

Plantation drive carried out at IIM Jammu as part of "Green IIM Jammu" Initiative

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: IIM Jammu as part of its, "Green IIM Jammu" initiative organized a massive plantation drive on Saturday inside the state-of-the-art campus aimed at campaigning for green culture and promoting a greener ecosystem along with providing a pollution-free atmosphere to the residents inside the campus. The massive plantation drive of IIM Jammu was conducted in coordination with J&K Forest Department. The drive was graced by BM Sharma, Additional Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu Province, Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, Dr. Muqbil Burhan, Chairperson Srinagar Off Campus, Dr. Ashish Kumar, Chairperson Student Affairs, Shailsh Lohiya, Librarian, IIM Jammu and other faculty, officers, staff members and students of IIM Jammu.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu mentioned that IIM Jammu is committed towards building a green campus. We aim to create a good sense of social responsibility towards Mother Nature and eco-friendliness among our stu-



BM Sharma, Addl Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu Province planting a sapling.

dents, faculty, officers, and staff members through this initiative. Through such initiatives, we would like to set an example to our students and particularly motivate the residents to contribute to the protection of the environment as active stakeholders, for contributing to a sustainable ecosystem. Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu mentioned that

such initiatives are sure to help in creating more awareness about the importance of growing trees to prevent global warming and thereby reducing pollution. The plantation of the trees was successfully carried out as per the planned schedule. Many plant saplings of different types and large size trees were planted during the plantation drive. The plantation saw

active participation from the faculties, officers, staff members and students. Through today's event, the students and residents felt intimately connected with nature in their efforts to build a greener campus. The seeds of social and environmental responsibility sown at IIM Jammu are sure to bear fruit in the near future and go a long way.

Dy Mayor chairs 19th "Housing For All" standing committee meeting

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 19th "Housing For All" standing committee meeting was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria here on Saturday to discuss the scheme's progress and the way forward.

At the meeting, the committee discussed Allotment of Land to genuine beneficiaries without land ownership and payment issues of Housing for All Scheme, the progress of beneficiaries' homes, and the new household beneficiaries who have applied for the scheme.

Billawaria said that we have an initiative aimed at providing land to those individuals who do not possess their own land.

"We have devised a fair and transparent process for allotting 5 Marlas of land to genuine beneficiaries without land ownership," Billawaria said.

He urged Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to bring this scheme on the ground as soon as possible



Deputy Mayor Jammu, B.S. Billawaria chairing Housing For All standing committee meeting.

so that those without a roof can get a roof.

Billawaria said, "It is our firm commitment to ensure that the allotment process is free from any form of favoritism or bias. The initiative is aimed at uplifting the lives of those who are less fortunate and providing them with a solid foundation for their dreams and aspirations."

Dy Mayor also discussed with the Higher Authorities of JMC & other officers

from various departments of Jammu and said that the JMC is committed to provide the best possible services to the citizens of Jammu and the Smart City project is a step forward in that direction.

The total house Approved under Housing for All Scheme is 2290 for which total expenditure is Rs. 1754.80 lakh. He said that the government should look into the matter and take necessary steps to ensure

the release of installments to the beneficiaries as soon as possible.

The committee also discussed the applications for new households and determined that the applications should be processed in a timely and efficient manner.

The meeting was attended by the standing committee members Suriender Sharma, Shardha Kumari and officers of concerned departments.

Hundreds of NC, PDP activists from Nowshera join BJP

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Inspired by the pro-development and pro-poor policies of Narendra Modi government, over one hundred activists of National Conference (NC) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) hailing from Nowshera and Laam Mandals, joined BJP along with their colleagues at BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, here on Saturday.

Jammu and Kashmir BJP President Ravinder Raina and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta accompanied by Nowshera district Prabhari Sanjay Baru, BJP District President Neena Sharma, District General Secretary Sukhdev Singh and



J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina and other leaders welcoming newly joined members.

Mahila Morecha District President Preeti Gupta, welcomed the new entrants into the party fold.

Ravinder Raina said that a wave of change is visible in entire length and breadth of Jammu and Kashmir as more and

more people are saying good bye to their parties and joining BJP in large numbers.

This has become possible as they have realised that the Modi government has done splendid work in the last nine years and there has been massive develop-

ment in all fields, he said adding that the people of all sections have been taken care through various schemes of the Modi government.

He said that instead of mere sloganeering, Narendra Modi government has done real work on ground, which has been highly appreciated by

everyone, irrespective of region, faith or caste.

Prominent among the NC, PDP activists who joined BJP included Captain Tarlok Singh, Captain Balbir Singh, Subedar Satnam Singh, Havaldar Prithpal Singh, Subedar Parveen Singh, Mohd. Shauqat Khatana, Haji Aslam, Ch. Qasim, Mohd. Rafiq, Mohd. Khaliq, Subedar Balbir Singh, Naib Subedar Pinka Kumar, Subedar Jeet Kumar, Rajinder Singh, Saqiq Hussain, Gulam Qadir, Balbir Singh, Satpal Singh, Sunil Kumar, Pawan Kumar, Nazir Hussain, Ashok Choudhary, Naresh Choudhary, Joginder Singh, Subedar Manjit Singh, Manmohan Singh, Shoukat Hussain and others.

DYSS holds 5-day orientation course at Patnitop



DYSS officials with participants of five-day orientation course at Patnitop.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) organised a five-day orientation course for the field staff at Youth Hostel Patnitop in district Udhampur.

The activity took place under the patronage of Director DYSS, Subash Chand Chibber and coordinated by other senior officials of the Department, including Joint Director, Suram Chand and Deputy

Director, Jatinder Mishra. During the orientation course, the participants were equipped with the latest knowledge and skills. The participants were exposed to various training modules, workshops, and interactive sessions conducted by seasoned resource persons.

The penal of resource persons comprised Ravinder Kumar Manhas, Somdev Khajuria, Bikram Singh, Raj Kumar Dogra, Manik Nargotra and

Raman Kumar. At the valedictory function, District (DYSS) officer Udhampur was chief guest. Speaking to the participants, he emphasized the importance of continually upgrading one's knowledge and skills in the ever-evolving landscape of youth services and sports.

Among others present were Sanjeev Kumar, Vikas Sharma, Jatin Sethi, Abdul Qadir, Karun Singh, Magotra and Sanjeev Kumar Khajuria.

SOTTO J&K organizes awareness session on organ donation at CUJ

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (SOTTO) J&K in collaboration with Central University of Jammu (CUJ) organized an awareness session on organ donation and Transplantation in the university boys hostel.

During the programme, students were made aware of myths about organ donation in India, statistics of organ donation, NOTP etc. More than 70

students attended the session and signed the organ donation form. Anshu Sharma, Coordinator from SOTTO along with Dr. Ajay Kumar Singh, Director, Centre for Comparative Religions and Civilizations and Warden, Boy's Hostel, CUJ motivated students to become a registered organ donor. Dr. Ajay expressed his willingness to extend full support for this noble cause and gave his consent.



Anshu Sharma, Coordinator from SOTTO and Dr. Ajay Kumar Singh, Director, CCRC CUJ speaking at a programme.

Kavinder encourages spirit of service above self for a better world

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Kavinder Gupta, Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, on Saturday emphasized the importance of the spirit of service above self in creating a better world for all. He conveyed this message while engaging with the devoted pilgrims of the Amarnath Yatra in Jammu.

The Amarnath pilgrims from Bengal expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Kavinder Gupta for his unwavering support during a medical emergency they faced on their way to the Holy Cave of Amarnath Shrine. They lauded Kavinder Gupta for extending his wholehearted assistance during the crisis and also providing suitable accommodation for their stay in Jammu. Highlighting the timeless wisdom of the world's ancient and greatest civilization, Kavinder Gupta referred to the concept of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam,"



Senior BJP leader, Kavinder Gupta interacting with Shri Amarnathji pilgrims.

meaning "the world is a family." He emphasized that this profound philosophy underlines the responsibility we all share in providing support and care to the pilgrims of Baba Barfani, who journey from different corners of the country to seek spiritual solace at the Holy Cave of Amarnath Shrine. Kavinder Gupta stated that it's our collective duty to strengthen the bonds of camaraderie among fellow beings and engage in community services, particularly in the field of social welfare. He urged the people to adopt the

motto of "serving humanity in whatever way one can," as a guiding principle in their lives. By doing so, individuals can make a significant impact and contribute to a more harmonious and empathetic society. Kavinder called upon people of Jammu and Kashmir to unite and work hand in hand towards creating a world that embodies the ideals of compassion, kindness, and selflessness. By embracing the spirit of service above self, he believes that we can collectively make this world a better place to live in.

JKAP Secretary Madan Lal Chalotra resigns from party

Citing harassment by Provisional President Manjit Singh

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Accusing harassment and interference by the Provisional President, the Secretary of J&K Apni Party (Jammu province) and former State Coordinator OBC, Madan Lal Chalotra resigned from Apni Party on Saturday.

"The primary reason for my resignation is the constant harassment and interference by the Provisional President, Manjit Singh. His actions have greatly hindered the effectiveness of the party leaders, leaving us unable to carry out our responsibilities and serve the public as we envision," Madan Lal Chalotra wrote in resignation letter



addressed to President Jammu & Kashmir Apni Party, Altaf Bukhari.

"Furthermore, it is evident that his incompetence is damaging the party's reputation, which becomes increasingly evident with each passing day. The frustration among other party leaders

regarding his behaviour further accentuates the dire need for change," he said.

He further said that the J&K Apni Party was established on principles intended to govern actions.

"Unfortunately, it seems these principles have been disregarded, and the leaders are working in contradiction to them. I have, on numerous occasions, expressed my concerns about this discrepancy to the party leadership, but my pleas have gone unheard," he added.

He added that he cannot endorse or support an organization that fails to uphold its own principles and works against the very people it was established to serve.

IWC New Gen Jammu conducts medical checkup in slum area



IWC New Gen Jammu members and doctor during medical checkup in slum area.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Innerwheel Club (IWC) New Gen Jammu conducted medical checkup in slum areas of Jammu with the help of Dr Tanu of Gandhi Nagar Jammu. The medical checkup includes blood pressure check up, general check under the banner "Strong Woman Stronger the

World". Free Medicines were distributed to needy. Besides medicines, members also distributed fruit and biscuits amongst children and women.

President Ambika Samnotra, Secretary Manpreet Kaur and Editor Ritu Sharma were present on the occasion.

DB refuses contempt action against Chairman SSB citing UT Admin's decision withdrawing posts after Reorganisation

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Chief Justice N Kotishwar Singh and Justice Javed Iqbal Wani refused to initiate contempt action against the Chairman of J&K Service Selection Board for non-compliance of its 2013 direction for undertaking the fresh selection process to the posts of Assistant Information Officer Grade-II for which the advertisement was issued in 2006.

DB noted that the direction could not be complied with in view of UT Administration's policy decision to withdraw all posts referred to the JKPS/JKSSB prior to October 31, 2019 for which the selections were not finalized or posts in which

there were pending litigations. Thus it observed that the SSB was not in a position to make any appointments pursuant to the selection process.

The petitioners contended that the administrative decision could not nullify the court's order and accused the SSB of wilfully disobeying the court's directions. However, the Court observed, "If the said administrative decision was taken specifically to nullify the effect of a judicial order in a particular case, certainly it will amount to violation of the court order. However, in the present case, what is worth considering is that the administrative decision taken on 29.01.2022 was not with regard to a particular case or with specific reference to the order

dated 10.05.2013 but was of a general nature which was applicable to all those cases where the selection had not been finalized till taking of the policy decision and in respect of those posts which were referred to JKPS/JKSSB prior to 31.10.2019 and where there was litigation and cases were pending in the Court(s). Thus, the said policy decision taken by the Administration does not appear to be attributed only to the case of the petitioners but is of general nature where selection processes could not be finalized."

DB also noted that SSB had constituted a Committee in 2019 for initiating the selection process afresh in terms of the direction of the Division Bench and

accordingly, written test and interviews were also held. Meanwhile, a policy decision to withdraw the posts was taken and appointments could not be made. Court said since no direction was issued by the Division Bench to issue appointment orders on the basis of the selection made by the concerned selection authority, it cannot be said that non-appointment of candidates would amount to contempt.

DB further observed that "Selection and appointment are two different and distinct parts of a recruitment process which do not necessarily have to go together. If we keep in mind the aforesaid difference in two processes of recruitment i.e., selection process and subsequent actual appointment

process in terms of the recommendations made on completion of the selection process, we will be able to understand properly as to whether contempt has been committed by the respondent in the present case or not." Expounding further on service jurisprudence, the bench explained that merely because a person has been recommended for appointment by virtue of being included in the select list he does not have a vested right to get appointed. The appointing authority for germane and valid reasons can opt not to appoint any person even if the said person has been recommended for appointment, it underscored.

With these observations, DB absolved the SSB of contempt charges and closed the matter.