

J&K ICAI organises seminar on Tax Audit

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Branch of the Northern India Regional Council (NIRC) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) on Tuesday organized a seminar on Tax Audit at ICAI Bhawan, here.

The event witnessed the active participation of professionals and members of the accounting and auditing community.

The guest speaker for the seminar was CA Pramod Jain, a prominent Central Council member of the ICAI. His insightful session covered various important aspects of Tax Audit, providing valuable insights and guidance to the attendees.

During the seminar, Jain not only shared his in-depth



Guest speaker CA Pramod Jain posing with ICAI J&K Branch members at a seminar.

knowledge but also addressed the queries raised by the members in attendance.

In addition to Pramod Jain, the seminar witnessed the presence of esteemed Central Council members, CA Raj Chawla and CA Anuj Goyal. They offered words of

wisdom, enriching the overall experience for all participants.

The seminar commenced with the inaugural address delivered by CA Vikas Purdhani, the Chairman of the J&K Branch. His address set the tone for the informative sessions that followed, inspiring attendees to delve deeper into the subject matter.

The proceedings of the seminar were conducted by CA Vineet Kohli, the Vice Chairman of the J&K Branch. CA Kohli attention to detail and commitment to delivering a fruitful event

contributed to the overall success of the seminar.

CA Sourav Pargal, Secretary, CA Aayush Sawhney, Treasurer, CA Nakul Saraf, Immediate Past Chairman, along with senior members and number of Chartered Accountants were also present in the event.

The Jammu and Kashmir Branch of the Northern India Regional Council (NIRC) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is committed to enhancing the professionalism and expertise of its members.

Through various educational and networking initiatives, the branch fosters growth, excellence, and ethical practices in the field of accounting and auditing.



CCI Jammu delegation calls on MD JPDCL, discusses consumers' issues



CCI Jammu President Arun Gupta with office bearers calling on Managing Director Jammu Power Development Corporation Shiv Anand Tayal.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: President Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCI) Arun Gupta alongwith its office bearers namely Anil Gupta, Sr. Vice President, Rajeev Gupta, Jr. Vice President, Manish Gupta, Secretary General, Rajesh Gupta, Secretary and Rajesh Gupta, Treasurer on Tuesday called on the Managing Director Jammu Power Development Corporation Shiv Anand Tayal.

During interaction Arun Gupta raised various pressing issues relating to inflated power bills which are causing distress and unease among the honest consumers and urged the MD JPDCL to immediately stop the installation of smart meters/prepaid meters till the complaints of excess billing of these meters is sorted out to the satisfaction of the general public(consumers).

Arun Gupta asked the MD JPDCL that in case it is utmost necessary to install the smart meters, the consumers/house owner should be intimidated first before

installation of said meters and the department must show the tag of meter tested as "OK" to the owner of the house, besides the meter must be installed in the premises of the house owner at a suitable and moderate height.

Arun further apprised the MD JPDCL that PDD should issue clearance certificate regarding previous power bills before installing the new smart meters and the meter reading of both the new as well as existing meters be conveyed to the concerned consumers.

Gupta further briefed the MD JPDCL that when the government is abolishing 15% Electricity duty, the benefit of the same should be passed on to the consumers instead of merging the same with the unit rates and it should also be guaranteed that government will not reintroduce the electricity duty subsequently through a government order.

Arun further apprised the MD JPDCL that our Industrial Units of R.S.Pura area (Sunderpur) are facing

lot of problems / huge losses due to power shut down from 33KVA Miran Sahib. We request that power shut down if required should be arranged from 11KVA station Sunderpur instead of 33KVA Miran Sahib.

Arun referred a case of excess billing of an honest consumer who used to received the electricity bill round about 900 per month before the installation of smart meters and he has cleared all the dues up to date. But after the installation of smart meter he has received the electricity bill of Rs. 65000.

Managing Director JPDCL acting promptly got the aforesaid bill verified. After verification the department clarified that the bill has been generated due to fault and corrected the said bill from Rs. 65000 to Rs 20000.

Arun Gupta said that there are so many other cases of honest consumers which need to be verified by the department so that the consumers could pay their electricity dues without any harassment.

UT Ladakh towards greater role of Executive Councillors in Handling future Disasters: Amit



Secretary DMRRR Ladakh, Amit Sharma chairing a meeting on Tuesdsay.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
LEH: Secretary Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, Union Territory of Ladakh, Amit Sharma on Tuesday chaired an important meeting on Disaster Management as a follow-up to recent NDMA Mock Exercises and communication sent to Lieutenant Governor by NDMA team on same.

The meeting was attending by Additional Deputy Commissioners of Leh and Kargil, Deputy Secretary DMRRR Abdul Majid, DSP Sonam from UTDRE, DSP Pradeep Singh, Head Emergency Operations Centre Ladakh, Project Managers of IT/DMRRR amongst others.

One of the primary issues which were taken-up and decided during the meeting chaired by Amit Sharma was execution of the vision

of Lieutenant Governor Brig Dr B.D Mishra (Retd) regarding empowerment of Executive Councillors of LAHDC and KAHDC respectively towards handling future disasters by adding the portfolio of Disaster Management and Relief so that they can play an important role in mitigating disasters and leading relief / reconstruction work during future disasters which may happen in Ladakh.

Amit Sharma drew time-lines for finalisation of UT Disaster Management Plan, Notification of Incident Command System with designation of officers of respective departments towards handling Disasters, moving a proposal for raising a full-fledged Battalion of UT Disaster Response Force, strengthening Emergency Operations Centre and

ERSS, etc in the UT.

Besides this, another major decision taken in this meeting led by Amit Sharma included ensuring presence of National Disaster Response Force team in twin districts of Leh and Kargil before the onset of harsh winter season and continued efforts towards percolating the skills to handle disasters down till the level of Gram Panchayats through Aapda Mitras.

Before concluding the Meeting, Amit Sharma mentioned that the officers/officials of the department shall be engaged in organising awareness programmes for localised disasters Cloudburst, Landslide, Avalanche Management with the help of NDMA in coming days and there shall be regular meetings taken to discuss Action Taken on last meeting minutes.

Director Horticulture launches Plantation Drive in Bhalwal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Department of Horticulture Jammu on Tuesday launched a Plantation Drive at Kangar, block Bhalwal and organised an Interaction Program with farmers and fruit growers under Meri Maati - Mera Desh Campaign.

Director Horticulture Jammu Ram Savak, Chief Horticulture Officer Jammu, Ashwani Sharma, Subject Matter Specialist (Pomology) Jammu Sandeep Gupta, I/c Bhalwal Sanjay Khajuria and Farmers

(HADP) providing incentives / assistance for the welfare of the farming community. He sensitized the gathering about the main components of the programme viz: DAKSH- Learning Management System related to skill development, SATHI- Dashboard to apply online for different Govt. schemes, etc. He impressed upon farmers to adopt the Horticulture sector on commercial lines by adopting latest technologies in the field of Mechanization, Modified High Density



Director Horticulture Jammu Ram Savak and other officials and farmers at a programme.

in large numbers participated in the program.

Addressing the farmers, the Director stressed the need to encourage High Density Plantation in the area. He said that the rainy season is highly suitable for new plantations especially in the kandi area and the farmers should adopt cluster approach to develop new orchards and take benefit of all the departmental schemes.

The Director Horticulture Jammu explained in detail the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme

Strawberry Plantation, Aloe-vera Plantation etc.

The Chief Horticulture Officer Jammu also motivated the farmers to adopt Horticulture on commercial basis and imparted them awareness about online Jan Sugam portal and Kissan Sathi portal to apply for various components of different Horticulture schemes.

Sandeep Gupta briefed them about Strawberry cultivation and other Plantation schemes presently under implementation in the district.

DG CISF inaugurates Bihar Yoga Publications Yoga Outreach-Delhi 2023 'Gyan Yagya'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Practising Yoga has increased the efficiency of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel deployed in airport and metro duties, said Sheel Vardhan Singh, Director General of CISF on Tuesday.

Singh inaugurated the two-day Bihar Yoga Publications, Yoga Outreach-Delhi 2023 at Meraki lawns of CISF Headquarters in Delhi. The event was organised by CISF Wives Welfare Association "Sanrakshika".

For its objective to enhance the physical, mental and emotional well-being of CISF families and for outreach in the society President Sanrakshika Aparna Singh has taken a unique initiative in collabo-



DG CISF, Sheel Vardhan Singh inaugurating Bihar Yoga Publications, Yoga Outreach-Delhi 2023.

ration with Bihar School of Yoga and Bihar Yoga Publication to impart yoga awareness amongst the wider community.

"Yoga has brought a very good impact in terms of feedback. People have integrated positive things into their life. In our airport interface. We have found

that the boys have become calmer and more effective," he said.

The CISF will distribute about 40,000 books and magazines free of cost as part of a yoga outreach event being organised by it in the national capital over the next two days.

In the event, more than

130 titles in Hindi and English were available free of cost as "Prasad" to the visitors. The entry is open for all, and the visitors will be provided 10 books of their choice free of cost. In total, more than 30,000 books and 10,000 yoga magazines will be distributed during the two-day exhibition.

He added that the aim of organizing the event is to bring yoga to people's lives. This is a humble effort to bring positivity to the lives of people. It has immensely transformed the lives of CISF personnel, and the initiative was taken by CISF's Wives Association in conjunction with CISF.

Initially, 200 personnel, including women, went to the Bihar School of Yoga and had a ten-day training in

yoga. Thereafter, batches of 100 were going regularly till now 1200 people have visited the ashram and learned about the yogic lifestyle.

"These people, in turn, have held camps all over the force and taught them the yogic lifestyle course, which they have learned in the ashram," he said.

"I can very proudly and with great satisfaction say that in a force of 1.80 lakh, 1.60 lakh personnel have been touched by yoga. It has brought a very good impact in terms of feedback. People have integrated positive things into their life. In our airport interface. We have found that the boys have become calmer and more effective, and in the DMRC, we are seeing similar changes. It's all because of yoga," Singh said.

JKP, security agencies on high alert ahead of Independence Day

■ MASROOR AHMAD
SRINAGAR: Security has been stepped up in Kashmir valley ahead of 77th Independence Day, the main function will be held at Bakhshi Stadium Srinagar, where administration is working on making fool-proof security arrangements in and around the venue to ensure hassle free celebrations of the function.

Security agencies across Kashmir has been heightened and frisking and speculative search operations have also started.

Police sources said that security arrangements were tightened across Kashmir to fail any untoward incident during the Independence Day celebrations.



The officials said that a random search of vehicles besides checking and frisking of people, was being carried out at several places across the valley.

Besides Srinagar City, the security forces also intensified frisking in other areas of

J&K, especially at various points along the main connecting roads to other districts headquarters.

Armed personnel and cops have been deployed around the Independence Day function venue to keep an eye on suspicious persons.

Senior Police officials said that these arrangements were put in place to ensure smooth conduct of Independence Day celebrations across J&K.

"Both human and technical means will be used to ensure incident-free Independence Day celebrations," the officials said.

They said that the commuters travelling on roads and highways in and around Srinagar as well as in Jammu were being thoroughly checked and their identity was being confirmed.

In capital city and many parts of old city and some areas of uptown, police carried out a security drill. The pedestrians and vehicles

were also being searched thoroughly in up and downtown areas of Srinagar.

"We are trying that the common man must not face inconvenience," a police officer said, adding that frisking, checking and other measures were part of the security drill.

Earlier the J&K administration has directed schools and government offices to hoist Tricolour and sing the national anthem on the occasion of the Independence Day. In view of this, the School Principals and other officials including teaching and non-teaching staff has directed to attend their schools on a daily basis and ensure their attendance physically.

FICCI FLO core team meets VC JU to foster Start-up Ecosystem



FICCI FLO Jammu-Kashmir Ladakh team presenting memento to VC JU, Prof. Umesh Rai.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A delegation of the Core Team FICCI FLO Jammu-Kashmir Ladakh, the women's wing of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), led by Chairperson Varuna Anand, recently engaged in a productive dialogue with Prof. Umesh Rai, the esteemed Vice Chancellor of Jammu University.

The meeting centered around the shared goal of nurturing the start-up ecosystem and promoting entrepreneurial endeavours in the region.

During the interaction, Varuna Anand expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Umesh Rai for the successful collaboration with the Institute of Music & Fine Arts for their collaboration in the Art Camp held by FLO JKL at Octroi Post, Suchetgarh.

This collaboration has not only enhanced artistic expression giving great exposure to the young

artists and their crafts but also showcased peace and prosperity in J&K and highlighted Suchetgarh as a must visit tourist spot in Jammu.

As a token of appreciation and gratitude, FICCI FLO JKL presented Prof. Umesh Rai with a stunning painting created during the Art Camp. The painting symbolizes the harmonious collaboration between academia, BSE, and art, reflecting the spirit of innovation and cooperation that FICCI FLO JKL and Jammu University aim to cultivate.

The meeting between FICCI FLO and Prof. Umesh Rai marks a significant step towards strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region.

The shared commitment to nurturing start-ups and encouraging creative expression sets the stage for promising collaborations that will contribute to the socio-economic

development of the region.

Ranjeet Kalra, teaching faculty at UGC- HRDC University of Jammu also attended the meeting. The Vice-Chancellor on this occasion also shared Jammu University's newly launched 'Design Your Degree' undergraduate program's concept and details with the visiting delegation. The four-year undergraduate degree was recently also endorsed by the UGC on its official Twitter handle. Also in the course of the discussions, a strong commitment was expressed to tackling the destabilization of youth caused by drug abuse in Jammu.

Both organizations expressed their eagerness to collaborate on effective strategies aimed at countering this issue and ensuring a brighter future for the younger generation. The delegation from FLO JKL included Varuna Anand, Ruchika Gupta, Sona Mehta, Mona Saraf and Chandni Kapoor.