trying to come here regularly and, when they do come, they bring along guns and IEDs," Swain had said.

## Sadhus reach Jammu ahead of annual Amarnath yatra

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The famous Ram Mandir in the old city reverberates with chants in praise of Lord Shiva as Sadhus from across the country have started reaching here to take part in the annual yatra to the holy cave shrine of Amarnath in the south Kashmir Himalayas.

The 52-day pilgrimage will commence from the twin tracks --the traditional 48 km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag and the 14 km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal -- on June 29. A day ahead, the first batch of pilgrims will leave Jammu's Bhagwati Nagar base camp and Ram Mandir for the valley.

The shrine houses the naturally formed ice-shivlingam and over 4.5 lakh pilgrims paid their obeisance at the 3,880 meter high shrine last

year.

Ram Mandir in the Purani Mandi area of Jammu, the city of temples, hosts the Sadhus and Sadhvis at its sprawling complex with the government departments lending their support to ensure various facilities including on-the-spot registration for yatra for the visitors.

The temple head Mahant Rameshwar Dass said all necessary arrangements including the round-the-clock free community kitchen service and medical facilities are in place for the Sadhus, expressing confidence in a trouble-free yatra.

"The temple is serving them for generations, throughout the year. They are visiting the Amarnath shrine to seek blessings and pray for the welfare of the people and the country," ass told PTI.

He said the people in Kashmir will welcome the pilgrims as per age-old tradition so they do not face any problems.

"We are expecting a massive rush of pilgrims to Amarnath this year given the improved security situation in the valley,"he said, lauding the role of Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and the security agencies for the positive change.

Amid chants of 'Bam Bam Bhole and Jai Jai Baba Barfani', the Sadhus and Sadhvis are eagerly waiting for the yatra to commence.

"This is my first pilgrimage to Amarnath shrine and I am excited to get the blessings of my lord," Ram Baba, who had come from Chhatarpur district of Madhya Pradesh said.

Gurvi Giri, a Sadhvi, said she has been visiting the cave shrine for the past five years,

and it gives peace to her soul to be there.

Another Shiva devotee said he had come by foot from Himachal Pradesh in five days. "This is my 25th yatra without any break and I am feeling blessed to be here once again".

A Sadhu from West Bengal is confident of undertaking the arduous journey to the shrine with the help of his belt tied to his back to overcome pain.

"I have done a lot of pilgrimage across the country having visited Kedarnath, Badrinath and Gangotri. This time it came to my mind why should I leave Amarnath and start my journey," he said, adding on the way, he came to know about the Ram Mandir and joined others here.

### Army organises awareness lecture on Happy, Healthy Citizen through Yoga

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH : Yoga is a practice involving physical, mental and spiritual self. It was a discipline that originated in ancient India and was aimed at instilling peace of mind and body with concentration, meditation posture and breathing. India Army organized 'Yoga : Happy and Healthy Citizen' for spreading awareness amongst young generation as well as resident populace regarding importance of Yoga in one's life to remain healthy at Behrampala. The Yoga session was aimed to help the civil population increase routine mental and physical energy, so as to boost alertness and enthusiasm, and curtail negative feelings after getting in to a routine of practicing yoga. Indian Army demonstrated certain Yoga exercises to the gathering to imbibe them in their daily routine to remain healthy. A lecture emphasized on importance of good eating habits, balanced diet plan, maintaining personnel hygiene & increasing happiness quotient amongst people and youth was also delivered to the attendees of the event.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: As many as 37 ministers have been dropped from the government in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's third term and these include seven with cabinet rank -- prominent among them being Smriti Irani, Anurag Thakur and Narayan Rane.

Parshottam Rupala, Arjun Munda, RK Singh and Mahendra Natha Pandey, also held cabinet positions in the second Modi government but were not retained in the Council of Ministers that took oath on Sunday.

While all three Ministers have been retained, out of 42 ministers of state, 30 have been dropped.

Those who have not been repeated include VK Singh, Faggansingh Kulaste, Ashwini Choubey, Danve Raosaheb Dadarao, Sadhvi Nirajan Jyoti, Sanjeev Balyan, Rajeev Chandrashekhar, Subhas Sarkar, Nisith Pramanik, Rajkumar Ranjan Singh and Pratima Bhoumik.

Meenakshi Lekhi, Munjapara Mahendrabhai, Ajay Kumar Mishra, Kailash Choudhary, Kapil Moreshwar Patil, Bharati Pravin Pawar, Kaushal Kishore, Bhagwanth Khubha and V. Muraaleedharan have also not been retained.

Bhanu Pratap Singh

Verma, John Barla, Bishweswar Tudu, Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad, Devusinh Chauhan, Ajay Bhatt, A. Narayanaswamy, Som Parkash, Rameswar Teli and Darshana Vikram Jardosh have also not made it to the new Council of Ministers.

Eighteen of the dropped ministers had lost the elections. L Murugan is the only Minister of State from the previous government who lost the election but has been retained. He is already a member of the Rajya Sabha.

Smriti Irani, a Cabinet Minister in both terms of the Modi government, lost the election from Amethi to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's aide Kishori Lal Sharma by a margin of over 1.69 lakh votes.

Irani was HRD Minister and Textile Minister in the first term while she held Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs portfolios in Modi 2.0.

Parshottam Rupala was the Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying in the previous government.

Rupala, who found himself in the eye of a storm kicked off by his allegedly derogatory remarks about the Kshatriya community ahead of elections, eventually emerged unscathed as he won Gujarat's Rajkot Lok Sabha seat with a record

margin of around five lakh votes.

His deputy in the Fisheries Ministry, Sanjeev Kumar Balyan has also been dropped.

Balyan, a two-time MP from Muzaffarnagar, lost the seat by over 24,000 votes this time.

Anurag Thakur, who won for the fifth consecutive time from the Hamirpur Lok Sabha constituency, held the dual charge of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, in Modi 2.0.

Mahendra Nath Pandey, Minister of Heavy Industries, was seeking a hat-trick from Chandauli but lost to Samajwadi Party's Birendra Singh.

Raj Kumar Singh, earlier the Union minister for power and renewable energy, lost the seat in Bihar's Arrah to CPI(ML)- Liberation's Sudama Prasad by 59,808 votes.

Narayan Rane, who was the MSME Minister, wrested Ratnagiri- Sindhudurg Lok Sabha constituency from the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena in a prestige battle.

This is the first time the BJP has won a Parliamentary seat in the coastal Konkan region, a traditional stronghold of the Shiv Sena (Undivided).

Former Maharashtra CM

Rane joined the BJP in 2019 and was nominated to Rajya Sabha. This was his debut Lok Sabha election.

Rajeev Chandrashekhar, who was the Minister of State for Skill Development, Electronics and IT and Jalshakti, lost the election from Thiruvananthapuram to sitting Congress MP Shashi Tharoor.

"Today curtains down on my 18-year stint of public service of which 3 years I had the privilege to serve with PM @narendramodi ji's TeamModi2.0. I certainly didn't intend to end my 18 years of public service as a candidate who lost an election but that's how its turned out.

"My deepest thanks to all those I met, all those who supported me - and in particular all those karyakartas and leaders who so inspired and energized me. Thanks also to my colleagues in govt over last 3 years," Chandrashekhar wrote on X. Former Union minister of state for sport and youth affairs Nisith Pramanik lost the Cooch Behar seat in West Bengal to TMC's Jagadish Chandra Barma Basunia by 39,250 votes.

Subhas Sarkar, who was MoS Education in the Modi 2.0 government, lost the Bankura seat to Trinamool Congress's Arup Chakraborty by 32,778 votes.

## Jammu jeweller crafted lotus flower in silver for Modi for his third term

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A jeweller from Jammu affiliated with BJP has crafted a 3-kg lotus flower -- the symbol of the party -- in pure silver as a gift for Prime Minister designate Narendra Modi on assuming office for the third term on Sunday.

Rinku Chauhan, a resident of Muthi village on the outskirts of Jammu, said the idea to present the unique gift to Modi came to his mind after the BJP government fulfilled its promise of revoking Article 370 that granted special status to Jammu and Kashmir in August 2019 and constructed Ram temple in Uttar Pradesh's Ayodhya.

"It took me 15 to 20 days to prepare this gift for our beloved prime minister. I have personally crafted the Lotus flower in silver and am waiting to present it to him," Chauhan, spokesperson of the party's youth wing Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM), told PTI at his residence.

He was expelled by the party in 2018 for supporting

an independent candidate -- his wife -- against the party's official candidate in Urban Local bodies elections. However, his expulsion was revoked within a few weeks.

Chauhan, who is affiliated with BJP for the past nearly two decades, said he was confident of Modi's return for the third term, given his good work and popularity across the country.

"The abrogation of Article 370 ended stone-pelting and helped in restoring peace in Kashmir. The construction of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya was pending for the last 500 years," he said.

Displaying the well-framed gift, he said he used all his experience and "my soul rests in it. I hope Modi will like this gift as he is like a god to me."

His wife Anjali Chauhan said they are eagerly waiting for the opportunity to meet the Prime Minister to hand over this gift to him.

Meanwhile, a group of Yoga enthusiasts performed their routine morning exercise at Mubarak Mandi in the old city with special

prayers for Modi for the successful tenure of next five years.

The participants were seen carrying 'Modi masks' and also chanted slogans like 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai', expressing happiness over BJP returning to power for the third term.

"Nobody can replace Modi and I am happy he will be back as Prime Minister of the country. We voted for Modi," Sonia Tandon told PTI.

BJP candidates Jitendra Singh and Jugal Kishore retained their Udhampur and Jammu Lok Sabha seats for the third time in a row, defeating rival Congress candidates by over one lakh margin each.

"This is a great day for the country as Modi is assuming power once again with the support of the people," remarked Poonam Sachdev.

Pooja Kapoor expressed hope that the Modi led government will come up with new welfare schemes for the public and work towards making India more famous at the world stage.

## Col Mahan Singh pays tribute to Amar Shaheed Rajinder Singh on his 25th Martyrdom Day

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BASOHLI: Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman Kathua, paid tributes to Amar Shaheed Rajinder Singh on his 25th martyrdom day at Marta Nagrota Chowk. Hundreds of veterans, along with local residents and family members of the Kargil hero who made the supreme sacrifice while fighting the enemy to secure an important post in difficult mountainous terrain at a height of more than 14,000 feet above sea level, attended the event.

Besides Col Mahan Singh (Retd), other prominent figures present at the memorial included Capt Des Raj, Capt Nek Ram, Capt Kishori Lal, Rakesh Shukla, Ajit Singh, and Arehana Badhlwal, Veer



Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman Kathua and others paying tributes to Amar Shaheed Rajinder Singh.

Nari and spouse of the martyr.

The event began with the hoisting of the Tricolour by Col Mahan Singh, the Chief Guest, followed by the chanting of the National Anthem, lighting of the lamp, and laying of Pushpanjali by all present.

Speaking on the occasion, Col Mahan Singh lauded the valor of the heroes from this

hilly region, particularly Shaheed Rajinder Singh, who was a brave heart and created history by leading from the front and making the supreme sacrifice for the motherland. He praised Shaheed Rajinder Singh's courage and determination, highlighting his crucial role in securing an important post in challenging mountainous terrain.

## Pre-Rajouri Day Celebrations held Dhanidhar Fort

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI : As a prelude & run-up to Rajouri Day Celebrations, a Light and Sound Show was organised at Dhanidhar Fort, Rajouri , under the aegis of Indian Army. The theme of the event was glorious legacy of Rajouri, 'Remembering our War Heroes' and 'Aazadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'. This event highlighted the glorious past and rich heritage of Rajouri. It brought together enthusiastic youth from three schools and resident youth of Rajouri to witness the grand and glorious history and culture of Rajouri including history related to Dhanidhar Fort. Seeing the sacrifices made by our ancestors in defending Rajouri and its rich heritage, motivated the youth and young children of Rajouri.

## Bhartiya Shiksha Samiti organises 15-day teachers training camp

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Bhartiya Shiksha Samiti Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh Prant organised a 15-day teachers training camp aimed at enhancing the skills and welfare of educators.

The camp, held at Bhartiya Vidya Mandir Udhampur, Nanso, included the Naveen Acharya and Shishu Vatika teachers training programs. During the camp, on the fifth day, all participants were introduced to Vidya Bharati. They delved into the history of Vidya Bharati, learning about its inception, founder, challenges faced, progress made, and its transformation into a renowned organ-



A dignitary being honoured during the programme.

ization nationwide. Sh. Sameer Krishna Sapro (Office secretary Bhartiya Shiksha Samiti Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh) shed light on Vidya Bharati's mission. He emphasized the organization's goal of establishing a national educational system that instills

Hindutva and patriotism in young minds, fosters holistic development, and equips them to overcome life's obstacles successfully.

Furthermore, he elaborated on Indian educational philosophy, emphasizing the importance of development and social engagement.

Under the guidance of Smt. Sushila Sharma, the participants, including 45 teachers from 11 schools, engaged in various activities aimed at promoting their overall growth. The training included 24 Naveen Acharya and 21 Shishu Vatika Acharyas were present. Along this , Training coordinator, School principal, and operating groups of teacher training were continuously shows their presence. The camp is set to conclude on June 18, 2024, at the school premises, marking the successful completion of a transformative learning experience for all participants.

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