

## Awareness programme on 'Psychoactive Substances' organised at SKUAST-J

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under the guidance of Prof. J.P. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu, National Service Scheme and Health Centre SKUAST-J in collaboration with J&K Society for the Promotion of Youth and Mass, organised programme on 'Psychoactive Substances' to make aware the common mass about the growing menace of drug addiction and use of Psychoactive Substances.

Dr Sumati Sharma, former Additional Director, DRDO, New Delhi was the Chief Guest, who advised the students to take proactive steps to eradicate the menace of drug abuse in the society.

Dr. Minu Katoch, Scientist of Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, Jammu and Guest of honour, gave brief of biomolecules being investigated for various ailments. In the welcome address



A dignitary speaking at awareness programme on 'Psychoactive Substances' at SKUAST-J.

## JKPCC employees demand release of pending 4 months' salary



JKPCC employees raising slogans during a protest at Jammu on Monday.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A strong protest was held by employees of JKPCC under the banner of JKPCC Workers Association Jammu, here.

Similar protest was also held by the employees of Kashmir Province in the office premises

of JKPCC Limited at Srinagar, regarding the immediate release of pending 04 months' salary in favour of employees of this Corporation, in view of miserable condition the employees who have put to distress/under financial crunch due to non-release of salary.

The ongoing protest is continue till our pending salary for last 04 months and demand like wages @Rs. 300.00/day to daily wagers and Transport allowance to Permanent employees is not fulfilled, protesters said.

## Respectful tributes paid to Shaheed Thakur Dass Sharma

### STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: Akhnoor Sports Club organized a function on Monday to pay tributes to martyr Lieutenant Thakur Das Sharma on his 58th Martyrdom Day, as the brave soldier sacrificed his life while defending borders of country during 1965 Indo-Pak war. Rajeev Sharma, former MLA Akhnoor was the Chief Guest on the occasion and paid tributes to valiant officer while social worker Satya Pal Saraf was the Guest of Honour and also paid homage to the martyr. Mahamandleshwar Mahant Rameshwar Dass of Purani Mandi Jammu was also present on the occasion and paid tributes to the martyr by garlanding bust of the brave son of soil who embraced martyrdom while fighting bravely with Pakistan army. Welcoming the guests, D K Kapoor, President, Akhnoor Sports Club informed that Akhnoor Sports Club is commemorating Martyrdom Day of Lieutenant Thakur Dass Sharma since 1966 and working tirelessly for promotion of sports activities in Akhnoor area by organizing various sports events and tournaments and honouring players, who made their mark at national level. Rajeev Sharma appreciated the sincere efforts of Akhnoor Sports Club for commemorating supreme sacrifice of brave army



Mahant Rameshwar Dass paying tributes to martyr Lt Thakur Dass Sharma.

officer and keeping him alive in the hearts of people. D K Kapoor, President and S K Sharma, Secretary along with all office bearers of Akhnoor Sports Club were also present on the occasion and paid rich floral tributes to brave army officer. Mother of martyr Kanta Devi, Col (Retd) P L Choudhary, Capt (Retd) Jugal Gupta, Ex-President Ex-Servicemen's Cell, Akhnoor and Choudhary Mohd Hanif, father of Aurangzeb, Army Jawan who was martyred by terrorists in Kashmir besides a number of other sportspersons and prominent citizens of town also paid rich floral tributes to martyr. Two minute silence was also observed praying for peace of noble soul. Prof. V S Verma, Joint Secretary of Club extended formal vote of thanks.

## PIL seeking preservation, conservation of Wetlands: DB directs Union Environment Ministry to submit ATR

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: High Court of J&K and Ladakh has directed the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to submit Action Taken Report in six weeks in respect of Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking preservation and management of wetlands in J&K covered under Ramsar Convention and Wetland Rules.

Hearing suo-moto public interest litigation, a Division Bench of Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Pneet Gupta granted time for filing the Action Taken Report on behalf of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India. When PIL came up for hearing, DB observed that initially four wetlands of J&K and Ladakh were recognized as of international importance and were declared as Ramsar Sites under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Adv Nadeem Qadri, Amicus Curiae submitted that recently three more wetlands of J&K and

properly maintained.

The High Court of J&K and Ladakh pursuant to the directions of the top court registered the affidavit as Public Interest Litigation on its own motion and appointed lawyer Nadeem Qadri as amicus curiae to assist the Court.

"Given the overlap in the rules regarding constitution of the authority between the Central and State governments, manifests that the Union of India through the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is a proper and necessary party for complete and effective adjudication of the issues raised in this petition," the court said and subsequently made Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi as party respondent in the matter.

While court had directed for preservation and maintenance of wetlands covered under Ramsar Convention on Wetlands as directed by SC, it had also directed for conservation of other 1230 wetlands in erstwhile J&K.

The High Court following the directions by the Supreme Court on April 3, 2017, had treated an affidavit filed by the petitioner M K Balakrishnan before the Apex court regarding certain wetlands which were covered under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands as PIL. The Supreme Court had asked Chief Justices of the concerned High Courts to treat the affidavit as a suo moto PIL and, if necessary, appoint amicus curiae to assist the court so as to ensure that Ramsar Convention sites within their jurisdiction

properly maintained.

The court said and subsequently made Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi as party respondent in the matter.

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conservation of other 1230 wetlands in erstwhile J&K.

Under the initiative Team 'The - SARA' distributed blankets, sweaters and caps among 52 students of Govt.

Primary School Dawarpatti Parapilla in the presence of Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Uri Harvinder Singh.

SDM Uri appreciated the humane effort of the members of 'The - SARA' to support the students of the far-flung Border Area.

Zafarullah Khan Sarpanch Parapilla and other PRI Members were also present.

Headmaster of GPS Dawarpatti Parapilla Mohd. Mansha thanked members of 'The - SARA' for supporting the Border children.

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