

J&K Bank gives send-off to senior officer



MD & CEO J&K Bank Baldev Prakash according farewell to senior officer Aejez Ahmad Bazaz.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: J&K Bank gave a warm send off yester-

day to one of its senior officers Aejez Ahmad Bazaz, who retired as Deputy

General Manager after serving the bank in different capacities for over three

decades. Aejez Ahmad Bazaz was currently functioning as DGM Law.

MD & CEO Baldev Prakash chaired the farewell meeting held at CHQ that was attended by General Managers, DGMs and other senior officers.

While commending the gentle nature of retiring DGM, MD & CEO appreciated his legal acumen and praised his contribution to the Bank. He wished the retiring officer a happy and healthy post-retirement life.

Thanking all his colleagues for their support and love throughout his career, Aejez Ahmad Bazaz said, "I feel honoured and happy to have been part of J&K Bank family.

The journey has been rewarding and I am grateful to everyone I have worked with. I would always cherish the wonderful times and friendships this institution has gifted me."

POJK Visthapit Sewa Samiti organizes seminar Captain Bansal throws light on current situation of POJK

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: A seminar was organized by POJK Visthapit Sewa Samiti on Saturday on the subject of current developments in Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir (POJK).

In the seminar, key speaker Captain Alok Bansal threw light on the current situation of POJK and said that today the people of POJK are protesting against the repressive policies of the government of Pakistan and are revolting against such circumstances.

Captain Bansal said that the people of POJK are suffering from basic problems like unemployment, inflation, electricity and water supply. He said that instead of development in POJK, Pakistan has only opened training centers for terrorists there. Due to this, bomb blasts take place daily in POJK and loss of life and property also happens there often.

Bansal said that in view of these circumstances, voices are being raised from POJK to merge with India.

In his address, Dr Deepak Kapoor, President of POJK



POJK Visthapit Sewa Samiti members honouring speaker Captain Alok Bansal.

Visthapit Sewa Samiti, while giving information about the functioning of the Samiti, domicile certificates of more than 26,000 people of POJK displaced society living outside Jammu and Kashmir have been got made. This process of making domicile is going on continuously.

While giving information, Dr Kapoor said that on March 12 this year, the foundation stone has also been laid by the Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory Manoj Sinha on 40 Kanal 17 Marla land in Suketar for the construction of POJK Bhawan. Keeping in mind the current

circumstances, the work of public awareness is going on in a planned manner by the Samiti to take back POJK and an appeal has also been made to the Central Government to take a quick decision on this subject.

Earlier, Assistant Professor Jai Bhavani Singh introduced Captain Alok Bansal and Dr Deepak Kapoor seated on the stage among the audience. Prof. Virendra Kondal greeted the people present and the distinguished guests in his welcome speech and the vote of thanks was presented by the Secretary of the Samiti, Arun Chaudhary. On this occasion, people from POJK displaced community were present in large numbers.

IIM Jammu's Roundtable 1.0: Industry Academia Meet at New Delhi-shaping future of Management Education

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu on Saturday organized a Roundtable 1.0 (Industry Academia Meet) at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

The event brought together an esteemed group of attendees, including senior leaders from academia and industry, to discuss strategic initiatives and foster collaborative partnerships.

The Roundtable 1.0 (Industry Academia Meet) was graced by the presence of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, who led the proceedings with his insightful perspectives on the future of management education and industry-academia collaboration.

Other notable attendees from IIM Jammu included Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics; Dr. Baljeet Singh, Chairperson



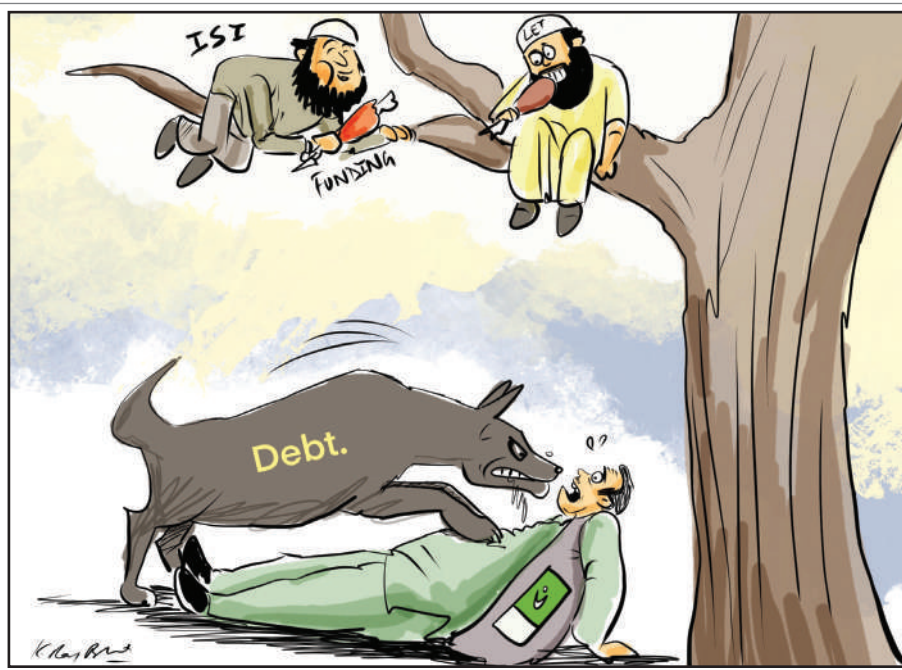
Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director IIM Jammu with senior leaders from academia and industry.

Placements; Dr. Atanu Dutta, Placement Officer; and the Placement Committee, IIM Jammu.

The Roundtable 1.0 (Industry Academia Meet) consisted of two topics of discussion: "Exploring Industry's Expectations from a B-School" and "Discussing Avenues of Collaboration Between Industry and Academia."

Each topic had dedicated panel moderators to guide the discussions.

The Roundtable 1.0 (Industry Academia Meet) saw participation from top-notch industry leaders of



conglomerates, facilitating meaningful dialogues and networking opportunities.

The discussions covered a wide range of topics, including the latest trends in human resource management, the evolving role of technology in business operations, and strategies for enhancing employability among management graduates.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu mentioned, "This Roundtable 1.0 (Industry Academia Meet) marks a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to strengthen the ties

between academia and industry. The insights shared today will undoubtedly help us refine our curriculum and better prepare our students for the dynamic business environment."

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, highlighted the significance of the event, saying, "This Roundtable 1.0 (Industry Academia Meet) has provided an excellent platform for exchanging ideas and best practices. Our commitment to aligning our academic programs with industry needs is reinforced by the active participation of indus-

try leaders today."

Dr. Baljeet Singh, Chairperson Placements, IIM Jammu, added, "Engaging directly with industry leaders through events like the Roundtable 1.0 (Industry Academia Meet) is crucial for understanding the evolving expectations of the corporate world. These interactions help us tailor our placement strategies and ensure our students are well-prepared to meet industry demands."

Roundtable 1.0 (Industry Academia Meet) concluded on a high note, with participants expressing their appreciation for the platform provided by IIM Jammu to engage in productive discussions.

The event underscored the institute's commitment to excellence and its proactive approach to integrating academic rigor with industry relevance.

Construction on 3 important flyovers in full swing in Srinagar

■ **MASROOR AHMAD**
SRINAGAR: After crossing another deadline in the completion of the key projects, the administration once again assured the commuters that the flyover at Bemina junction on the Srinagar Baramulla National Highway Bypass is almost complete and will be opened soon. It was earlier said that the flyover will be dedicated to the people by end of May 2024.

This new flyover is expected to ease traffic congestion, providing relief to thousands of daily commuters. The Bemina flyover covers a significant part of the bypass and is designed to improve traffic flow, reduce travel time, and increase safety for drivers.

"We are happy to announce that the Bemina flyover will be open for traffic soon as macadamisation is underway," said an official, wishing, not to be named. He said, despite



many challenges, including inclement weather and logistic hurdles progress on the project has been steady, raising hopes for the inauguration that will alleviate congestion and streamline traffic flow in the area. The Bemina flyover will be the first to be completed and thrown open for traffic, he added. "This project is a

major step in improving the city's infrastructure and making transportation safer and more efficient", he said.

Similar flyovers at Nowgam and Sanat Nagar junctions are still under construction. These projects are part of a larger plan to upgrade Srinagar's road network to better handle increasing traffic. The

Nowgam project is slated for completion by ending June while Sanat Nagar over bridge construction will be completed by late December 2024 or January 2025.

The news of the Bemina flyover opening soon has been welcomed by residents and travelers, who are looking forward to less traffic

and smoother commutes.

It is to mention here that Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, had said that the work on the flyovers in Srinagar has been accelerated, with hopes that both the Bemina and Sanat Nagar flyovers will be dedicated to the public by mid-2024. "Although the Sanat Nagar project has missed the deadline due to some issues, which have now been resolved, the work is going on in a pace and will be completed by December 31," he said, adding the two-way traffic will ply on the crossing soon.

The authorities were hopeful that the Bemina and Sanat Nagar flyovers in Srinagar would be dedicated to the public in March 2024, as the construction has advanced significantly and was almost finished, but till date both projects are incomplete and people are eagerly waiting.

Sufi shrines are treasures of our all encompassing rich spiritual traditions: Darakhshan

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
BANDIPORA: Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Saturday visited Sufi Shrine at Aham Sharif Bandipora. She paid obeisance at Ziyarat Makhdoom Sahib (RA) and prayed for the well being of all.

Dr Andrabi took a meeting with the Waqf officers and the staff after taking stock of the facilities at the shrine and after inspection of the Waqf Board properties there. She discussed the roadmap for upgradation of the facilities for the devotees visiting the shrine.

Andrabi also met some public delegations also and listened to the public suggestions.

Later Dr Darakhshan issued orders for the improvement of the infrastructural and service facilities at the shrine. Waqf Board Chairperson



Chairperson JKWB Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi speaking in a meeting.

addressed a gathering of locals in which she assured the people that facilities at the shrine will be upgraded by the Board.

She also spoke to media persons after the completion of the tour.

"Sufi shrines are the treasures of our all encompassing rich spiritual traditions. Waqf Board is working consistently for revival of our Sufi centers throughout J&K. Many people are not happy with this revolution

and are hell bent upon sabotaging our initiatives but we are not going to yield and the mission of transformation will continue", said Darakhshan.

She said that she will, with the support of the people, continue to adore the Sufi shrines and ensure transparency and accountability at every step at all costs.

The magistrate of J&K Waqf Board Ishiyaa Mohiuddin also accompanied Dr Andrabi during the visit.

BJP holds meetings of Udhampur-Doda Parliament Management Committee, Core Groups of 2 Parliamentary Constituencies



President, J&K BJP, Ravinder Raina chairing a meeting at Jammu on Saturday.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: President, J&K BJP, Ravinder Raina accompanied by Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Organization), J&K BJP chaired an Election Management Committee meeting of Udhampur-Doda Parliamentary Constituency at Party Headquarters, here on Saturday.

Dr Jitendra Singh, Union MoS, Sunil Sharma, General Secretary, Adv. Chul Sethi, Spokesperson also shared the dais and addressed the meeting.

Ravinder Raina, while addressing the meeting, lauded the role of the election management commit-

tee of the Udhampur Doda Parliamentary constituency while carrying out election-related activities.

He said that the BJP activists had reached the most inaccessible parts of the region during the elections to secure votes and support for the party's MP candidate to strengthen the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Raina said that being a BJP activist means to shoulder the responsibility of the nation and society and they have proven their dedication in these parliamentary elections.

He further said that their groundwork well before the elections and during the election along with the development

works carried out by the sitting MP in the parliamentary constituency has resulted in massive voting in favour of BJP in the parliamentary election 2024.

Ashok Koul, in the meeting, discussed the working during the Parliament election 2024 in the Udhampur-Doda parliamentary constituency with the Election Management Committee.

He prompted the members of the management committee to share their experiences and pointed out the various specified areas that will need further efforts by the party cadre to secure even more support for the party during the forthcoming elec-

tions in Jammu & Kashmir.

Later in the evening, Ravinder Raina and Ashok Koul, accompanied by Dr. Narinder Singh, National Secretary, BJP, Dr Jitendra Singh, Jugal Kishore Sharma, MP, Sunil Sharma, General Secretary, addressed a joint meeting of Core Groups of Jammu-Reasi and Udhampur-Doda Parliamentary constituencies.

During the meeting, the senior party functionaries, discussed in length various factors during the election management, campaigning and the voting process.

Gaurav calls for mandatory break for construction workers amidst extreme heatwave

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Gaurav Gupta, former General Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Jammu, has called upon the LG Led Administration to implement urgent measures to protect construction workers from the extreme heatwave currently affecting the Union Territory.



JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla addressing public meeting at Khara Madana in Samba.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SAMBA: JKPCC Working President and Congress contesting candidate from Jammu-Reasi Parliamentary seat, Raman Bhalla on Saturday asserted that the INDIA bloc, of which his party was an important part, would form the next government at the Centre and that the ruling BJP-led NDA was on its way out. "The

INDIA coalition will form the government after results are out on June 4. The NDA will be voted out", claimed Bhalla in a public meeting at Khara Madana, Uttarbahini in District Samba on Saturday organized by Congress Spokesperson Jagdeep Choudhary. Prominent among those present on the occasion include Ex Sarpanch Bashir Ahmed, Dr Lal Din, Ex Panch

Brij Pal Singh, Block President Sanjeev Katal, Krishan Singh, Ashiq Hussain, Bansil Lal, Puran Singh, Jagdev Raj, Mangal Dass, Gulam Rasool, Jaswant Singh. Reacting over Congress' skepticism over exit polls, decision not to take part in TV debates on the post-poll surveys, Bhalla said, "You tell me who are the people conducting these exit polls and which

one of these should we take seriously? The fact is, we have been on the ground, among people, and we have a first-hand sense of the public mood."

"The battle is now in its final phase. The public has stood firmly with us in every phase. After six phases, people want to see us win," Bhalla said. Bhalla claimed people want to see the Congress' guarantees fulfilled. This time the country has supported and sided with 'Yuva Nyay, Kisan Nyay, Nari Nyay, Shramik Nyay and Hissedari Nyay. He said Congress is committed to welfare of farmers, youngsters, workers, women, Dalits, tribals and backward classes. He said it is the Congress Party which has served and shall continue to serve the people.



a three-hour break for all construction workers, Gaurav Gupta emphasized the need for similar protective measures in Jammu.

"With temperatures soaring to dangerous levels, it is imperative that we prioritize the health and safety of our labor force. I urge the administration to mandate a compulsory break for all construction workers from 12 PM to 3 PM, during the peak heat hours," he added.

Gaurav has urged the administration to instruct all contractors and builders to ensure that laborers are not forced to work under the scorching sun and

are well cared for during this period. "Proper arrangements for water and shaded rest areas must be made available to all workers to prevent heat-related illnesses," he added.

In addition to construction workers, Gaurav also extended his concerns to the gig workforce, specifically those employed by online food delivery platforms such as Zomato and Swiggy. He called on these companies to implement meas-

ures to minimize operations during peak heat hours to ensure the safety of their delivery personnel.

"It is not only the responsibility of the administration but also of employers to ensure the well-being of their workers. I urge food delivery aggregators to adopt policies that protect their gig workers from the extreme heat by reducing delivery demands during the hottest parts of the day," he added.