

# CGPWA holds its 27th AGM, joins SMVDS' Eco-protection initiative

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Central Govt Pensioners' Welfare Association, (CGPWA) Jammu on Saturday held its 27th Annual General Body Meeting. On the occasion, the Pensioners' Journal and Members' Directory were released. Presided over by its President, Kuldeep Khoda, former DGP & CVC, it was attended by a large number of members who included two former Chief Secretaries, one former Secretary to Govt of India, one former DGP, a former VC & DG of IMPA, scores of former senior officers from police, forests, GSI and other central Govt services.

While they lauded the current leadership of CGPWA in addressing issues relating to the welfare of pensioners, the former senior civil servants expressed their concern on fast depleting water resources and green cover, pathetic condition of Tawi river and sanitation condition in Jammu city and called for immediate action plan to address these alarming trends.

While presenting the annual report of the Association, the General Secretary, K B Jandial informed the members that CGPWA has decided to collaborate with the Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board in its eco-protection initiative to meet the growing challenge of climate change by promoting plantation during monsoon.

The Board will establish a counter at Vaishnavi Dham near Railway Station for sale



CGPWA members releasing Pensioners' Journal, Members' Directory at 27th AGB Meeting.

of different varieties of plants that are being grown in its nursery at Katra.

Following a motto of "Each One Promote Ten", the CGPWA will strive to create awareness and popularize plantation, help procuring quality plants for individuals and institutions.

He said that opening of second CGHS Wellness Centre at Trikuta Nagar last month was the successful culmination of CGPWA's efforts of six seven years. Similarly, getting State land for construction of CGHS Complex at Thanger, Jammu was yet another commendable achievement.

The Association has also taken up a unique project of periodical interaction with the destitute students of BALGRAN by former senior civil servants to upgrade their knowledge and imbibe in them confidence.

Those who so far delivered lectures and interacted with them included, Kuldeep Khoda, B R Sharma, K B Jandial, Dr Sudarshan Kumar, Dr S C Puri, J K Vaid and Upender Pachnanda. Dr Ashok Bhan will deliver lecture to them after summer

vacation. He thanked Dr Bhan for his undaunted support to the Divyang students through Shrine Board and facilitating cashless facilities for CGHS beneficiaries for pathological tests, dialysis etc. at Jammu Clinic (Gandhi Nagar) of Narayana Hospital.

The Association's meeting with the Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo in last week of January this year has resulted in resolving some of the pending issues while other are under process.

The Association which had started celebrating birthdays of members every month has now changed it by creating Birthday Fund with the contributions of members.

While celebrating National and International Days with Health Talks by Specialists including now Aryurveda Doctors, introduction of Diwali Milan and Eid Milan events are among the new features of Pensioners activities.

Kuldeep Khoda in his presidential address said that fruitful discussions and suggestions of the members have always resulted in result-oriented actions of the Associations. He made a spe-

cial reference to his meeting with the Chief Secretary on the concerns of the pensioners and said that his clearest directions on every concern has helped in significant moment forward on most of the pending issues for which he conveyed gratitude to the CS of every pensioner.

Khoda disclosed that he has contacted the Union Health Secretary and flagged issues of CGHS and said that he is visiting Jammu shortly and all issues of Pensioners would be thoroughly discussed with him for final resolution.

He also referred to the critical issue of helping divyang and destitute students of the School for Hearing Handicapped run by SKK and BALGRAN and said that the Association would see how they can be helped.

Former senior civil servants, B R Kundal, Ashok Angurana, B R Sharma, and Dr Ashok Bhan also addressed the AGM. While lauding the growth of the CGPWA from a handful members to over 370 they complimented the current team of the Association for

addressing problems of the Pensioners in right earnest. They also emphasized the role of former civil servants in raising and addressing common issues of the society and said that they should pay back to the society in a different role.

They, however, raised their serious concern on some of the pressing public issues like cutting of trees on the pretext of development, deleting water resources and, depleting green cover, poor sanitation in residential colonies and said that while widening roads and highways it should be ensured that resultant dust is properly managed to avoid threat to the health of the nearby residents.

A suggestion was also made for setting up a multi-disciplinary Authority to save Tawi river which is a life line for Jammu. A demand was also raised to set up a separate counter for pensioners (CGHS beneficiaries) in all CGHS empaneled hospitals.

J K Vaid, B D Thappa, Dr CM Seth, Sewa Dass Digra, Upender Pachnanda, S S Bijral, A K Handoo and Dinesh Gupta also made suggestions on different civil society issues.

Earlier, The Treasurer, O P Sharma presented the statement of receipts and expenditure of 2023-24. The Secretary B B Magotra welcomed the members while the Vice President Dr Sudarshan Kumar presented the formal vote of thanks.

# JKEEGA delegation calls on MD JPDCL



JKEEGA delegation led by Gen Secy Sachin Tickoo calling on MD JPDCL, Vikas Kundal.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Electrical Engineering Graduates Association (JKEEGA) delegation led by Sachin Tickoo, General Secretary along with the members of the Executive body on Saturday called on Vikas Kundal, Managing Director (MD) JPDCL Jammu after being elected once again to lead the Graduate Engineering Fraternity.

The delegation acknowledged the role of Vikas Kundal in robust and smooth maintenance of Power supply across the Jammu Province. That under the guidance and supervision of MD JPDCL the JPDCL engineers down the line have been able to meet up with the realistic targets set for their feeders and overall AT&C losses have also reduced while the revenue realised has touched new high in comparison to previous years.

JKEEGA delegation brought to the knowledge of MD Jpdcl about the shortfall of nearly 200 Junior Engineers in JPDCL and sought that the vacant posts of Junior Engineers be filled at an earliest to mitigate hardships of not only the over burdened staff but also improve consumer satisfaction by speedy redressal of grievances.

Further they also informed about the acute shortage of line staff down the line who have been depleting owing to retirements and The infrastructure under JPDCL has increased manifold, leading to difficulty in enforcement/inspection and patrolling and sought a comprehensive DPR be prepared to explore the resolution of manpower issues.

Further the enforcement vertical already recommended by BOD JPDCL needs to be approved by Administrative department in order to strengthen the enforcement of the legal

action against power theft.

Sachin Tickoo highlighted that there are scores of positions vacant at levels of AEEE/XENS/Superintending Engineers and Chief engineers in JPDCL which need to be got expeditiously filled by virtue of promotions and for that Administrative department needs to be pursued strongly for achieving desired staffing requirements. JKEEGA delegation sought that Managing Director JPDCL should strongly recommend the reinstatement of the suspended Engineers who have been made scapegoats for no fault of theirs and have made best efforts towards revenue realisation and improvement in billing and collection efficiency in rural areas.

The Managing Director, JPDCL gave patient hearing to all the issues, while appreciating the role of Engineers and staff and promised the early redressal of issues brought to his notice.

# Mula Ram greets peoples on Kabir Jayanti



Former Minister Mula Ram attending Kabir Jayanti celebration at Marh.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Minister and senior vice president J&K Congress Committee Mula Ram has extended his greetings to the people of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Kabir Jayanti.

In a largely attended function at Kabir Mandir Jhiri Marh, former Minister said it will be his pleasure that he can contribute to the Development

of Kabir Mandir, s in j&k through some means. Mula ram also said that Saint Kabir, a poet, social reformer and an exponent of Bhakti Movement, through his writings, has an indelible impact on the culture and philosophy in India that would continue to inspire generations.

Mula Ram observed that Saint Kabir's philosophy and ideas are more relevant in today's society. He urged the people to follow

his teachings and spread the message of oneness, peace and universal brotherhood for building a harmonious society based on equality and social justice.

Mula Ram said saint Kabir was 1st Indian saint who coordinated between different religions and gave a universal path which could followed by all of us.

He prayed for peace, progress and prosperity in the UT. Mula ram, said Teachings of saint Kabir Dass remain an Eternal source of Guidance of Humanity.

Others who spoke on the occasion were Kunti Devi, Ram Ditta, Dr Rattan Lal, Madan Lal, Suraj Prakash, Kamal Kumar, Vishwanath Bhagat, Sansar Chand, Pardeep Salaria, Adv. Kamal Kishore Bhagat, Ram Krishan, Master Tara Chand and others.

# Dogri Bhasha Academy releases books



Dignitaries releasing books at a programme in Jammu.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dogri Bhasha Academy, Jammu, under the guidance of Yashpaul Nirmal, organized a significant book release function at K.L. Saigal Hall, here on Saturday.

The event featured the release of four books written by P.L. Parihar: "Sucha Hirakh," "Chabutare Da Sach," "Jeende Jandoot," and "Neem Hakeem Khatra -E-Jaan."

The function was presided over by Prof. Lalit Magotra, president of Dogri Sanstha, Jammu.

Darshan Darshi, ex-Director of Education Department, was

the chief guest, and Dr. Om Goswami, Dogri writer and ex-Additional Secretary of J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Language, was the special guest.

Roshan Bral, President, and Rajinder Ranjha, General Secretary of Dogri Bhasha Academy, also played significant roles in the event.

Prof. Lalit Magotra praised the efforts of Dogri Bhasha Academy and extended his support for the promotion of Dogri language. The function included presentations of three research papers, which garnered appreciation from the audience.

Darshan Darshi commended the Academy's initiatives and suggested organizing review programs for the books in the future.

Dr. Om Goswami lauded P.L. Parihar's contributions to Dogri literature and highlighted the significance of releasing four books in a single program.

P.L. Parihar himself addressed the audience and shared his poetry during the event. The program was well-conducted by Rajinder Kumar Ranjha, and Kewal Kumar Kewal delivered the vote of thanks.

The event witnessed the presence of numerous Dogri and other language writers, intellectuals, media personnel, and a diverse audience, underscoring the importance of promoting regional literature and culture.

A large number of Dogri and other languages writer, intellectual, media persons and audience attended the book release function.

# Pipping ceremony of newly promoted SPs held



DIG Traffic Jammu, Dr. Mohd. Haseeb Mughal and police officers and newly promoted SPs at pipping ceremony.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Pipping ceremony was held on Saturday at Traffic Police Range Hqrs Jammu. Dr. Mohd. Haseeb Mughal, DIG Traffic Jammu, Rohit Baskotra SSP Traffic NHW, M. Fiesel Qureshi, SSP Traffic City Jammu and Vinay Kumar, SSP Traffic Rural Jammu pinned ranks to newly promoted Superintendents of Police Bikram Kumar and Nawaz Chouhan.

DIG Traffic Jammu con-

gratulated both the Officers and their families for getting elevation in their Ranks.

He appreciated the officers for their outstanding and unblemished services as Deputy Superintendents of Traffic Police.

He emphasised that with promotion comes more responsibilities and challenges. He asked both the officers to serve with dedication & enthusiasm and wished them good luck for future endeavours.

# Lalit elected president, Viraj General Secretary BBIA

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As per the Election notification of Bari Brahmana Industries Association dated June 8, 2024 for BBIA Election for the Term 2024-26, ten nomination paper were received against the available post of six office bearers of the Association for which the Scrutiny was done on June 21, 2024 and all the Nomination Papers were found in order as per the Constitution.

After withdrawal process completed on Saturday as per Election Notification, Election Commissioners Ajay Bansal, Yogesh Badyal & Yogesh Aggarwal declared that Lalit Mahajan has been elected unopposed as President of BBIA and Viraj Malhotra has been elected unopposed as General Secretary of BBIA. The Election for the other four posts of BBIA Office Bearers for the Term 2024-26 shall be held on June 29, 2024.

Nitin Sood and Tarun Singla are contesting for the Post of Sr. Vice President, Ajay Langer and P.L. Raina are contesting for the Post of Vice President, Rajesh Jain and Shiv Kumar Sharma are contesting for the Post of Secretary, Rishi Kant Gupta and Vivek Singhal are contesting for the Post of Treasurer.

# Congress only viable option for people of J&K: Uday, Hari Singh



Congress leaders Uday Bhanu Chib and Hari Singh Chib addressing public meeting.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Uday Bhanu Chib, National General Secretary of Indian Youth Congress (IYC), and Hari Singh Chib, Vice President of Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC), voiced concerns over the challenges faced by the public under the current administration.

At a gathering in Barnai

Ward No 65, organized by local leaders Ganesh and Ram Pal, they criticized the government's failure to provide essential services like regular power and water supply, especially during peak summer.

Despite initiatives like Smart Meters, citizens continue to suffer, often resorting to protests.

Uday Bhanu stressed the need for change, advocating

the Congress Party as the solution in upcoming elections.

He called for unity against administrative incompetence, pledging to prioritize public welfare.

Hari Singh Chib echoed these sentiments, highlighting widespread discontent across society and pledging Congress' commitment to addressing basic amenities and public concerns.

# Bharat Bhushan starts WSS Kala Kaam worth Rs 16.35 Cr under JJM

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: District Development Council (DDC), Jammu, Chairman, Bharat Bhushan Bodhi, on Saturday inaugurated the digging work of Water Supply Scheme (WSS) Kala Kaam in village of Kala Kaam.

This ambitious project, valued at Rs 16.35 crore, is a vital component of the 'Jal Jeevan Mission' initiative aimed at ensuring sustainable and reliable water supply to rural households.

The Water Supply Scheme



Chairman DDC Jammu, Bharat Bhushan Bodhi inaugurating digging work of WSS Kala Kaam.

Kala Kaam includes the construction of two tube-wells, one borewell, six overhead

tanks, and two ground service reservoirs (GSRs). Sushma Devi and

# DSS raises concerns over escalating drug menace in J&K, calls for immediate action to combat

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Th. Gulchain Singh Charak, President of Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS) J&K and former Minister, addressed a pressing issue regarding the escalating drug crisis in Jammu and Kashmir UT, particularly in the Jammu region.

In a press conference at Dogra Sadar Sabha Jammu, Charak highlighted the historical resilience and nationalism of the region's youth, noting their pivotal role in defending the nation during Indo-Pak wars.

He lamented that despite this proud history, the region now faces a significant threat from the rampant spread of drugs aimed at its youth, undermining its social fabric.

Charak emphasized that adversaries, failing to stoke unrest through other means,



President DSS, Th. Gulchain Singh Charak talking to reporters.

have turned to insidious tactics like drug infiltration to weaken Jammu and Kashmir internally.

He urged the administration to acknowledge the severity of this issue and take decisive action against the drug mafia. Charak stressed that while awareness campaigns and social media efforts are beneficial, concrete actions such as dismantling drug networks and

ensuring community protection are essential.

The former Cabinet Minister highlighted the crucial role of law enforcement agencies, particularly the police, in combating the drug menace. He urged for substantive efforts beyond superficial appearances, advocating for visible results through successful operations against drug peddlers. Charak called for consistent

support from higher authorities, emphasizing the need for regular assessments and sustained commitment to anti-drug initiatives.

Charak reaffirmed the resilience of the people of Jammu region and their determination to combat the drug crisis with robust support from authorities. He asserted that the youth, known for their nationalism, deserve a drug-free future, urging collective responsibility to secure this future.

The press conference was attended by several prominent figures including retired Col. Karan Singh, PS Gupta, Gambhir Dev Singh Charak, Dr. VS Sharma, and others, underscoring broad support for addressing the drug issue in the region.

# IDA conducts workshop for dental students

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indian Dental Association (IDA) Jammu, on Saturday conducted a workshop and hands-on session for the dental students at Ivy Clinic, Gandhi Nagar. This workshop was free of cost for the students who are the members of IDA Jammu. Dr. Parul Verma, a qualified cosmetologist and endodontist, conducted this workshop. Dr. Verma is an executive member of the Indian Dental Association (IDA). During the workshop, Dr. Verma demonstrated facial aesthetic procedures in detail to the participants.

Dr. Vibha Raina, Secretary IDA Jammu, said that this hands-on workshop will equip the dentists to provide the latest advancements in cosmetic dentistry to the patients.

The various procedures demonstrated in the workshop included chemical peels, medifacials, PRP (Platelet-Rich Plasma)



Dental Doctors demonstrating procedure at a workshop.

therapy, botox injections and dermal fillers.

Dr Himja Mengi, Vice-President of IDA Jammu, said that such workshops shall be conducted in future so as to equip the new dentists with the facial aesthetics procedures.