

## Congress remembers Rajiv Gandhi on 78th birth anniversary

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JKPCC and DCC on Saturday observed Sadbhavana Divas at the party office at Shaheedi 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,



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

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To discuss various issues pertaining to Industrial Estates at SICOP/ SIDCO, a delegation of PHDCCI Jammu led by its Chairman, Rahul Sahai and Ravnish 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-

ment of new industries, timely handing-over and execution of lease deeds of plots in new Industrial Estates, uniform area circle rates as per industry in cities and towns, freehold for 10 years, extension of provisional registration of units not having PMT up to June 30, connectivity to private industrial estates from SICOP / SIDCO Industrial Estates, etc. All the issues were deliberated in length and MD assured that she would take up the same with concerned departments for timely action.



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

## PNGRB holds workshop on 'Strengthening Safety in Downstream Oil & Gas Industry'



PNGRB members at a workshop on Saturday.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) organised a 'Knowledge Sharing Workshop' on 'Strengthening Safety in Downstream Oil & Gas Industry' in association with Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) at Jaipur to deliberate on safety and integrity across entire chain of oil & gas activities related to marketing facilities.

Gajendra Singh, Member, PNGB while inaugurating the workshop highlighted that safety is of foremost importance in Oil & Gas Industry with rapid increase in the demand for energy in the country. He

emphasized on the need of ensuring safety and Integrity of oil and gas installations in view of urbanization and advised all the entities to prioritize public safety over economic considerations. He underlined the need for adopting latest technologies and digitalization for optimal utilization of resources and ensuring high standards of safety.

D S Nanaware, Director (Pipelines), IOCL, in his Keynote address, highlighted the importance of safety culture amongst the downstream Oil and Gas companies. He advised that lessons should be learnt from previous incidents to avoid

any recurrence. He complimented PNGB for playing a pivotal role in developing ERDMP regulations for Oil & Gas Industry. The technical papers inter-alia covered topics such as case studies, learnings from past incidents, latest technological developments, Safety Culture and Behavioral Safety, Cultural Change in Organisation, Life Saving Rules and Process Safety Fundamentals, etc. The workshop was attended by Industry experts and Senior Oil industry officials from IOCL, HPCL, BPCL, Jio-BP, MRPL, GAIL, Shell India Mobility, Total Energies and Aegis Logistics limited.

## 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 Zeshan 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 separate 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 Kachi Chawani for general awareness about food safety, its provisions, regulations and Eat Right initiatives including RUCO, Fortification, FoSTaC and related parameters of FSS Act.

During this programme, the participants including food business operators and customers were imparted with the guidelines to follow, taking the programmes on next programme was organized at Poonch House, Panjtirthi, 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, Hospitality & protocol Circuit House Jammu & during the meeting Eat Right Campus one of the initiatives of Eat Right was discussed at length & the chaired 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.

## Nothing illegitimate in granting voting rights to outsiders: Abhinav

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Brushing aside the objections raised by the opposition parties in J&K over the issue of providing voting rights to outsiders living in the UT, senior Advocate Abhinav Sharma, BJP Spokesperson J&K on Saturday asserted that there is nothing illegitimate in granting right to exercise franchise to non-locals living in J&K as the practice is in vogue 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.

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 but once Article 370 has been abrogated and the Constitution of J&K is no more in existence, the same stands true for J&K as well. He however made it clear that once a non-local will cast a vote in J&K he or she becomes ineligible for casting votes in their native place. He said that there is nothing new or illegal in this practice because it is known tone and all that many of the subjects belonging to J&K and residing in various parts of the country either cast their votes by coming back to UT during election time or opt to exercise their right franchise in the place of their stay under Representation of People's Act and Citizenship Act, therefore the hullabaloo being made by the opposition parties is unnecessary as the entire opposition is crying hoarse.

## IVY Hospital Amritsar organises Heart Care Camp in Jammu



Director Cardiology, Dr Pankaj Goel at a 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

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

experience of around 25 years in heart surgeries.

His pioneering efforts and world class results have been acknowledged nationally and internationally.

He is the only surgeon in Punjab routinely performing Challenging Surgeries, like valve repair, Aortic dissections, Total Arterial Bypass, his results are comparable to the best in the world cardiac centers and over 5000 patients in Punjab, J&K, Himachel are testament to that.

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

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

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 debaring future promotion 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 secretey 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

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 petitioner 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 debaring 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.

## JKMEF seeks compensation of Rs 50 lakh in favour of family of deceased NHM employee

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To condole the sad and tragic demise of NHM employee Pawan Kumar from District Kathua and to express solidarity with family of deceased employee in this hour of grief, Jammu & Kashmir Medical Employee Federation (JKMEF) Jammu, held a meeting under the leadership of its President, Sushil Sudan. During the meeting, which was attended by a number of members, JKMEF demanded special compensation cum financial assistance of Rs 50 lakh for the family of deceased NHM employee Pawan Kumar; as he got martyred in the line of duty. "He got electrocuted while hoisting National Flag at hospital building to celebrate Independence Day. The only earning member in family, he was working under NHM and posted at PHC Haria Chak," said Sushil. The members urged LG Manoj Sinha, Chief Secretary A K Mehta, Administrative secretary Bhupinder Kumar, MD NHM and Director ISM, Mohan Singh to immediately release special compensation in favour

of family of deceased.

Others present on the occasion included Vinod Kumar Sharma, Parfulat Singh, Kamal Jit Sawhney, Mohd Nadeem, Jaswinder singh, Neelam Kumari, Surya Bano,

## Dharmarth Trust celebrates Janmashtami with religious fervour

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

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.

Sr Advocate Ajay Godotra, 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 DT and Sandeep Kumar, Assistant Manager

Sapna Gupta, Anita Bhagat, Pawan Singh Jamwal, Bharat Bhushan Bhagat, Mohd Saleem, Ch Aslam, Gurmeet Kour, Shafkat Hussain, Madan Sharma and Darminder Singh.



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

Raghunath ji 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 temples to offer their prayers.

The community members including women and children were joined by members of Temple Committee. Jhanki of Shri Krishna and Sudhama spellbound all the devotees, who also participated in Bhajan Kirtan. President of the Temple Committee, Devraj Sharma expressed all the participating for making the celebration successful.

## PIL challenging legality of PSA: DB grants months' time to Govt for filing 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

General of J&K DC Raina had previously raised a preliminary objection on the maintainability of the petition.

"PSA was in consonance with the constitution as the amendment to Article 22 of the Constitution would be automatically extended to J&K after the Abrogation Article 370." Advocate General had further submitted that insofar as Sections 8 and 16 of the J&K Public Safety Act are concerned, the same are in consonance with the provisions of the Constitution of India. On 2 December 2019, the court had asked the Advocate General to submit a written compilation of objections. Subsequently, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority and Ladakh Legal Services Authority, filed compliance reports and authority was further asked by the court to update compliance/ status reports.

## NSS wing of GGM Science College celebrates Har Ghar Tiranga campaign



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

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Celebrating Har Ghar Tiranga campaign under the patronage of Principal Dr Ravinder Tiekoo and guidance of PO Dr Deepali Mahajan, the NSS wing of GGM Science College organized a cultural patriotic programme at Bahu 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, Manyaveer 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.