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Bill for nomination...

and (10) of section 14 of the Act which are of consequential in view of completion of delimitation process in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir," according to the statement of objects and reasons.

The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 (34 of 2019) was enacted with for the reorganisation of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir; which was bifurcated into Union territories of Jammu and Kashmir; and Ladakh.

The statement of objects and reasons noted that at the time of the militancy in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir in the late 1980s, particularly in Kashmir in 1989-90, a large number of people migrated from their ancestral places of residence in Kashmir province, particularly the Kashmiri Hindus and Pandits along with a few families belonging to Sikh and Muslim communities.

Initially, all the migrants were moved to Jammu. Later on, some migrants chose to go to other parts of the country, namely Delhi, Bengaluru and Pune. As per the data available with the government of Jammu and Kashmir; there are currently 46,517 families having 1,58,976 people registered with the Relief Organisation of the government of Jammu and Kashmir; who have got registered over a period of last three decades.

In the wake of the 1947 Pakistani aggression in Jammu and Kashmir; 31,779 families migrated from Pakistan occupied areas of Jammu and Kashmir to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Of these, 26,319 families settled in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir and the remaining 5,460 moved out of Jammu and Kashmir to other parts of the country.

Further, during the Indo-Pak wars of 1965 and 1971, 10,065 more families were displaced from Chhamb Niabat area. Of these, 3,500 families were displaced during the 1965 war and 6,565 families during the 1971 war:

As such, a total of 41,844 families were displaced during 1947-48, 1965 and 1971 Indo-Pak wars, according to the statement of objects and reasons.

The delimitation commission, while undertaking the delimitation process of assembly and parliamentary constituencies in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir; received many representations from the Kashmiri migrants as well as from the displaced persons from Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir regarding reservation of seats in the legislative assembly of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir to preserve their political rights and identity; they said.

The delimitation commission, after considering the matter in depth, recommended for representation of communities of Kashmiri migrants and displaced persons from Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir in the legislative assembly of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir by way of nomination, noted the statement of objects and reasons.

As per sub-section (4) of section 14 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, 24 seats in the legislative assembly of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir have been reserved for the people residing in the area of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir under illegal occupation of Pakistan.

The said seats shall remain vacant until the area under the occupation of Pakistan

ceases to be occupied and the people residing in that area elect their representatives.

On completion of delimitation process, the delimitation commission had published orders with regard to the delimitation of the assembly and parliamentary constituencies of Jammu and Kashmir. As per these orders, the number of seats in the legislative assembly of Jammu and Kashmir has been increased from 107 to 114 with reservation of nine seats for Scheduled Tribes for the first time.

Reacting to the bill, CPI-M leader M Y Tarigami said the proposed bill was introduced in Parliament at a time when the Supreme court has begun hearing a clutch of petitions filed challenging the J & K Reorganisation Act , 2019 itself.

The central government should have waited for the Apex court's final verdict before proposing an amendment bill. Additionally, the power to nominate the members to the Assembly should rest with the elected government. The government needs to strengthen the displaced communities on the ground, he said.

Govt brings bill...

Territory, according to the statement of objects and reasons of the bill.

The bill was introduced in the House by Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai, on behalf of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

According to the statement of objects and reasons of the bill, Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Act, 2004 (Jammu and Kashmir Act XIV of 2004) was enacted to provide for reservation in appointment and admission in professional institutions for the members of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and other socially and educationally backward classes. In terms of sub-section (2) of section 95 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 (34 of 2019), the reservation in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir continues to be governed by the reservation act.

Currently, the legislature of the Jammu and Kashmir is not in place. By a proclamation of the President under section 73 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, dated October 31, 2019, the powers of the legislature of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are exercisable by or under the authority of Parliament.

"It is proposed to amend section 2 of the reservation act by the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2023 so as to change the nomenclature of 'weak and under privileged classes (social castes)' occurring in sub-clause (iii) of clause (o), to 'other backward classes' and to make consequential amendment in clause (q), of section 2 of the said act," it said. The proposed amendments have been initiated on the recommendations of the Jammu and Kashmir Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission (SEBCC), so as to remove the confusion among the general public as well as the competent authorities issuing certificates to eligible persons due to difference in such nomenclature, noted the statement of objects and reasons.

Centre introduces bills...

(Amendment) Bill 2023. The Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Castes Order Bill 2023 seeks to include the Valmiki community as a synonym of Chura, Bhangi, Balmiki, and Mehtar in the list of Scheduled Castes of Jammu and Kashmir:

While the Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill 2023 aims to revise the list of Scheduled Tribes of Jammu and Kashmir:

CS launches several ...

During the launch of these competitions, the Chief Secretary also unveiled the rechristened logo of DIPR which represents the vision and values of the department in the contemporary times of emerging technologies and other relevant advancements.

Commissioner Secretary, Information, Prema Puri; Director Information, Minga Sherpa; Joint Directors, Deputy Directors of DIPR and other officers of the Department were present on the occasion.

Addressing the officers after the launch ceremony, Dr. Mehta commended the DIPR for launching these contests aimed at celebrating the spirit of freedom and fostering a sense of patriotism and unity among citizens. "These contests are an excellent way to engage all citizens in the jubilation of our country's phenomenal progress and remember the sacrifices made by our forefathers", he said.

The Chief Secretary asked the officers to include 'selfie with 'Mitti' of village with earthen 'Diya' in hand' as well as 'Mitti Yatras' from Panchayats into these contests which form the core themes of 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign. He also directed them that the Shilaphalakam' erection events at each Panchayat, honouring sacrifices and contribution of Veers should also be widely publicised and popularised by the department in order to create the nationalistic fervour among the citizens of the UT.

Highlighting that the theme 'Badalta Jammu Kashmir' conceived by DIPR is very appropriate and timely, he asked people to enthusiastically participate in the Photography and Videography contests under these themes which reflect the essence of new perspective in Jammu and Kashmir. He asked the officers that the participants of these contests should be asked to capture through photographs and videos the stand out transformations witnessed in development as well as other social sectors happening across J&K from last couple of years. During the launch ceremony, Commissioner Secretary Information, Prema Puri informed the Chief Secretary about the basic objectives of hosting these contests. She highlighted that the contests are aimed at bringing a sense of sense of patriotism and pride in motherland among the participants besides a sense of belongingness to great cultural values that the nation cherishes for long.

She said that all these events are aimed at giving a good opportunity to all the citizens of the UT to use their creativity in expressing their love for the nation. She encouraged all residents of J&K to participate in these contests with great enthusiasm and be part of the history as the nation celebrates 75 years of its Independence.

Ready to cross...

the Kargil War Memorial here on the occasion of the 24th Kargil Vijay Diwas. Earlier, he laid a wreath at the memorial to pay tributes to the soldiers who sacrificed their lives during the 1999 Kargil War: "No compromise will be made in protecting the sovereignty, unity and integrity of the country. We have given a free hand to the armed forces to eliminate the nation's enemies. 'India is a peace-loving nation which believes in its centuries-old values and is committed towards international laws, but to safeguard our interests, we will not hesitate in crossing the LoC," he said. "We can go to any extreme to maintain the honour and dignity of the country...if that includes crossing the LoC, we are ready to do that...if we are provoked and if the need arises, we will cross the LoC," Singh added.

NEP 2020 aims at addressing growing developmental imperatives of India: Prof. Sahay

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Jammu, Professor B.S. Sahay on Wednesday said, National Education Policy 2020 aims at addressing many growing developmental imperatives of India and is emphasising on creating a holistic learning environment. Professor Sahay said this while addressing media on 'Strategic Action Plan for Implementing NEP 2020' at IIM old campus, Jammu.

The event was also attended by Director Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Jammu, Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur, Assistant Commissioner KV Jammu, Anil Kumar, Joint Director PIB & CBC J&K, Ladakh, Gh. Abbas, Assistant Director DD, Vivek Pathak and Media & Communications Officer, PIB Jammu, Sheikh Mudasir Amin.

Prof. Sahay said, under NEP 2020, students are given increased flexibility and choice of subjects to study, creating a holistic and well-rounded individuals



Director IIM Jammu, Professor B.S. Sahay briefing media.

equipped with the 21st century skills. NEP 2020 will create a new system aligned with the aspirational goals of 21st century education and is laying a particular emphasis on the development of the creative potential of each individual, Prof. Sahay added. Prof. Sahay further said, Jammu is the only region in India having three prestigious institutions located here which have been able the start inter-institutional connect in different fields with the inception of NEP 2020 like the Dual Degree Program (B.Tech. and MBA) with IIT Jammu, MBA in Healthcare and Health Administration with AIIMS Jammu and IIT Jammu and

Executive MBA in Corporate Affairs and Management with Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, Gurugram.

Manoj Singh Gaur, Director Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu while interacting with media said, NEP 2020 is a path breaking & a comprehensive document making education holistic, affordable, accessible and equitable for all. With the inception of NEP 2020 and the flexibilities provided by it, any B.Tech student who has completed his 6 semesters, can join IIT Jammu for final two semesters after meeting the requisite qualification criteria. This will take place through NCrP's [National

Credit Framework] Academic Bank Criteria of Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) which is a digital or virtual or online store-house of academic credit data base of Higher Education Institution promoting Learner-Centric Education via Seamless Mobility of Learners, Prof. Gaur added.

Prof. Gaur further said, the Centre for Essential Skills (CES) at IIT Jammu keep on training people from outside IIT Jammu with essential skills like Finance, Technology, Soft-skills, and Language and Life skills and so far, CES has benefited 1000+ individuals from and across the region.

Prof. Gaur informed, the latest development is the establishment of Sharad Saraf Centre for Ayurved and Indie Studies that is in line with the NEP 2020's vision for promoting Indian Knowledge System via Teaching, Training, Research, Collaboration, and Awareness Programs. This will also help in generation of a repository of the Indian Knowledge System as well, he added.

FANS celebrates 24th Kargil Vijay Diwas Mansarovar to come under India jurisdiction in near future: RSS leader Indresh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On occasion of 24th Vijay Diwas' i.e. Victory in Kargil War 1999, a function was organized by National Level NGO Forum for Awareness of National Security (FANS) at Jammu Club, here on Wednesday.

The chief guest for the day was Indresh Kumar, National Executive Member RSS and Margdarshak FANS.

The function was presided by Dr Gautam Mengi, Prant Sanghchalak RSS Jammu, Kashmir, Ladakh. Lt Gen R P Singh (retd) and Kavinder Gupta Ex Dy CM were the Guests of Honour.

The function was attended by a large number of citizens, students, serving and retd Armed Forces officers, NCC cadets and intellectuals of Jammu Province.

Key figures were being Dadhichi, Dr Sudarshan Ex Dir DRDO and Manu Khajuria, Convener 'Voice of Dogras' in London.

Prem Sadhotra, Gen Secy FANS highlighted the importance of this day especially for the youth.



Indresh Kumar, National Executive Member RSS and Margdarshak FANS honouring family members of Kargil martyrs.

After lighting the Jyoti to pay obeisance to Ma Bharati, he invited Maj Gen S.K. Sharma (retd), President FANS to welcome all guests formally.

This was followed by a fiery presentation on Kargil War by Brigadier Dr Vijay Sagar Dhemam (retd) Vice President FANS. He highlighted the valour of our Armed Forces to evict Pakistani Army from Kargil Heights. He also paid rich tributes to the martyrs and highlighted the enhanced contribution from Jammu region.

There were 14 families of the martyrs present at the function who were felicitated

by the civil society of Jammu.

In his appealing, impressive and appetizing words, Indresh referred to Pakistan having a date of birth and quoted national law that the one having born has to die one day or the other.

He made mention of India that has no date of birth, instead has a history if its thousands and thousands of years existence so no threat to its life.

Indresh also appealed audience to resolve in the name of God that they will definitely see their nation as Akhand Bharat before breathing their last. He further appealed people to be hopeful for Mansarovar to come under

the jurisdiction of India in near future.

He said that like abrogation of Article 370 and the construction of Shree Ram Temple in Ayudhiya, Mansarovar will also be a dream come true for India and that too is India's firm resolution. Dr K.L. Bhatia (Patron) FANS gave his appreciation of Martyrs and presented the vote of thanks.

Prominent who were present in the program were Parshotam Dadhichi, U.K. Jalali, Ashwani Sharma Ex MLA, Dr. C.M. Seth, Dr. Sudershan Kumar, Vikram Randhawa ex-MLC, Gharu Ram Bhagat Ex-MLC, Lalit Aggarwal, V.S. Sambyal, Dinesh Gupta, Manu Khajuria, Satya Pal Gupta, Ranveer Singh, Anil Saumitra and Opinder Sharma.

GDC Doongi Commemorates Kargil Vijay Diwas

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: SG Govt. Degree College Doongi honoring indian soldiers' sacrifices paid heartfelt homage to the brave soldiers of India on Kargil Vijay Diwas 2023. The program, jointly coordinated by Prof. Zaheer Abass, NSS Programme Officer, Prof. Naresh Kumar, Convener of Shikshit Bharat, and Samina Khan, Nodal Officer of Red Ribbon Club, aimed to honor the sacrifices made by Indian soldiers during the Kargil War.

The college organized various activities to remember and respect the valor displayed by the armed forces. One of the highlights of the event was the Speech Making Competition, where students passionately expressed their thoughts on the significance of Kargil Vijay Diwas and the courage of our soldiers. Mohd Asif of B.A. Semester Third secured the first position, followed by Adhitya Tara of B.A. semester 3rd in second place, and Khushal Kumar of B.A. semester 5th in third place.

The whole event was organised under the guidance of the principal of the college, Prof. (Dr.) Jaipal Singh who emphasized on the significance of Kargil Vijay Diwas in shaping the nation's history. Prof. Zaheer Abass, NSS Programme Officer, expressed his gratitude to all the participants and volunteers for their whole-hearted support in making the event a resounding success.

PDD daily wagers extend strike in Jammu for 48 hours

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The strike by daily wagers of the Power Development Department (PDD) entered the third day on Wednesday in the winter capital city in support of their demand for the regularization of more than 12,000 daily wagers currently employed by the department.

The Association representing these workers has decided to extend the strike for an additional 48 hours, following the conclusion of the initial three-day protest this evening. The move comes as a

means to intensify the pressure on authorities to address their demands.

Led by the Association's president, Akhil Sharma, the daily wagers gathered at Panama Chowk and fervently shouted slogans in support of their cause.

Sharma emphasized that until their demands are accepted by the authorities, no daily wager will resume work.

Sharma said that if the government issues a favourable order for the immediate regularization of all 12,000 daily wagers before the current strike ends, the Union will not pursue any further agitation.

However, if such an order is not forthcoming in time, the Union will be compelled to continue with the strike indefinitely, he said.

It was pointed out that in 2021, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha had assured the regularization of all pending daily wagers, totaling 12,000 individuals, with 5,000 from Jammu Province and 7,000 from Kashmir Province.

Despite the passage of one and a half years, the regularization process has not been completed as promised by the government, lamented Sharma.

CRIME REPORT

Burglary case solved, stolen gold ornaments recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Police team from Manjakote police station of Rajouri district has solved case of burglary with accused involved in the act has been arrested and stolen gold ornaments have been recovered from his possession.

Police said that a man from Kalali village of Manjakote lodged a written complaint before police that some unidentified person has stolen gold ornaments from his home last night.

Accordingly a case in FIR 61/2023 U/Ss 457, 380 IPC was registered in Police Station Manjakote and investigation was started by a police team headed by SHO Abrar Khan.

During investigation one suspect namely Mohd Kafeel son of Gul Hussain resident of Kalali Manjakote was rounded up who during interrogation confessed the commission of crime.

Two theft cases solved, 3 arrested, stolen items recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Wednesday solved two different theft cases solved by arresting three accused and recovered stolen items from their possession.

As per details, a written complaint was lodged at Police Station Gandhi Nagar from one person namely Sunil Sharma, son of Bihari Lal, resident of Rampura, Gandhi Nagar stating that someone stole his auto rikshaw (JK02BN-5919) which was parked outside his residence at Rampura. On this case FIR No 182/2023 under section 379 IPC and investigation started. After this, a team of Police Station Gandhi Nagar led by SDPO South Sachit Sharma assisted by SHO Gandhi Nagar Inspr Pankaj Sharma and PSI Basharat Hussain with the help of CCTV footages of the area rounded up the suspected person namely Vikas Kumar, son of Satpaul, resident of Rampura Gandhi Nagar. During questioning accused confessed his involvement in the above case and on his disclosure stolen rikshaw was recovered from his possession.

Similarly another complaint was lodged at Police Station Gandhi Nagar by one Nitu Kumari stating that a theft occurred in her house. On this a case FIR No 173/2023 under section 457/380 IPC was registered and



investigation started. After this, a team of Police Station Gandhi Nagar led by SHO Gandhi Nagar Pankaj Sharma assisted by PSI Majid did with the help of CCTV footage's of the areas finally rounded up two suspected persons namely Rohit Sharma, son of Om Prakash, resident of Chowki Chora and Arun alias Ali, son of Chaman Lal, resident of Valmiki colony Jammu. During questioning accused confessed their involvement in the above case and on their disclosure two stolen LCDs, Bathroom fittings, Brass utensils, 01 silver anklet were recovered from their possession. The overall arrests and recoveries in both the cases were made under the suspect vision of SP South Shaheen Wahid.

4 notorious thieves arrested, stolen cash & items recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Police on Wednesday worked out three theft cases, arrested four notorious thieves and recovered stolen cash and items in the jurisdiction of Police Station Bari Brahmana, District Samba.

The arrested thieves have been identified as SherLal, son of Darshan Lal, resident of Badhori Bari Brahmana district Samba; Shamsher Kumar, son of Bansil Lal, residnet of Badhori Bari Brahmana district Samba; Rohan Lal, son of Roshan Lal, resident of Teli Basti Bari Brahmana district Samba and Jagpal Singh, son of Surinder Singh, resident of Kujwani district Jammu.

Three theft cases --Smailpur medical shop theft case FIR No. 187/2023 under sections 457/380 IPC, Telli Basti household items theft FIR No. 189/2023 under sections 457/380 IPC and Bari Brahmana Shivalaya construction company's theft case FIR No. 161/2023 under sections 379/427 IPC registered at Police Station Bari Brahmana have been worked out, stolen cash & stolen items have been recovered, further investigation is going on and some more arrests are likely.

The notorious thieves have been arrested by Police team comprising of SHO Police Station Bari Brahmana Sunil Sharma, SI Balbir Singh, PSI Vivek Singh and PSI Nirmal Singh.

Police freezes bank savings of notorious drug peddler, seizes vehicle

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANDIPORA: In a significant move to combat the menace of drug trafficking and to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police have frozen Bank savings and seized a vehicle of a notorious drug peddler in Bandipora.

Police have frozen Bank savings of Rs 3,97,604 & seized one Auto load carrier bearing registration No. JK15B-4455, valued at about Rs 3,18,000, belonging to a notorious drug peddler namely Irshad Ahmad Khan son of Abdul Samad Khan resident of Asham Hajin under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. During investigation, it came to fore that all these assets were illegally acquired through the sale of narcotic drugs.