

Advisor Bhatnagar reviews performance SED

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Friday chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat to review the performance of School Education Department (SED) as well as assess the progress achieved in implementation of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) like Samagra Shiksha, PM-POSHAN, New India Literacy Program and PM-SHRI across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary SED, Alok Kumar; Secretary JKBOSE, Director SED Jammu/Kashmir, Project Director Samagra Shiksha, Special Secretary SED and other senior officers of the department.

During the meeting, Advisor Bhatnagar examined the department's achievements and challenges in improving education outcomes, infrastructure development, teacher training and overall performance of the schools.

He also analysed the department's progress in enhancing student enrollment, improving learning outcomes and promoting inclusive education across J&K.

The Advisor further assessed the department's efforts in implementing inno-



Advisor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar chairing a meeting on Friday.

vative programs and initiatives aimed at improving the quality of education.

Speaking during the meeting, Advisor Bhatnagar called upon the department to focus on strengthening infrastructure with due upgradation in technology and enhance capacity building of teachers so that students receive quality education. He also stressed the need for effective monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track progress and identify areas for improvement.

While reviewing different aspects of SED, the Advisor called upon both the

Directors to increase the retention rate in schools besides required infrastructure should be upgraded as per the consolidation of schools. He urged upon all the stakeholders to maintain close synergy so that desired results are achieved from this plan.

He also called upon both the Directors for placement of sufficient teachers in hard zone areas so that desired Pupil-Teacher ratio is met.

The Advisor further delved upon the officers to prepare a holistic plan for development of particular sports in each school in consultation with

Youth Services and Sports department so that students can be provided an opportunity of excelling in their sport of interest also. He asked them to prepare a sports infrastructure database of each school so that required facilities can be established in these schools.

Analysing the infrastructure status of schools, Advisor Bhatnagar made out that the timely utilisation of funds is paramount for successful completion of projects being executed under various schemes. He called upon the officers to complete all projects within set timelines.

The Advisor, in the meeting, also took stock of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme. He asked the officers to make the child friendly furniture as well as ECCE kits available in all identified schools.

The Advisor also reviewed the functioning of Vidya Samiksha Kendra in the meeting. He called upon the officers to make this Kendra fully functional so that the desired outcomes are met.

During the meeting, Advisor Bhatnagar also discussed Human Resource Management issues of the department. He called upon the officers to hold regular DPCs for the smooth career progression of teachers and lecturers. He also directed the officers to refer vacant posts to recruiting agencies immediately.

Advisor Bhatnagar, during the meeting, reiterated the UT Administration's commitment to transforming the education sector in Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized that education is a key priority area and administration is dedicated to providing quality education to all, especially in rural and far-flung areas. He assured the department of his full support and guidance in achieving their goals.

During the meeting, Project Director Samagra Shiksha gave a detailed presentation on progress and performance of the department.

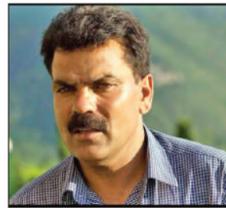
Abdul Qayoom, Meenu Slathia appointed CAC Members of JKCA

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JAMMU: Former cricketers of great repute Abdul Qayoom Bagaw and Meenu Singh Slathia have been appointed as the Cricketer Advisory Committee (CAC) Members with immediate effect by Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA) for 2024-25 season.

While Qayoom has retained his place as the Member of the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) as he held the post last season also, Meenu has replaced another former reputed Cricketer and Coach, Dr Roopali Singh Slathia.

Abdul Qayoom was unquestionably one of the most talented fast bowlers not J&K but also India has ever produced. He was unlucky not to find a place in the Indian squad because the era was reigned by the legendary fast bowlers like Kapil Devs and then Srinaths and Lokes. He has taken 152 wickets with 7/57 as his best in 48 matches, besides having the ability to bat lower-down the order. He had a big number of 5-wicket hauls in an innings and a good number of 10-wicket hauls in the match. Qayoom used to wobble the ball both ways and had mastery in hitting the right areas consistently. He has achieved sobriquet 'Horse' for bowling lot many overs at a stretch in Ranji Trophy more than once despite



being a genuine fast bowler. He has the honour of playing for the Rest of India, Wills Trophy, representing North Zone in Duleep Trophy, Doodhar Trophy and Vizzy Trophy, besides representing MRF Pace Foundation Camp under the legendary Dennis Lillee. He has the distinction of captaining the Jammu Kashmir cricket team for seven years.

Under his captaincy and with his outstanding performance, I helped the J&K Team to qualify for the knock-out stage of Ranji Trophy during the year 2000-2001 for the first time in the history of the J&K Ranji Trophy. In the year 2013-2014 he was appointed Head Coach of the J&K Ranji Trophy team and in the same year our team qualified for the knock-out stage for the 2nd time.

Meenu Singh Slathia was simply an International stuff—an all-rounder to almost perfection. A top and middle-order batter and an off-spinner, Meenu has played for both Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab teams for more than a



decade. Apart from being a successful captain, Meenu has the distinction of being part of the J&K team which had clinched the gold medal in the prestigious All India National School Games at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh. Meenu has played Inter-University twice and has been part of North Zone teams many a time. She has represented J&K around 120 times. 181 runs off 88 balls, studded with 37 boundaries, has been the highlight of her cricketing career. Meenu has been serving as Head Coach and Coach of JKCA women teams for the last three years. A die-hard cricketer, always a hard nut to crack. With her all-round brilliance, Meenu has contributed in a big number of wins for both J&K and Punjab at the national scene. Meenu was a member of the Coaching Staff of JKCA's Senior Women's One-Day Team that created history by qualifying for the knockout stage in BCCI's Senior Women's One-Day Trophy 2021-22 season.

IIM Jammu hosts Dr. Ritu Singh at its Campus



Founding Chairperson of FICCI FLO Jammu Kashmir Ladakh, Dr. Ritu Singh presenting a book to Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu.

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JAMMU: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu had the privilege of hosting Dr. Ritu Singh, Founding Chairperson of FICCI FLO Jammu Kashmir Ladakh, Director of Hari Niwas Hotel and Resorts, Pro Vice Chairperson of DPS Jammu, and a renowned entrepreneur, a dynamic

leader, philosopher, philanthropist, socialist, and social reformer, at its state-of-the-art campus in Jagti on July 12, 2024.

During the visit, Dr. Ritu Singh also presented a book to Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, titled "Examined Life" written by Dr. Karan Singh Maharaj, Indian politician and philosopher and Maharaja

of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, on this momentous occasion.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, warmly welcomed Dr. Ritu Singh to the institute. During her visit, she was given an extensive tour of the campus, including the "Nalanda" Library and various classrooms. Dr. Ritu Singh also engaged with the student fraternity, sharing her insights and experiences.

Dr. Ritu Singh's visit is a testament to IIM Jammu's growing reputation as a premier institution fostering academic excellence and holistic development. Her appreciation for the campus and interaction with the students underscores the institute's dedication to nurturing future leaders.

Orientation Programme continues at Shiksha Niketan School

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JAMMU: Shiksha Niketan Higher Secondary School in Jeevan Nagar on Friday organized a comprehensive Orientation Programme, spanning three days and bringing together participants from various educational wings within the Shiksha Niketan network.

This included Pushp Vatika, Shiksha Niketan Gandhi Nagar, and multiple divisions of Shiksha Niketan Jeevan Nagar, covering Primary, Middle, High, and Higher Secondary sections.

The Orientation Programme was structured into two distinct sessions, each focusing on critical aspects of educational development.

The first session, 'Team Building and Cohesion,' was led by Mumun Kohli, a Senior Coordinator from Jammu Sanskriti School and a Resource Person from Prime



A resource person speaking during orientation programme at SNS Jammu.

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The session emphasized the importance of team cohesion in educational settings, highlighting how effective teamwork enhances collaboration among educators and supports overall organizational goals. The faculty actively engaged in interactive discussions and exercises facilitated by the resource person, aimed at fostering a cohesive and supportive environment with-

importance of humor, energy, and dynamism in creating a positive learning atmosphere, thereby portraying educators as smart and inspiring figures for their students.

The second session, 'To Be Smart Educators with 100 Tips,' commenced with lively activities conducted by the teachers themselves. The focus here was on equipping educators with innovative teaching methodologies, digital tools, and adaptive learning techniques to enhance classroom engagement and promote student success. The resource person stressed the

importance of humor, energy, and dynamism in creating a positive learning atmosphere, thereby portraying educators as smart and inspiring figures for their students.

Throughout the programme, the traditional lamp lighting and Saraswati Vandana ceremony marked the auspicious beginning, attended by dignitaries, guests, and in-charges from various school wings. Divya and Baldeep, from the

middle wing, adeptly anchored the entire event, ensuring its smooth execution and success.

The workshop concluded with the exchange of numerous innovative teaching strategies and ideas among participants. Rameshwer Mengi, the Principal of Shiksha Niketan Higher Secondary School, emphasized the evolving nature of education and the necessity for continuous training and development for both teachers and students alike.

Ramanjeet Kour, Incharge of the Middle Wing, expressed her gratitude to Principal Rameshwer Mengi for organizing such a valuable programme. She extended thanks to all participants and the resource person for their significant contributions, underscoring the collaborative spirit and commitment to excellence that defines Shiksha Niketan's educational ethos.

Director Rajbhasha conducts official language inspection at CUJ



Director Rajbhasha, Ministry of Education GoI, Jagdish Ram Pauri and other dignitaries posing with CUJ faculty.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director Rajbhasha, Ministry of Education GoI, Jagdish Ram Pauri, on Wednesday conducted an official language inspection at the Central University of Jammu (CUJ).

The inspection team included three other officials from the Ministry of Education. During the inspection, Pauri assessed the compliance with the implementation of the Official Language Hindi in administrative functions. The CUJ was represented by the Registrar, Prof. Yashwant Singh. During the inspection, Dr. Priyanjan, Assistant Director (O.L.), presented a PowerPoint presentation detailing the work carried

out in Hindi at CUJ. He also reported that over the past three years, the percentage of work conducted in Hindi at the university has increased from 20% to 80%.

This progress is attributed to the Vice-Chancellor of the university, Prof. Sanjeev Jain, under whose competent guidance this advancement has been achieved.

Dr. Priyanjan said under his leadership, all clerical staff, translators, and typists at the university have been trained in Hindi and are now capable of performing their tasks in Hindi, which is evident in the results.

Pauri praised the compliance with the Official language

Hindi policy at Central University of Jammu and emphasized further enhancing the goal of working in Hindi.

During the inspection, all administrative officers and staff of the university were present, including HoD English, Prof. Vandana Sharma, and HoD Hindi Prof. Bharat Bhushan Sharma and discussed solutions to their issues.

After the inspection, Jagdish Ram Pauri organized a workshop for the university staff on "Inspiration, Motivation, Goodwill, and Award through Language Implementation".

In the workshop, the Director provided a formula for encouraging the use and advancement

of the Hindi language in government work through 12 P's: Inspiration, Motivation, Love, Award, Training, Usage, Promotion, Spread, Management, Promotion, Commitment, and Effort.

The workshop proved to be very beneficial for all employees and officers. The formal vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Bharat Bhushan Sharma, Head of the Hindi Department.

Basic counselling skills workshop conducted for KCPS teachers

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: KC Public School (KCPS), known for its commitment to holistic development of children, had organised a workshop on basic counselling skills for its teachers last year.

This year too, it was organised in the similar manner for another batch of teachers. The training programme concentrated on imparting skills related to relaxation techniques, and how to deal with the issues faced by the adolescents. Salony Priya, Director of Umeed Counselling and Consulting Services, Kolkata, with more than 25 years of experience in the field conducted the workshop from July 9 to 11.

The objective of the training session was to equip the teachers with essential counselling



Salony Priya, Director of Umeed Counselling and Consulting Services, Kolkata interacting with teachers.

skills and enabling them to provide guidance and support to students effectively. KCPS believes in evolving a safe and nurturing environment for its students where their emotional well-being takes precedence over their academic efficacy.

The session focused on adolescent behavioural aspects and importance and techniques of listening. It also emphasized

the importance of positive psychological approach in counselling an adolescent. By equipping teachers with the skills to handle issues faced by adolescents, KCPS ensures that its students have a safe and supportive learning environment.

The training programme also highlighted the significance of fostering positive relations among students through real

life case studies that can contribute significantly to their emotional well-being.

Chairman Raju Chowdhary, Vice Chairman Arjun Chowdhary, MD Arti Chowdhary, Director Tanvi Chowdhary and Principal A K Mishra expressed their gratitude to Salony Priya and her team for conducting the workshop.

Pr Secy APD reviews progress on HADP, Capex, CSS projects

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department (APD), Shaliendra Kumar, on Friday chaired a meeting to assess progress achieved under various ongoing development projects of APD.

The meeting focused on evaluating the physical and financial milestones attained under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Capex and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) besides assessing Detail

Project Reports (DPRs) of JKCIIP for the financial year 2024-25.

Director Animal Husbandry Jammu, Manager Frozen Semen Bank Jammu, Chief Animal Husbandry Officers and other concerned officers attended the meeting.

Addressing the officers, the Principal Secretary emphasized the importance of these projects in fostering growth of dairy and poultry sector for enhancing the rural livelihoods across the region. He impressed upon the officers to

commit themselves towards achieving the set targets within stipulated timelines, ensuring optimal utilization of allocated resources. He asked them to expedite ongoing works on these prestigious projects so that benefits are provided to the farming community.

During the meeting, the officers presented detailed updates on implementation status, challenges encountered and strategies to expedite pending activities under these schemes.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Sub Junior Men's National Hockey Team from Jammu was ceremoniously flagged off to participate in the 2nd Hockey India Sub Junior North Zone National Championship, set to take place in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, from July 15 to 22, 2024.

Prior to their departure, Hockey J&K generously distributed hockey sticks, safety equipment, and uniforms to the players, demonstrating their steadfast support for the team's preparation and success.

The flag-off ceremony was a moment of pride, attended by members of



J&K Sub Junior hockey team posing with dignitaries during flagging off ceremony.

Hockey J&K, who joined in encouraging the young athletes.

The team comprises talented individuals such as Divjot Singh, Varunpreet Singh, Tanishdeep Singh, Prabvir Singh Bali, Gurpreet Singh, Parbal

Sharma, Hussain Khan, Ramanjot Singh, Harmandeep Singh, Adhiraj Singh Andotra, Harshdev Singh, Amandeep Singh, Prabhjot Singh, Jaspreet Singh (Two players with the same name), Bhavneet Singh,

Gunpreet Singh and Zakir Ahmad Dar, led by a dedicated support staff including Manager Tanminder Singh, Chief Coach Jasprit Singh, Assistant Coach Simranjeet Kour and Assistant Manager Gunjanpreet Kour.

This event not only marks a significant opportunity for the players to showcase their skills on a national stage but also highlights the commitment of Hockey J&K in fostering talent and promoting the sport across the region.