

Congress remembers Rajiv Gandhi on 78th birth anniversary

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JAMMU: JKPC and DCC on Saturday observed Sadbhava Diwas at the party office at Shaheed Chowk Jammu to mark 78th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi. A number of senior Congress leaders were present on the occasion and paid floral tribute to the late leader. Prominent among those present on the occasion included Mula Ram, Yogesh Sawhney, Balwan Singh, Th. Manmohan Singh, Balbir Singh, Rajnish Sharma, Ved Mahajan, Suresh Dogra, Pawan Raina, Thomas Khokhar, Sanjeev Sharma and Dr Ramakant Khajuria.

While paying tributes to former Prime Minister, Mula Ram said it was vision of Rajiv Gandhi that he foresaw future of country in preparing and educating youth for 21st century. He saw great opportunity in IT revolution and introduced computerization in late eighties, he added. Paying floral tributes to Rajiv Gandhi,

Others who were present on the occasion included Pawan Raina, Parveen Sarwar Khan, Thomas Khokhar, Sahil



Congress leaders paying tributes to former Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi at Jammu on Saturday.

Yogesh Sawhney described him as the architect of 21st Century, who prepared country for the challenges of 21st century, especially regarding IT and Computer revolution besides lowering voting age from 21 years to 18 years for introducing a vibrant Panchayati Raj system. Th. Balwan Singh, Manmohan Singh, Rajnish Sharma, Balbir Singh and Ved Mahajan also spoke on the occasion and paid rich tributes to the former Prime Minister.

Others who were present on the occasion included Pawan Raina, Parveen Sarwar Khan, Thomas Khokhar, Sahil

Sharma, Suresh Dogra, Dr R K Khajuria, Pawan Dev Singh, Sanjay Manhas, Sonu Dogra, Sanjeev Panda, Krishan Lal Gupta, Ram Parkash Magotra, Diwan Chand, Satya Pal Spolia, Jugal Kishore, Varinder Singh Manhas, Balbir Singh, Rajesh Sharma, Vijay Kumar, Chander Shekhar, Anil Kumar, Nageshwar, Yash Pal, Rakesh Sharma, Jatinder Singh Chib, Vijay Singh Chib, Taman Heer, Mangat Ram, Sahil Mathi, Janak Raj, Prithvi Raj Chowhan, Vijay Kumar, Arti Gupta, Ram Magotra, Deepu Singh, Ajay Lakhotra and Happy Randhawa.

PHDCCI Jammu calls on MD SIDCO/ SICOP

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JAMMU: To discuss various issues pertaining to Industrial Estates at SICOP/ SIDCO, a delegation of PHDCCI Jammu led by its Chairman, Rahul Sahai and Ravish Gulati called on Smita Sethi, Managing Director SIDCO and SICOP on Saturday. On the occasion, numerous issues were discussed with the officer and timely action was sought for resolving the same. Major issues discussed on the occasion included proper power infrastructure as per require-



PHDCCI Jammu led by its Chairman, Rahul Sahai calling on Smita Sethi, MD SIDCO and SICOP.

SRCC holds workshops for IAS/JKAS aspirants

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The SR College of Competitions (SRCC) organised Workshops for the civil services aspirants in the College premises at Gandhi Nagar, here on Saturday.

The workshops for various Optionals were conducted by expert faculties from Delhi. In the highly interactive sessions attended by aspirants from across Jammu and Kashmir and even from Ladakh all the aspects of Civil Services Exam especially Optionals were discussed threadbare.

This included the scheme, pattern and the kind of questions asked in the Optional papers, approach in answer writing, sources of material and the books required, use of online resources etc. Various queries were addressed thoroughly and to the best satisfaction of the aspirants.



Students attending workshop at SRCC Jammu.

During the session the entire syllabus, the focus areas and the kind of questions asked in the previous years were also taken up by the experts. They also suggested the aspirants to atleast attend one comprehensive test series for the mains examination. Various other aspects like time management, study material and preparation of notes were handled in an exhaustive manner.

Separate sessions were managed for Geography by Pranay Dhar Diwan from Delhi and Anthropology by Zeeshan Choudhary.

The response was very encouraging and the attendees appreciated the initiative taken by the SR College. The attendees included the aspirants preparing for IAS and JKAS 2022 and also undergraduates who will be eligible in a couple of years. SR College has announced a sepa-

rate batch for JKAS -2022 Mains from 27th August and a fresh Mains test series also from 28th August. SR College is also opening a new Foundation Batch for 12th pass /College students from tomorrow.

"SR College regularly conducts such workshops, seminars, webinars and interactions with the IAS officers, KAS toppers, former members of PSC and various subject experts" informed Office Coordinator Shikha Sharma.

She also assured that SR College will always live up to its reputation by providing best coaching to the aspirants from Jammu and Kashmir. Instead of unnecessarily displacing themselves to bigger cities just for the preparation, the aspirants from Jammu and Kashmir can avail best guidance at Jammu itself, she said.

DFCO Jammu to earmark multiple initiatives

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The team of Enforcement Officers of the Department of Food Safety DFCO Jammu organised a Mela at Kachhi Chawani for general awareness about food safety, its provisions, regulations and Eat Right initiatives including RUCO, Fortification, FoSTaC and related parameters of FSSA Act.

During this program, the participants including food business operators and customers were imparted with the guidelines to follow, taking the programmes on next programme was organized at Pooneh House, Panjthirthi, Jammu in which the team of the Department entrusted with the duties highlighted the objectives of the programme/Mela.



DFCO officials during an awareness programme.

In both programmes over 100 participants took part and were advised to follow the provisions of FSSA & guidelines.

Simultaneously, Mobile Food Testing Van was also put into gears in District Jammu for on the spot testing of food items and during the campaign more than 30 tests of different categories of food items were undertaken.

It is pertinent to mention

that the team of the Deptt held a meeting with Director, Hospital & protocol Circuit House Jammu & during the meeting Eat Right Campus one of the initiatives of Eat Right was discussed at length & the chairman assured to be Certified under Eat Right Campus for which in the next coming days the dealing staff of the House is imparted with FoSTaC training.

Clarifying the stand taken by the concerned authority in this regard, the BJP Spokesperson, who happened to be a lawyer also by profession, said that under provisions of Representation of People's Act and Citizenship Act, every citizen has a right to cast one vote either in his native State or the place where he/she is ordinarily resides, although he/she is bound to choose one place and can cast only one vote. He said that this practice is prevalent in the entire country and therefore applies in the UT also especially after the abrogation of Article 370. He slammed opposition parties for raising hue and cry over the grant of voting rights to non locals living in Jammu and Kashmir.

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The respondents by adopting said procedure have nonetheless ensured same consequences without formally demoting the petitioner, in that, the respondents firstly wrongly deferred the promotion of the petitioner in 2014 and subsequently debarred him for future promotion from retrospective date, the bench underscored. Accordingly the petition is allowed by issuance of writ of certiorari and impugned orders are quashed and by issuance of writ of mandamus, the respondents are commanded to promote the petitioner to the post of Junior Assistant w.e.f. 21.07.2014 with all consequential benefits to which he has become entitled thereto," the Court concluded.

Promotion can't be denied merely because of pending criminal proceedings: HC

JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court has reiterated that promotion cannot be withheld merely because some disciplinary/criminal proceedings are pending against an employee and to deny such benefit, they must be at the relevant time, pending at the stage when charge memo/charge sheet has already been issued to the employee.

Justice Javed Iqbal Wani was hearing a plea in terms of which petitioner had challenged orders whereby the petitioner had been deprived of his promotion and had been barred for being considered for any promotions in future. The petitioner contended that by issuing impugned order the respondents have tried to achieve something indirectly which they could not do directly. The petitioner further argued that in essence it was not just a case of debarment but also a case of demotion

achieved by first taking away accrued promotion and then stopping further promotion from retrospective date.

Taking recourse to the available record, the bench noted that the petitioner is an employee of the respondent Board of School Education and was posted in the secrecy unit-III KD in 2014 and during his posting, as such, in liaison room of the aforesaid section, it got revealed that one candidate had in connivance with some officials of BOSE written answers on his already evaluated answer sheet. Record also revealed that an FIR got registered for the said fraud committed by candidate and the petitioner got allegedly implicated therein after which respondent constituted a committee to enquire into the matter. Justice

"It appears that respondents while imposing minor punishment upon the petitioner under the impression that only future promotion of the petitioner has been

PIL challenging legality of PSA: DB grants months' time to Govt for filling counter affidavit

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Division Bench of Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal granted a month's time to Additional Advocate General Asifa Padroo to file counter affidavit in a Public Interest Litigation challenging legality of J&K Public Safety Act (PSA) 1978. The PIL is challenging legality of the PSA and seeks its scrapping. "PSA is illegal because it contravenes the 44th (1979) amendment to the constitution of India. Union of India was bound to bring this amendment into force," underlined the PIL. "Section 8 of the PSA should be declared illegal because the government has to approve the detention but it cannot approve without hearing the detainee," it added.

"Power to detain is power of the state and a Divisional Commissioner or District Magistrate cannot detain a person," it added. Advocate

Javed Iqbal Wani also took note of the fact that respondent Board in the meanwhile issued an order dated 21.07.2014 promoting two orderlies to the posts of Junior Assistants excluding petitioners though being senior and in the aforesaid promotion order, one post of Junior Assistant for petitioner was reserved subject to clearance from crime Branch. Subsequently the respondents issued another impugned order dated 06.03.2017 debarring the petitioner from future promotions for six years retrospectively w.e.f. 21.07.2014 and both these orders were subject matter of challenge before the court.

"It appears that respondents while imposing minor punishment upon the petitioner under the impression that only future promotion of the petitioner has been

deferred have in essence debarred the petitioner retrospectively for promotion.

The respondents by adopting said procedure have nonetheless ensured same consequences without formally demoting the petitioner, in that, the respondents firstly wrongly deferred the promotion of the petitioner in 2014 and subsequently debarred him for future promotion from retrospective date, the bench underscored. Accordingly the petition is allowed by issuance of writ of certiorari and impugned orders are quashed and by issuance of writ of mandamus, the respondents are commanded to promote the petitioner to the post of Junior Assistant w.e.f. 21.07.2014 with all consequential benefits to which he has become entitled thereto," the Court concluded.

NSS wing of GGM Science College celebrates Har Ghar Tiranga campaign



NSS volunteers along with faculty of GGM Science College during Har Ghar Tiranga celebration.

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JAMMU: Celebrating Har Ghar Tiranga campaign under the patronage of Principal Dr Ravinder Tieckoo and guidance of PO Dr Deepali Mahajan, the NSS wing of GGM Science College organized a cultural patriotic programme at Bahri Fort. The idea behind the event was to invoke feeling of patriotism among people and to promote awareness about

National Flag. The mime based on awareness for national flag was performed by Siya Gupta, Manya Veer Singh Thakur, Vishal, Himanshu, Sanchit, Rimjhim and Divyansh. The patriotic song and poetry were presented by Nitish Kumar and Aaghav Arora. Anchal Singh performed folk dance. About 50 volunteers were present on the occasion.

IVY Hospital Amritsar organises Heart Care Camp in Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The heart surgery unit of Ivy Hospital Amritsar ON Saturday organised free heart care camp, here at Goel OPD Centre, Gole Market where regular Super specialty OPD By IVY Hospital



Director Cardiology, Dr Pankaj Goel at a camp in Jammu.

Amritsar is being conducted.

Director Cardiology, Dr Pankaj Goel examined more than 55 patients with various heart ailments. Pertinent mention that IVY Heart unit at IVY Hospital Amritsar has expertise of Dr Goel with

He is supported by well trained and experienced team of anesthetist, perfusionists nurses physiotherapist And Dietitians.

Others present on the occasion included Vinod Kumar, Pawan Singh Jamwal, Bharat Bhushan Bhagat, Mohd Saleem, Ch Aslam, Gurmeet Kour, Shafkat Hussain, Madan Sharma and Darminder Singh. Sapna Gupta, Anita Bhagat, Pawan Singh Jamwal, Bharat Bhushan Bhagat, Mohd Saleem, Ch Aslam, Gurmeet Kour, Shafkat Hussain, Madan Sharma and Darminder Singh.

Dharmarth Trust celebrates Janmashtami with religious fervour

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JAMMU: J&K Dharmarth Trust on Saturday celebrated Krishna Janmashtami with religious fervour, here at Shri Raghunathji Temple.

In this connection, J&K Dharmarth Trust in collaboration with The Art of Living organized a special Bhajan Sandhya late in the evening in the temple premises in which a Singer from Punjab sang a number of devotional Bhajans.

Dr Advocate Ajay Gondota, President of the Trust performed Maha Aarti after the Birth Darshan of Bhagwan Krishna. Police Pipe Band also displayed their performance during the Birth Time of Bhagwan Krishna.

Manmohan Singh, Administrative Officer DTP and Sandeep Kumar, Assistant Manager



Janmashtami celebrations at Shiv Shakti Temple, Sector 2, Gangyal.

Raghunathji Temple were also present. Meanwhile, Janmashtami, the festival that marks the birth of lord Krishna, the ninth incarnation of Bhagwan Vishnu, was celebrated with great spiritual fervour and gaiety at Shiv Shakti Temple, Sector 2, Gangyal, here. devotees were seen visiting the temples to offer their prayers.