

Ladakh to have Centres for Civil Services Exam, CET: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: For the convenience of the youth aspirants, Ladakh will have its own exclusive Centre for holding of Civil Services Exam, which will be set up at Leh and will become functional next month with the holding of Civil Services (Preliminary) Exam. Similarly, the Common Eligibility Test, planned through the recently constituted National Recruitment Agency, will have one Centre each in the districts of Leh and Kargil respectively.

This was announced by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh who said that goals and targets set by the Prime Minister for the new UT of Ladakh would be met in time to make it one of the best UTs in the country. Inaugurating a two-day workshop on Capacity Building for Ladakh Officials at Leh, the Minister said, the historic decision taken by PM Narendra Modi on 5th August 2019 will bring all new possibilities to this new UT as Prime Minister is persistently pursuing its developmental agenda.

Dr Jitendra said that a Common Eligibility Test (CET) will be conducted across the country from early 2022 and Ladakh will have two centers at Leh and Kargil to screen/shortlist candidates for jobs in Government sector for which recruitment is presently

carried out through the Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) and Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS). He said, this is not only a Governance reform but a huge Social reform for the job aspirant youth living in remote and far flung areas. The Minister said this historic reform will provide a level playing field to all the candidates, regardless of his or her background or socio-economic status.

There will also be a huge benefit to women and Divyang candidates and for those who find it financially unaffordable to appear for multiple tests by travelling to multiple Centres, he added.

Dr Jitendra Singh also informed that Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) will, from this year, have an Examination Centre at Leh, which will operate for the first time for the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination 2021, scheduled to be held on 10th of October this year.

He said, this will address a long pending demand of the youth from the Ladakhi region whose grievance was that they found it difficult to reach Examination Centres in other

parts of the country because of the constraints of affordability of air fare and uncertain weather conditions. Dr Jitendra Singh said, ISRO is also working on to set up Night Sky Planetarium at the Indian Astronomical Observatory, located in Hanle near Leh. He said, CSIR will soon have an exclusive plan to promote, process and do the business of the famous Ladakh fruit called Leh berry.

Referring to Prime Minister's highest priority for Ladakh and other peripheral regions, he said it was for the first time under the Modi government that Ladakh had been granted a university, Hotel management institute, a medical and an engineering college. He also underlined the action plan for "Carbon Neutral" Ladakh as announced by Shri Modi. Dr Jitendra said that soon after taking oath as Prime Minister on 26th May, 2014, one of the earlier reform mantra given by Prime Minister was the maxim "Minimum Government - Maximum Governance". He said, in the last 7 years a series of reforms was undertaken to encourage greater efficiency, transparent and corruption

free governance, accountability and reduce scope for discretion. Referring to a series of path-breaking and out of box decisions since May 2014, he said that the decision to do away with the time old practice of getting documents attested by a gazetted officer and replacing the same with self-attestation, abolition of interview for all Group-B (Non Gazzeted) and Group-C posts in the Central Government from 1st Jan 2016 itself, amendment in the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and three-month Central Government stint as Assistant Secretaries for LAS officers in the beginning of their career are far reaching in nature. Dr Jitendra emphasized that all these reforms and best practices are now applicable in the Newly created Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh post 5th August 2019. In his address the LG, Ladakh R.K.Mathur said that ever since the new UT came into being, Prime Minister is personally pushing out in every Central Ministry and Department the development paradigm of Ladakh.

He said, there are some challenges for building completely new Administrative Structure

in Ladakh as there are shortages of officers and they have to get familiar with new laws, rules and procedures. Mathur complimented DAR& PG for organizing the Capacity Building workshop and said this will go a long way in imparting training to officials of the UT. He said, every citizen of Ladakh can now redress his or her grievance through CPGRAMS as it has become operative in Ladakh. Sanjay Singh, Secretary, DAR&PG, said in his address said that the Capacity Building Workshop is the first ever such event being held in Ladakh, which will truly empower the Government officials to become fully familiar with the Union laws on procurement and financial management, Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure (CSMOP), eOffice, adoption of GeM and digital governance. Referring to Prime Minister's 3 basic tenets of Reforms-Minimum Government-Maximum Governance, shift from rule based to role based approach and next generation reforms, Sanjay Singh said, these will help in creating a new ecosystem of Administrative Structure. V. Srinivas, Additional Secretary, DAR&PG, Tashi Gyalsom, Chief Executive Councilor, LAHDC, Leh, Feroz Ahmed Khan, Chief Executive Councilor, LAHDC, Kargil also addressed the Inaugural Session. Vote of thanks was given by Ajay Kumar Sahu, Commissioner/Secretary, Ladakh.



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh speaking after inaugurating 2-day Workshop on Capacity Building for Ladakh Officials at Leh, on Thursday.



Rahul's visit to J&K

D&FCO suspends operation of 20 Drug Stores

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Drugs & Food Control Organization on Thursday suspended operation of Twenty Retail Salt Establishments for violation of Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940. The action against the establishments was taken after the teams of the department carried out supervisory checks of Drug sales establishments (Retail/Wholesale) across Jammu province districts under the supervision of respective Assistant Drugs Controller.

"The Operation of Twenty Retail Sale Establishments were disallowed u/s 22 (d) of Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 on spot which included Eight in Jammu District, Three in Samba, Three in Rajori Two each in

Udhampur, Kishtwar and Reasi Districts for violation of conditions of the licenses" the departmental authorities said. The Licenses were warned of severe action in case the deficiencies are not removed within stipulated period of time.

Statutory Drug samples of more than Two Hundred drug formulations viz Antibiotics, PPI, Steroid, NSAIDs etc, Cosmetics & Medical Devices were lifted from public institutions & private firms particularly situated in far flung areas and government institutions for determination of strength and purity. These samples were referred to Drug Testing Laboratories located within & outside the U.T. of J&K for framing legal opinion to ascertain

their quality parameters. Stocks of Drugs worth Rs 1,26,370 that were found to be contravening the provisions of Drugs & Cosmetics Act were also confiscated from the supply chain by the Regulatory Officers of the organization under the relevant provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act.

Meanwhile,

the Department also sensitized and impressed upon the pharma trade members to dispense medicines in consonance with the mandate of law and in the best interest of patient care.

The State Drug Controller has impressed upon the trade fraternity to adopt self regulation mechanism and adopt Covid Appropriate behaviour in their daily routines.

Tumor Clinic started in ENT Deptt GMC Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing with the endeavour to improve patient care services and teaching in GMC & AH Jammu, Dr. Shashi Sudan Sharma, Principal & Dean, GMC Jammu chaired the first meeting of 'Tumor clinic' in the Department of ENT, SMGS Hospital Jammu.

She said that Cancer is a multispecialty ailment which requires interdisciplinary approach, involving various departments like ENT, anaesthesia, pathology, microbiology, medical oncology, radiation oncology, plastic surgery, faciomaxillary surgery to optimize patients management.

A coordinated approach is the need of the hour. These meetings shall be held in other departments also so as to improve the patient care and teaching of UG/PG students in the institution. She further said that GMC Jammu has already got DNB in 7 special-



Principal & Dean, GMC Jammu, Dr. Shashi Sudan Sharma speaking during a workshop.

ties and other Departments like Deptt. of Radiotherapy should also make efforts to start DNB radiotherapy at the earliest as trained human resource is the backbone of cancer management.

Three cases of advanced head and neck cancer were discussed in the tumor clinic and collective decisions regarding their further management were taken.

The meeting was attended by Dr Ashutosh Gupta, HOD

Radiation Oncology, D. Paromod Kalsotra HOD ENT and the entire faculty of ENT Deptt. Dr Ganshyam Saini (HOD Paediatrics), Dr Devraj Dogra (HOD Dermatology), Dr Parveen Lone (HOD FacioMaxillary-IGGDH), Dr. Dara Singh Med.Suptd. SMGS, Dr Sandeep Kour (Consultant Radiation Oncology) and Dr Rakesh Sharma (Deputy Medical Superintendent SMGS).

Major Akash Singh will be remembered for his supreme sacrifice for nation are lucky ones and we must stand by the family members of martyrs so that they don't feel alienated, he added.

Team Jammu Chief, Zorawar Singh Jamwal, further highlighted that people should not forget the days when our soldiers give their lives while guarding borders for nation's safety. He said that the youth must unite and stand in support of our forces so that they should not feel demoralized in the hands of anti-national elements. He said that people of Jammu should feel

proud that Dogras have sacrificed their lives for the dignity and honour of Mother India. He said that supreme sacrifice of Major Akash Singh will be remembered for coming centuries. SDPO, West, DySP Rahul Nagar said that "Nation will forever remain indebted to soldiers like Major Akash Singh who fought valiantly, upheld highest traditions of our armed forces and nation. Today, martyr Major Akash Singh, recipient of Shaurya Chakra, is not with us, but he will always remain alive in the hearts and a role model for younger generation."

Among others present on the occasion included Surinder Sharma, Ashok Kumar, Sunil Gupta, Sanjay Verma, Yogesh Kumar and Karandeep Thakur and Avinash Sharma.

Power shutdown

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JAMMU: Chief Engineer, (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu on Thursday informed that the power supply to Purkhoo, Domana, Mishriwala and adjoining areas shall remain affected on

September 10 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Similarly, the power supply to Reasi Town, DC Office, PHE, Hospital etc shall remain affected on September 11 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Meanwhile, Superintending

Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle, Kathua has informed that the power supply to Palli, Logate Morh, PHE, Sakta Chak, Nihalpur, Prithi Chak shall remain affected on September 10 and 11 from 7:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

CAT upholds Decentralization & Recruitment Act 2010

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) upheld the Decentralization and Recruitment Act, 2010.

This significant judgment has been passed in a petition filed by seeking declaring sub-section (2) of Section 10 of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services Decentralization & Recruitment Act, 2010 alongwith Rule 19 of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services Decentralization & Recruitment Rules, 2010 promulgated vide notification SRO 375 of 2010 dated 21.10.2010 as ultra-virus the Constitution of India, Constitution of J&K, discriminatory and contrary to the spirit of J&K Revenue (Subordinate) Service Recruitment Rules, 2009 and J&K Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956 and also seeking direction the respondents to hold DPC for promotion to the available posts of Girdawars (Divisional Cadre) after picking up the senior Patwaris including the petitioners out of the final seniority list of Patwaris District Cadre Kathua dated 21.07.2016 strictly in accordance with the J&K Revenue (Subordinate) Service Recruitment Rules, 2009 without following the spirit of section 10 (2) of the Civil Services Decentralization & Recruitment Act, 2010 and Rule 19 of the J&K Civil Services Decentralization and Recruitment Rules, 2010.

CAT observed that in the present case, no strong case has been made out by the applicants for declaring Sub-section 2 of Section 10 of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services Decentralization & Recruitment Act, 2010 and Rule 19 of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services Decentralization & Recruitment Rules, 2010 as ultra-virus the Constitution of J&K or contrary to J&K Revenue (Subordinate) Service Recruitment Rules, 2009 and J&K Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956. In view of the facts and the settled law, we do not find any valid ground to interfere with the impugned Act and Rules of 2010.

J&K to achieve 'har ghar nal se jal' target till Aug 15 next year



Union Additional Secretary and Managing Director, National Jal Jeevan Mission, Bharat Lal speaking during an Engineers Conference.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Public Health Engineers have an additional role of creating a sense of ownership among masses about the assets raised under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

These remarks were made on Thursday by Bharat Lal, Union Additional Secretary and Managing Director, National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM) during an Engineers Conference on "Implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in UT of J&K".

Bharat also noted that Public Health Engineers are not purely engineers but architects of positive change in the society. He urged them to speak in the language of passion to inculcate belongingness of purpose to this virtuous cause. He asked them to take pride in their job as it is giving them opportunity to contribute remarkably.

The MD, NJJM further urged them to implement all the projects in consultation with Gram Panchayats, Pani Samitis and other local inhabi-

tants. He asked them to actively involve them at every stage besides preparing them to take operation and maintenance of these public utilities.

The Additional Chief Secretary, Finance, Atal Dulloo implied that without water life is hard to imagine. He commended the department for making a substantial progress in the mission and asked them not to leave any stone unturned in meeting all the targets within the deadline. He maintained that this mission is highly significant and worth every effort that could be made in its fulfillment.

The Additional Chief Secretary, H&ME, Vivek Bhardwaj exhilarated upon the officers to understand that they are fortunate enough to put in their efforts in such a pious mission. He said that it is such a satisfying assignment to bring water to those who are struggling to fetch it.

He mentioned that its importance can well be gauged from those women

and children who had to walk miles to get their hands to it. He said that it is so blessed an idea to envision it that was done by the Prime Minister himself.

The Commissioner Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, M Raju gave out that J&K has already achieved the target of bringing potable water to every school and Anganwadi centre. He said that the department is on the task of providing safe water to every health centre and gram panchayats.

He said that nationally the mission is scheduled to get completed in 2024 but J&K would meet the requirement of 'har ghar nal se jal' on the auspicious day of 15th August, 2022. He said that with the active support of GoI, J&K has boarded on this ambitious project and is determined to complete it on the given deadline despite having difficult terrain.

On the occasion Director, NJJM, Pradeep Singh delved on the possibilities

and means of achieving this mission. In his presentation he provided different facts and figures about the implementation of this mission nationally and in J&K also. He displayed a motivational video message of Prime Minister also.

The Mission Director, JJM, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah maintained that the target of 15th August 2022 is worth chasing and there is no turning back on it. He said that J&K has already achieved certain milestones of implementing this mission fully in districts like Srinagar and Ganderbal and going to cover more districts in near future.

While giving details of the mission implementation here he revealed that J&K has provided tap water to 10,30,054 households out of which 4,54,588 have been covered under JJM which is 24% of the total water connections. He further said that the remaining target of 8,05,136 households and other establish-

ments would be covered in a time bound manner.

The day-long conference was marked by technical presentations from other engineers and professionals from GoI and Jal Shakti Department, Kashmir. These highlighted the success stories achieved under the mission besides the possibilities of achieving the mission targets in a hassle-free manner.

Besides the Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti Department, Kashmir the conference was attended by Senior Engineers, Executive Engineers, Assistant Executive Engineers, AEs and JEs of the department.

Earlier the MD, NJJM replied to the questions of the field staff attending the conference. The main aim of the conference was to sensitize the engineers of the department about the significance of this mission. Its objective is also to address certain queries and concerns of the field staff in order to make this nation-wide mission a grand success.