

Balwant Thakur inaugurates Natrang's Summer Theatre Camp for children

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Natrang's Summer Theatre Camp-2024, the most sought after event for children in the region inaugurated here today at Natrang Studio Theatre, Jammu with the lighting of traditional lamp by Director Natrang, Padmashri Balwant Thakur. Natrang's Children Theatre Wing was started in the year 1990 and since then, annual Summer Theatre camps, Spring Theatre workshops, Winter Theatre Workshops have been a regular feature of Natrang's children activities. The period of Summer Vacations is exclusively dedicated for Children Theatre every year by Natrang as this is the only time when children have many days in continuity to learn, explore and groom



Director Natrang, Padma Shri Balwant Thakur lighting ceremonial lamp.

their personalities and improve their immense inner abilities in a fun-filled creative space and occasion. Till now, Natrang has groomed the personalities of thousands of children with an effective and efficient transforming tool called theatre. A new full-length play would also be prepared by the participants during Natrang's Theatre Camp-2024 which would be presented before larger audiences who get a chance to watch a wonderful children's play every year as the outcome of the summer theatre camp. Special training focus of the workshop will be on developing communication skills, public speaking and imbining of confidence through latest developed techniques of theatre. The skill developing techniques, devised by Sumeet Sharma (Recipient of SNA's National Award for Theatre Direction) during his consistent work with children for over 20 years, prove very

successful in imparting the benefits of theatre to the children. A dedicated team of artists/trainers which includes Mohd. Yaseen, Kananpreet Kaur, Palshin Dutta & Mihir Gujral will facilitate the smooth functioning of the workshop. Those who are attending this workshop include Advik Sharma, Saisha Malhotra, Adira Gupta, Priyaa Gupta, Viraj Singh, Aadhiraj Dharmat, Virraj Gupta, Kyra Luthra, Kamakhya Bali, Aarjya Shan, Raaga Sharma, Shrivya Sharma, Rubaab Kour, Mehak Chib, Dhanak Chandan, Ruhaan Chandan, Amira Mahajan, Shivaay Illa Mittal, Vidhanshi Jamwal, Nirvana Sah, Jazz Sah, Reet Gupta, Aryan Gupta, Daivik Gupta, Ayaan Dutt and Aaradhya Sharma.

JU organizes Lecture on 'Human Rights Jurisprudence and Domestic Violence Laws'



The Law School JU faculty, students and Advocate Uma Kapahi posing for a photograph after the lecture.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Law School, University of Jammu (JU), organised an interaction and lecture on the topic 'Human Rights Jurisprudence and Domestic Violence Laws' for senior semester students under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Manju Jamwal, Director, The Law School. The session was led by Advocate Uma Kapahi, Panel Lawyer, DLSA Jammu, and provided a comprehensive

overview of the Domestic Violence Act, 2005. Advocate Kapahi also highlighted the availability of free legal aid for victims of domestic violence, emphasizing that the right to legal aid has brought significant relief to millions of women suffering violence in their households. Earlier in the session, Dr. Monica Narang provided an understanding of how human rights principles inform and shape legal frameworks concerning domestic violence. Her presentation laid the groundwork for the discussion, emphasising the role of human

rights in developing comprehensive legal protections for victims. Concluding the interaction, Dr. Nitan Sharma focused on the crucial intersection of gender jurisprudence and domestic violence laws, stressing the importance of legal awareness and education in addressing these pressing issues. The Law School remains committed to fostering an educational environment that promotes awareness and advocacy for human rights and justice, as informed by Dr. Seema Rohmetra, senior faculty member at The Law School and organiser of the interaction.

Programme on 'World Environment Day 2024' organized at SKUAST-J

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: To commemorate World Environment Day 2024, National Service Scheme SKUAST Jammu under the guidance of Vice Chancellor Prof. B.N. Tripathi and Dean Student Welfare Dr. Sudhakar Dwivedi, organised a quiz cum debate programme on Environment Conservation. Dr. Dwivedi called upon the students to become a Green ambassador of SKUAST-Jammu to make aware the common mass

make mother Earth a Green Planet. Dr. Subhash C Kashyap, NSS programme coordinator and Sr. Scientist of Plant Breeding and Genetics threw light on the increasing temperature and its ill effects on crops which ultimately effect food availability. He advocated the need to develop drought resilient crops and varieties which tolerate drought and encourage growing such crops like millets which require very less water.

based on this Year's Theme: 'Land restoration, desertification and drought resilience'. Dr. Sushmita Dadhich, Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Dr. Veena Sharma and Neeraj Gupta, NSS programme officers Coordinated the proceeding of programme. Dr. Mukesh Kumar Pandey was the jury member of quiz programme. The programme ended with a pledge by students to plant a tree and its care to save Mother earth from becom-

RO Jammu PC briefs contesting candidates on counting day protocols



RO Jammu PC, Sachin Vaishya convening meeting with candidates contesting LS elections.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Returning Officer for 5-Jammu Parliamentary Constituency, Sachin Kumar Vaishya on Monday convened a crucial meeting with the candidates contesting Lok Sabha election and their agents to discuss preparedness and protocols for counting of votes. SSP, Dr. Vinod Kumar was also present to elucidate security-related guidelines and protocols, ensuring candidates and their agents face no unexpected hassles on the counting day.

The meeting was also attended by ADDC Sher Singh and Deputy District Election Officer Rameshwar Kumar. The counting of votes will be held at Government Polytechnic College Bikram Chowk and MAM College Jammu on June 4. During the meeting, the RO gave a detailed presentation on the preparations and protocols for the counting process. Parking and security arrangements were explained thoroughly, including the areas where mobile phones

would be prohibited. Other arrangements for the candidates were also explained to them. The RO highlighted that Section 144 and the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) would remain in force on counting day, prohibiting any violations. Furthermore, no celebratory processions will be allowed without the permission by the DEO and the bursting of crackers will be strictly banned within Counting Centre premises.

NIA Court rejects bail in Narco-Terrorism

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Special Judge NIA Kashmir Sandeep Gandotra rejected the bail application of one Javid Iqbal Thakkar who was allegedly involved in Narco-Terrorism. Special Judge NIA Kashmir Sandeep Gandotra after hearing both the sides observed that it is also pertinent to mention here that the challan against the accused/applicant has already been presented in the court on 17th of May 2024 and neither charges have been framed against him nor any evidence recorded so far. Further, the accused is alleged to have been involved in the offences under chapter IV and VI of UAP Act which are hit by embargo contained in Sub Section 5 of Section 43(D) of UAP Act. The allegations against the accused are very serious and grave in nature to the effect that he is involved in drug trafficking and earning handsome amount to destroy the future generation. It is also alleged that the sale proceeds of drug trafficking are used by the terrorist organizations to promote terrorism.

Thus, the net result of whatever has been discussed herein above is that accused/applicant herein does not deserve the latitude of bail at this stage. It is settled position of law that if personal liberty of the accused/applicant and security of the state are pitted against each other it is the security of the state which shall prevail. Further, if the accused/applicant herein is enlarged on bail the unity, integrity, security and sovereignty of state shall be endangered. There are chances of applicant/accused tampering with the evidence of the prosecution and the accused/applicant herein fleeing from the justice, and no witness would come in the court to depose against the accused in the militancy related incident. Accordingly, the instant application being premature is hereby rejected.



Dean Student Welfare Dr. Sudhakar Dwivedi and other faculty at a quiz.

towards plantation drive in the coming rainy season to

Students participated in debate and quiz which was

ing a fire ball which the world is facing.

VC JU releases checklist of birds of J&K



VC JU Prof. Umesh Rai releasing full checklist of the birds of Jammu and Kashmir.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a landmark event for regional ornithology, Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor (VC), University of Jammu (JU), on Monday released a full checklist of the birds of Jammu and Kashmir, meticulously compiled and produced by a team of researchers. The special issue, published by the reputed journal, Indian BIRDS, features 592 bird species across 21 orders and 88 families, revealing the rich avian diversity of Jammu & Kashmir. In his remarks, the Vice Chancellor lauded the dedi-

cation and hard work of the researchers, exhibiting one of the most significant ecological group, the birds of the entire UT of Jammu and Kashmir. He hoped that this checklist would be a valuable resource for scholars, ornithologists, conservationists, and nature enthusiasts, helping to promote the study and conservation of bird species across the region. The book release ceremony was graced by Prof. Rahul Gupta, Registrar, JU, Prof. J.P.S. Joorel, Rector Bhaderwah Campus, JU, Dr. M.K. Kumar (IFS),

Chief Conservator of Forests and Regional Wildlife Warden Jammu, Dr. Deepika Slathia, acting HOD, Environmental Sciences and the authors of the checklist, namely Dr. Muzaffar A Kichloo, Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Dr. Parmil Kumar, and Parvez Shagoo. Speaking on behalf of the team, Dr. Neeraj Sharma from Institute of Mountain Environment and one of the checklist's authors outlined its contents. Muzaffar A Kichloo, the first author, elaborated on the methodology and several stages of review that went into the compilation of the checklist,

highlighting the diverse sources of bird records including museum specimens, media records and detailed field notes. Dr. M.K. Kumar (IFS), CCF & RVLW, Jammu commended the publication as a valuable tool for wildlife management and conservation in the region. The event concluded with a ceremonial distribution of the first copies of the checklist to the dignitaries and a vote of thanks by Prof. Parmil Kumar, Head Department of Statistics, JU. This newly published checklist is expected to be a cornerstone for future research and conservation efforts, providing a solid foundation for understanding and preserving the avian biodiversity of Jammu and Kashmir. Other outreach material, including the familiar birds of J&K, Asian Waterbird Census in J&K, and an illustrated field guide of mammals of the mountains of J&K, compiled by IME, was presented to the dignitaries.

Campaign to preserve, promote Dogra culture getting massive support: Prof. Mohtra



Parmeshwari Care & Cure Charitable Trust members at a programme.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In an impressive awareness programme held at Bishnah by the local unit of Parmeshwari Care & Cure Charitable Trust, dozens of prominent persons were offered Dogra Safa/Pagri. It was organised by Satish Bharti, Incharge Bishnah unit and one in the series of such events being undertaken in different parts of Jammu province. Prof. (Dr.) Kulbushan Mohtra, Managing Director of

the Trust, along with team members namely Er Dilbahadur Singh Jamwal, Balbir Ram Rattan and Vijay Gupta, graced the occasion and appreciated the first of its type of initiative in Bishnah town by Satish Bharti. Prof. (Dr.) Kulbushan Mohtra, while speaking on the occasion, said that Parmeshwari Care & Cure Charitable Trust, has launched a campaign to make people aware about the rich Dogra culture and Dogri language and the public has massively sup-

ported the cause. He said that the major population of Jammu and Kashmir, called Dogras, have adopted the modern lifestyle and are forgetting their own ancient culture. Prof. Mohtra said that preserving and promoting one's culture is must to keep the younger generations connected with their roots. Prof. Mohtra said that the Trust, reiterates its commitment to work for Dogri and Dogra culture and appeals all the dogras to come forward and become part of the

noble cause by devoting at least one day in a week, wear Dogra dress and cook Dogra food, adding that Parmeshwari Care & Cure Charitable Trust, is reaching the people, offering them safra/pagri to males, suggesting females to adopt Dogra dress and also use dogri as mean of communication in day to day life. Expressing gratitude to the media for serving as bridge between the Trust and the public to reach them with the message of preserving and promoting Dogra culture, Prof. (Dr.) Kulbushan Mohtra, said that the campaign will be taken to entire length and breadth of Jammu province in particular in the coming months. Narain Dutt Sharma, Prem Paul, Nagarnag, M.R.Puri, Capt. Inderjeet, Krishan Lal, Arun Sharma, Rahul Sandotra, Sudesh Puri, were the prominent Dogras of Bishnah who were offered Dogra Safa/Pagri in the awareness programme.

CBP on "Innovative Pedagogical Approaches under NEP-2020" starts at JU

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: One-Week Capacity Building Programme (CBP) on "Innovative Pedagogical Approaches under National Education Policy - 2020" from June 3 to 7, 2024 in online mode, began at International Centre for Cross-Cultural Research and Human Resource Management (ICCeR & HRM), University of Jammu (JU). The CBP aims towards the capacity building of academicians and research scholars in terms of knowledge enrichment, developing naive pedagogical competencies, creating learning resources, using digital technologies, etc. for improving teaching-

learning effectiveness using various innovative pedagogical approaches. Prof. Rajat Sharma, Associate Professor of Marketing at Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad; Prof. Saravana Jaikumar, Associate Professor of Marketing at IIM Calcutta and Prof. K. Srinivas, Head of ICT & Project Management Unit of National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), New Delhi, the resource persons for the one week programme. Prof. Hardeep Chahal, Director, ICeC & HRM, JU expressed gratitude to Vice Chancellor, JU Prof. Umesh

Rai, CBP Chair for supporting the idea of organising the CBP in alignment with NEP-2020 agenda and goals. The programme commenced with a formal welcome address by Dr. Isha Sharma, Faculty, ICeC & HRM and CBP Coordinator, JU. In her welcome address she underscored the significance of the NEP-2020 in redefining the education landscape in India and the role of various innovative pedagogies in achieving teaching effectiveness. During the first day of the CBP, Prof. Rajat Sharma started the session with real life case discussions "Havmor Case Study", "The Tashkent Files Case Study"

and provided a firsthand experience of case study administration. Over 30 participants from University of Delhi, Institute of Management Studies & Research, Mumbai, University of Lucknow, JU, Cluster University of Jammu, SKUAST Main Campus Jammu and different colleges across the UT of Jammu & Kashmir etc. attended the programme. Dr. Isha Sharma and Dr. Swati Sharma, Faculty, ICeC & HRM were the coordinators of the CBP. The CBP was coordinated by Dr. Neha Gupta, Dr. Bhanu Pratap Singh, Dr. Shwani Rana and Dr. Parul Mahajan, faculty members at ICeC & HRM.

HC refuses to quash FIR education consultancy for duping a man

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a petition filed by one Fayaz Ahmed Rather Challenged FIR No.18/2023 for offence under Section 420 RPC registered with SHO Police Station, Economic Offence Wing, Srinagar. As per the allegations made in the impugned FIR, the complainant/respondent No.2 approached the Crime Branch Kashmir with an application alleging therein that he had approached Fayaz International Education Consultancy, of which the petitioner happens to be the proprietor, for arranging MBBS admission of his son at ASCOMS Jammu. It had been further alleged in the complaint that all the relevant documents were handed over to the petitioner and an amount of Rs.36.00 lacs was paid to him for arranging admission of the son of the complainant. On the basis of this complaint, the Crime Branch undertook preliminary verification of the same and found that the petitioner has duped the complainant of an amount of Rs.36.00 lacs on pretext of arranging MBBS admission of his son at ASCOMS Jammu. Thus, offence under Section 420 RPC has been disclosed against the petitioner and the impugned FIR has been

registered. Justice Sanjay Dhar of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court after hearing both the sides observed that So far as the contention of the petitioner that the impugned FIR could not have been registered against him because the petitioner is facing prosecution in respect of a complaint filed by the respondents for offence under Section 138 of the N.I Act is concerned, the same is without any merit. The transaction which is the subject matter of the impugned FIR and the transaction which is the subject matter of the complaint under Section 138 of the N.I Act pending against the petitioner, may be one and the same, but this transaction has given rise to two different offences and the causes of action for launching the prosecution against the petitioner for these two distinct offences are also different. The cause of the action for filing the complaint under Section 138 of the N.I Act arises once drawer of a cheque fails to liquidate the cheque amount in favour of the payee within 15 days of service of demand notice after the dishonour of the cheque, whereas, the cause of action for offence under Section 420 IPC/RPC arises if it is shown that at the time of inception of transaction the accused was having a dishonest inten-

tion, as a consequence whereof he has perpetrated a fraud upon the complainant, thereby inducing him to part with property. Thus, the two offences viz the offence under Section 138 of the N.I Act and the offence under Section 420 IPC/RPC are distinct from each other and they arise from different causes of action. The contention of the petitioner that he has been vexed over twice on the basis of same allegations is, therefore, without any merit and is accordingly rejected. So far as the other condition is concerned, it is true that the transaction between the parties dates back to the year 2019, but the complainant has lodged the report with the Crime Branch in the year 2021 itself. On the basis of said report the respondent/Crime Branch has proceeded to hold the preliminary enquiry prior to registration of the FIR. So there has been no delay on part of the complainant in lodging the FIR. Even otherwise, whether the delay in lodging FIR is fatal to the prosecution case is to be gone into by the Investigating Officer during the investigation of the case. This Court, at this stage, cannot go into all these issues.

For the foregoing reasons, the Court does not find any merit in this petition. The same is accordingly dismissed.