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### J&K emerging as...

will contribute immensely with their new vision for a self-reliant India, he added. Citing the example of a great teacher, scientist and former President of India, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, the Lt Governor highlighted the role of a teacher in shaping the personality, mind, talents, capabilities and vision of a student.

He said the National Education Policy emphasizes on such a relationship between teacher, education and students through curriculum that builds both skills and life values.

The Lt Governor called upon the educational institutions to prepare for the future more quickly with the goal of incubating world class research and innovation.

Through the National Policy on Education, "we have got an opportunity to transform our institutions by setting academic priorities, preparing them for international competition and having revamped, relevant, modern and progressive educational curriculum," he added.

Saying that education is "not about the race to come first" but it is about achieving the "highest peak of values in life", the Lt Governor noted that the National Education Policy emphasizes on scientific temper, knowledge and ability.

During the Convocation, the Lt Governor conferred 44 medals which included 4 Chancellor Gold Medal, 4 University Gold Medal, 15 University Silver Medal and 21 Infosys Foundation Prize of Excellence.

A total of 1,165 students have been awarded with degrees for academic year 2019-20 & 2020-21, including 484 Under Graduate, 502 Post Graduate and 81 Ph.D.

The Lt Governor also planted a sapling on the occasion.

Prof. (Dr) Ravindra Kumar Sinha, VC SMVDU delivered the welcome address and highlighted the achievements of the university. He said that the university has established performance benchmarks for faculty members and the schools to ensure a consistent improvement in the quality of teaching and research.

He said that in a relatively short time of 18 years, the University has made tremendous strides and has carved out a niche for itself in the field of academics, research and community service with more than 2500 students, 140 faculty members studying in 24 programs.

Prof. AK Bakshi, Vice Chancellor, PDM University; Ashok Bhan, IPS Retd. SMVDSB Member; Dr. Sanjeev Jain, VC Central University Jammu; Prof. Bachan Lal VC Cluster University Jammu; Prof. Nilofar Khan, VC Kashmir University; Prof. Umesh Rai, VC Jammu University; Prof. BS Sahay, Director IIM; Mukesh Singh, ADGP Jammu; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Anshul Garg, CEO, SMVDSB; Babila Rakwal DC Reasi, besides students, teachers and parents were present on the occasion.

### Jammu-based pilot...

The IAF said the aircraft was on a sortie from the Utarlai air base and the accident occurred around 9.10 pm.

Air headquarters has already ordered a court of inquiry to ascertain the cause of the accident.

MiG-21s were the mainstay of the IAF for a long time. However, the aircraft has had a very poor safety record of late.

In March, Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhat said in the Rajya Sabha that 42 defence personnel were killed in accidents involving aircraft and helicopters of the three services in the last five years.

The total number of air accidents in the last five years was 45 out of which 29 involved IAF's platforms.

## Two hybrid terrorists...

affiliated with LeT outfit.

Four pistols, eight pistol magazines, 130 pistol rounds and 10 hand grenades were recovered from their possession.

Hybrid terrorist is a term coined by security forces in Jammu and Kashmir to describe those ultras who carry out a subversive task assigned to them by their handlers before slipping back into normal life.

### SC notice to...

should have a State Bar Council and therefore, Bar Council for Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh cannot be denied by the respondents, said the plea, filed through advocate Om Prakash Parihar.

It claimed that due to the non-availability of the State Bar Council, the advocates are even deprived of applying for the proximity cards for appearing before the apex court as no option for Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh is provided in the online application.

The advocate members from Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are unable to apply for the proximity card of this court as the application form for the proximity card of this court requires compulsory filing up the details of the State Bar Council, the plea said.

It has also sought a direction for issuing proximity cards to advocate members from Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh who wish to avail the benefit of this card issued by the apex court.

The plea said that while hearing another petition in February 2017, the apex court had noted in its order that the BCI, having duly considered the Jammu and Kashmir State Bar Council Rules, has approved the same and it was submitted on behalf of the BCI that the aforesaid rules have since been forwarded for publication in the official gazette.

Despite making this statement, the Bar Council of India...has not made any efforts to establish the Jammu and Kashmir State Bar Council, the plea claimed.

It also referred to the Centre's decision in August 2019 to abrogate provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution which had given special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

## Govt cancels attachment...

Doctors/Paramedics which have been made by all the Head of the Departments including Chief Medical Officers, ADMOS and Block Medical Officers or any other officer at their own level from time to time are hereby cancelled with immediate effect and they shall report back to their original place of postings," reads the circular.

"The concerned Head of the Departments are directed to submit compliance report in this regard latest by 1st August, 2022, without any fail. Besides, all the concerned DDOS are also directed not to draw the salary of any doctors/paramedics attached in their jurisdiction, henceforth."

## CJ administers oath...

Mohammad Akram Chowdhary and Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi while as Justice Tashi Rabstan, Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul, Justice Puneet Gupta, Justice Mohan Lal, Justice Rahul Bharti and Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal participated in ceremony through video conferencing from Jammu.

The proceedings of the oath taking ceremony were conducted by Sanjeev Gupta, Registrar General of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, who read the contents of the notification received from Government of India, Ministry of Law & Justice, Department of Justice (Appointments Division), the Warrant of

Appointment issued by the President of India and the Letter of Authorization issued by the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, authorising Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, to administer the oath of office to the newly appointed Judge.

The ceremony was also attended by the former Judges of High Court, Advocate General, Additional Secretary Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Assistant Solicitor General of India, Srinagar, Chairman/Convenor Bar Association, Srinagar, Principal District Judge and Chief Judicial Magistrate Srinagar, Judicial Officers, Officers and Staff of the Registry.

The programme was also telecasted live on Youtube Channel.

With the elevation of Justice Rajesh Sekhri as Additional Judge of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, the strength of Judges of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh has risen to 16 Judges including the Chief Justice against the sanctioned strength of 17.

## Story of VIPs...

that too for faking ailments? There is a need for reforms, which are unlikely to come from the governments. The judiciary must rein in and look into this aspect. Those seeking recourse to hospitals to avert jail stays should, in fact, be referred to the local hospitals, which lack the facilities of good toilets, adequate hygiene and sanitation so that they have a bitter taste of what they have left for the common Indians while enjoying lobes of power. The referral should be the discretion of the concerned medical superintendent or medical officer on the basis of the health issues the VIP prisoner is suffering. This actually happened just two days back when AIIMS Bhubaneswar carried out the check up of Mamata Banerjee's high profile minister Partha on the directions of the Calcutta High Court and discharged him after observing that though he was suffering from several chronic illnesses, hospitalization is not required at this moment. The Investigating Officer (IO) of the Enforcement Directorate was handed over the reports for submission to the HC. This speaks of the growing trend of VIP prisoners taking the hospital route for enjoying privileges and comforts emulating the trend, his aide Arpita Mukherji, currently under custody, too has followed the suit and complained that she has fallen ill.

The VIP prisoners, from all hues, consider hospitalization as their entitlement. Even those involved in anti-national activities or waging war against the nation get best possible treatments in premier hospitals. From the former Home Minister P Chidambaram to former Bihar Chief Minister Lalu Prasad, almost all the politicians have been beneficiaries of best treatment with all expenses borne by the government. From Mumbai terror attack convict Ajmal Kasaab to Syed Ali Shah Geelani, Yasin Malik and Shabir Shah etc, the doors of the best hospitals of the country remained always open. No advance appointment, no waiting and no expenses. All free.

The VIPs, fabricating illness, avail of priority entry and medicare into premier hospitals like AIIMS, Fortis, Medanta, PGI where ordinary patients dream to get even OPD consultations for months together. Some patients die in their long wait for specialized treatment. The successive governments have been so liberal in this country that when Syed Ali Geelani was refused entry by the US for being the protagonist of violence as means for achieving political objectives, the Indian government, which was at the receiving end of his tantrums, felt 'only obliged' if he was pleased to accept undergoing treatment in a premier Mumbai hospital. And, the late Geelani obliged them.

This is how the criminal ecosystem is working in the country. The VIPs and celebrities will continue to have the best of both worlds unless a drastic course correction is undertaken. Who will do it?

## Sadhotra visits waterlogged areas of Jammu North, seeks protection bunds on vulnerable Nallahs



Senior NC leader Ajay Kumar Sadhotra talking to people during his visit to Shiv Vihar, Lower Muthi.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former minister and Senior National Conference leader Ajay Kumar Sadhotra on Friday visited the rain hit and waterlogged areas of the Jammu North Assembly Constituency and took stock of the situation caused due to heavy downpour for the past few days.

"The obtaining situation betrays the tall government claims of Jammu emerging as a smart City, as the mini-

mum basics of the civic and other works showing pathetic neglect", Sadhotra said during his extensive visit of the hugely inundated colony Shiv Vihar Lower Muthi.

He expressed his serious concern over the damage of Houses and urged the government to issue free ration to the victims of heavy rains and losses to their belongings be assessed and adequate relief be given.

He said the government apathy, lack of vision and

lackadaisical attitude of the line departments have made the lives of the inhabitants miserable.

The vulnerability of the situation is discernible from the fact that the water does not only seep into the houses but the pedestrian movement also gets jeopardized due to gushing waters, he said.

Sadhotra sought immediate assessment of the areas prone to flash floods, as the monsoon has just begun and the coming days could be very crucial.

He urged the government to ensure regulated supply of these basic services and make advance flood mitigating arrangements across the Jammu region.

Sadhotra was accompanied by Raj Roop Singh Ex Sarpanch, Randhir Singh Chib, Ravi Sharma, Shalu Sharma and Sahil Singh during his visit to various locality in the Jammu North Assembly Constituency.

## Narotam inaugurates development works in old city



Councilor Narotam Sharma starting developmental works.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Councilor Ward-3, Old City Jammu, Narotam Sharma started slab work of historic Ram temple in Peer Kho area on Friday. The condition of temple was quite dilapidated and water used to enter the temple during rains. Moreover, it was a long pending demand of locals to put concrete slab over the temple. Fulfilling the long pending demand, Narotam started construction work which will be carried out from Ward Development Fund. The res-

idents of nearby areas have appreciated the efforts of Councilor and Jammu Municipal Corporation for fulfilling their long pending demand.

Present on the occasion included Mahant Pir Kho Rajinder Nath, Mahant Rajesh Bittu, Mahant Karan Nath, BJP Jammu East Mandal President Parveen Kermi, Saroj Gupta, Ramesh Sudan, Sanjay Sharma, Ram Lubhaya, Rajinder Sharma, Akhil Gupta, Lucky Mehra and Chetan Sharma.

## Educational infrastructure, entrepreneurship opportunities in agriculture sector key to holistic development: VC SKUAST-J

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) Jammu has been sanctioned nine projects of different disciplines of Agriculture and allied sciences under prestigious "Himalayan Bio-resource Mission" funded by Dept. of Biotechnology and Science and Heritage Research Initiative (SHRI) funded by Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology, GOI.

Prof. (Dr) J.P Sharma, Vice-Chancellor SKUAST-Jammu, in his remarks, congratulated the team of university scientists and staff for bagging these projects worth Rs 8 crore. Prof. Sharma said that bagging such projects will make the presence of SKUAST-Jammu felt at National and Global levels.

He assured to formally kick start proposed activities under the projects very



soon which will bring massive reforms for farming communities.

The aim of these projects is to enhance knowledge, skills, entrepreneurship development, nature-based solutions and income generating enterprises establishment without harming the environment and conserving the valuable bio-resources of Himalayan belt, he said.

Under these project, he said, the university aims to bring up the facilities for Golden Masheer breeding, ornamental fish breeding,

upscaling the use potential of native agriculturally beneficial microbes through demonstrations and capacity building in Himalayas, exploration of underutilized crops for sustainable livelihood, nutritional security and climate resilience of north western Himalayan region, socio-economic upliftment of poor farmers through animal husbandry using scientific interventions in Jammu province and technological interventions and capacity building to promote entrepreneurship and enhance income in agricultural sector in outer Himalayas of Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir.

The project grant shall be utilized to create state of art educational infrastructure, teaching and learning ambience as well as undertaking a massive reform in education, recruitment and governance and to promote the faculty and student diversity.

## Joint Director reviews working of CBC J&K, field offices



JD CBC Ghulam Abbas chairing a meeting.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Joint Director, Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), J&K & Ladakh Region, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Ghulam Abbas on Friday reviewed working and functioning of CBC Regional Office and its Field Offices across J&K & Ladakh Region in a meeting held at Regional Office CBC, here.

During the meeting, Joint Director discussed administrative and financial matters with the officials and officers of CBC Regional Office and its Field Offices and stressed that the Field Offices must vigorously organize series of programmes under various themes like Azadi ka Amrit Mohatsav (AKAM), 200 Core Vaccination, Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat and programmes on various welfare schemes of Government of India.

Joint Director was apprised of various issues faced by the field units while conducting

various programmes on different themes across J&K and Ladakh Region.

The meeting was attended by FPO Udhampur, Khurshed Yousuf, Administrative Officer, Ram Kishen, Accounts Officer, Ashok Kumar and other officials of Regional Office Jammu and its Field Offices.

## Army educates students about Agnipath scheme

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NOWSHERA: A motivational lecture was organised by army at Govt Degree College, Nowshera for the students to briefly explain about the Agnipath Scheme, launched by the Central Govt to join in the Armed Forces. The talk commenced by an Army officer illustrating the various features of the scheme.

The officer further emphasized upon the role of the Armed Forces followed by their glorious history and rich traditions. The participants were also given com-



Army officials along with students & faculty of GDC Nowshera.

parative details of various career prospective available after class 12th and graduation along with the advantages of joining the 'Armed Forces' through Agnipath Scheme. A strength of 72 students attended the lec-

ture. The event was aimed to clarify about the scheme and avoid any myths regarding the selection process. The talk was followed by an interactive session in which the participants enquired about the Agnipath Scheme.



Jawans donating blood during the camp.

the victims, Jawans of 33 bt CRPF made their way to Special Blood donation vain of NHM Jammu, where they volunteered to donate blood to the GMC Doda and SDH Bhadarwah hospital's blood banks in order to facilitate bet-

ter treatment for the victim in case of emergency.

Assistant Commandant 33 Bn CRPF Pankaj Kumar said that this programme of CRPF will certainly help in developing better police public interface.

## NHAI launches plantation drive on NH-44

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) planted number of plants at Malhrad NHW-44, in the premises of GMS Ritti, KV school Chenani and Batote on Friday. During drive, NHAI also felicitated the workers engaged in construction of Shama Prashad Tunnel at Chenani-Nashri. The drive was started under the supervision of project Director (PIU) NHAI Anuj Kumar Singh NHAI in which NHAI team planted more than 200 trees of different variety planted near Malhrad on NH-44 (Jammu Udhampur section). Project Manager SP Jammu-Udhampur Highway Ltd. along with site Engineer



NHAI officials during the plantation drive at Udhampur.

of PIU Udhampur said NHAI is committed to build a nation, not Just roads and always remain at front line to serve

in every odd situation and challenges to setup best road network throughout country.