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### Zero tolerance policy...

using popular mass media tools for awareness and evaluating the impact of the campaign to accelerate efforts against drug menace.

Successful models must be replicated for self-motivated campaigns by the community. I urge the Sarpanch of each village and the ward members of ULBs to run a campaign to make their village, their locality drug-free, the Lt Governor added.

The Lt Governor directed the Social Welfare Department to make drug de-addiction centre for girls and Juvenile centres functional at the earliest. He also passed a direction to set up more Integrated Rehabilitation Centers and ensuring their effectiveness.

The Lt Governor recounted the administrative reforms introduced by the UT Government and efforts made in the last two years, to bring the youth of J&K out of the darkness of drug addiction.

J&K has been ranked second in the country for the outstanding performance in anti-drug campaign and was honored by the Home Minister. The ranking and award is a tribute to each and every stakeholder who is dedicatedly working to make J&K drug-free. In the last two years, we have been running a Jan Andolan to make the drug free campaign successful in 10 majorly affected districts of Jammu and Kashmir, and I believe, our ranking is also the result of this spirit of public participation. However, much more is required to be done in this direction to eradicate the drug menace from the society, said the Lt Governor.

Our Police and Anti-Narcotics Task Force have been campaigning against drug trafficking by adopting a zero tolerance policy and we have to strengthen our resolve to destroy the entire network of drug dealers and drug traffickers. The seizures of large quantity of drugs in the last few months indicate that our strategy is proving effective, he added.

PRIs and ULBs members together with the parents must ensure that no youth in their village and locality fall prey to drug menace, besides bringing back the mis-guided youth to the mainstream by ensuring that the drug addicts get immediate administrative and medical help for recovery, he observed.

I am sure that the campaign of drug-free village, drug-free city and drug-free town will prove to be helpful in making Jammu and Kashmir free from drugs, the Lt Governor further added.

With the support of voluntary organization 'Mashwara', a dedicated focus is being given in treatment and rehabilitation of the victims of drug abuse in Jammu Division, noted the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor asked all the Deputy Commissioners to ensure that sports camps are also organized to channelize the young energies through sports activities.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor flagged off a Swasth Rath and a Police bike rally for spreading awareness among people against the harmful and fatal effects of the menace of drug abuse. A pledge against Drug Abuse was also administered, besides a short Skit on Drug Abuse by the students of GGM Science College was also presented.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary while speaking on the occasion informed that Drug de-addiction centers will be established in each district of the UT. He stressed the need for people's involvement and administering pledge against drug abuse in schools and colleges of J&K regularly.

Dr Abhishek Chowhan, Psychiatrist, on the occasion threw light on the psycho analytics of the drug abuse leading to detrimental effects on the social as well as personal life of the drug abusers. He also laid down the ways and suggestions to make

the society free from this serious malady.

Shaleen Kabra, Principal Secretary, Jal Shakti Department; Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department; Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner/Secretary, Social Welfare Department; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Avny Lavasa, Deputy Commissioner Jammu; Vivek Sharma, Director General Social Welfare Jammu; Dr Ravi Shanker Sharma, Director School Education Jammu; Pallvi Project Director; State Level Coordinating Agency; besides other officers and people were present on the occasion.

### Action against corrupt...

district, and it will hugely benefit the youth of Kerala. To develop modern infrastructure, the BJP government is spending around Rs 1 lakh crore on multiple projects in Kerala," he said.

### Minor's rape, murder...

it came to the light that on August 28, 2005, the appellant-accused visited the house of PW-1 at Rani Park, Jammu and on the pretext of purchasing a candle from the market, he induced the deceased to accompany him and enticed the victim to the place of occurrence where she was subjected to forcible sexual intercourse and was later killed.

Accordingly, final report under section 173(2) of Cr.PC. was filed against the accused.

The accused pleaded not guilty and claimed trial, therefore, prosecution was directed to lead the evidence. The prosecution examined as many as 23 witnesses to bring home guilt of the accused.

DB after hearing Adv YE Tak for the appellant, observed that it is manifest that the appellant, at the time of commission of the offence was a juvenile in conflict with law and since he is about thirty years of age now and ceases to be a juvenile, he is entitled to be released forthwith.

Having regard to what has been discussed, the present appeal is allowed in part. The appeal, as against conviction, is dismissed and consequently, the impugned conviction of appellant is upheld. However, the appeal, as against the sentence is allowed and since the appellant at the time of commission of offence was a juvenile in conflict with law, and has attained majority now, he is directed to be released immediately.

### J&K crime graph...

315 cases of rape, 1,041 cases related to abduction, 751 cases of rioting and 131 cases of arson.

The report noted that the abduction cases crossed the three digit mark in 2021 as the previous two years reported 961 such cases in 2019 and 868 in 2020. The chargesheeting rate remained at a low of 33.6 per cent.

Majority of the abducted persons are women, many of whom were kidnapped to force them into marriage.

The report said the number of unrecovered abducted persons till the end of 2021 was 1,882 who included 957 women who were abducted during the year and 811 other women who were kidnapped before 2021 but could not be traced during the year.

However, 1,051 abducted persons were recovered during the year 2021. Two of them were found dead after abduction, while the rest of the victims including 811 women were found alive.

The report said the crimes committed by juveniles also marked an increase in 2021. While 299 such cases were registered in 2019, the number jumped to 323 in

2021 with 2020 recording only 171 cases.

According to the report, Jammu and Kashmir registered 289 cases under the the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, two under the Official Secrets Act and 300 under offences against state-related acts last year.

As many as 247 cases were registered under arms and explosives related acts and 29 under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 35 Finance and Economic Act and 718 under the Excise Act.

Jammu and Kashmir also registered 1,681 cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

### Terrorist hideout busted...

in Baramulla's Dudbug-TY Shah forest area in the early hours of Thursday, they said. During the operation, the team recovered two boxes of ammunition from an underground hideout, officials said. The ammunition recovered included 1,460 bullets of AK-47 assault rifle.

### Four Pvt Secys...

Department, has been transferred and posted in the office of Custodian General, J&K, on ex-cadre basis.

Sanjay Kumar Pandita, Private Secretary (HoD Cadre), has been transferred from Youth Services & Sports Department and posted in the School Education Department, on ex-cadre basis; Sameer Ahmad Bhat, Senior Stenographer, Youth Services & Sports Department, has been transferred and posted in the School Education Department to work with the Administrative Secretary; Rajeev Kumar, Senior Stenographer, General Administration Department, has been transferred and posted in the Home Department to work with Special Secretary; Akash Langer, I/c Senior Stenographer, Home Department, has been transferred and posted in the J&K Public Service Commission, on ex-cadre basis; Qysir Ahmad Mir, I/c Senior Stenographer, School Education Department, has been transferred and posted in the Science & Technology Department to work with Administrative Secretary.

### Wool project to...

network. Farmer Produce Organisations and SHGs are to be constituted under the project to avail benefits under various components of the project.

Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department, Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, in a detailed presentation, highlighted the potential of tribal wool as sheep population of nearly 25 Lakh, migrating to highland pastures and in absence of value addition and marketing facilities the tribal farmers do not receive attractive returns.

Interventions under the project will provide massive opportunities for sale of wool and wool products with direct benefit to the sheep breeders, he said.

The tribal affairs department has already provided 20,000 sheep to tribal farmers over last year and half under specific intervention through mini Sheep Farms through Sheep Husbandry Department.

Apart from expanding the sheep population the department is focusing on marketing of wool to ensure an organised market for optimum returns to sheep farmers.

Training will be conducted by Tribal Research Institute in collaboration with Universities and institutes of excellence in sheep husbandry sector.

### J&K reports 147...

Similarly in Jammu division, Jammu reported 21 cases, Rajouri and Poonch 02 each, 01while no fresh case was reported in the remaining districts during this period.

## JKTJAC deputation calls on DSEJ, highlights issues

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A deputation of Jammu Kashmir Teachers' Joint Action Committee (JKTJAC) led by its UT President Vinod Sharma, called on Director School Education Jammu Dr Ravi Shanker Sharma on Thursday to highlight a number of genuine issues of teachers. While interacting with DSEJ, Sharma urged the office to initiate measures for resolving all genuine issues of teachers.

Major demands and issues projected on the occasion included conversion of RRe/TS to Teachers Grade II/III, regularisation of ReTs whose files are pending,

framing of comprehensive transfer policy, implementation of CAT directions, resumption of mutual transfers of teachers, initiation of process of mutual transfers of 3rd teachers/ RRE/TS, holding DPCs, ensuring rationalisation of teaching staff to overcome shortage of teachers, providing earned leave to teachers, etc.

The deputation comprised of Surjeet Singh, Rajesh Jamwal, Ravinder Manhas, Shamsheer Singh, Rakesh Sharma, S S Manhas, Rajinder Sharma, Gurdial Singh, Surinder Singh Manhas, Kulveer Singh, Surinder Singh, Sanjay Singh, Vinay Kumar, Rakesh Singh, Rajni Sadhotra and Sindhu Bala.

## Prof Roy from BHU delivers special lecture at SBT JU

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A special invited lecture was organized on Thursday in the School of Biotechnology, University of Jammu (JU) under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Prof. Jagat Kumar Roy from the Department of Zoology, Banaras Hindu University (BHU) was the invited speaker who enlightened the audience on the topic "Drosophila as the model organism for advanced genetic research".

Prof. B.K Bajaj, Director School of Biotechnology formally introduced the speaker.

Prof. Roy spoke about his research work involving the cloning of a gene involved in vesicular trafficking in cells from fruit fly.

The role of gene involved in cell membrane morphogenesis and in specific stages of development and differentiation was very well explained. The abnormal role of this gene leading to cancer; muscular dystrophy, eye disease and Alzheimer's disease too was talked about. Vice Chancellor, JU Prof. Umesh Rai was the chief guest and Prof. Bechan Lal, Vice chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu was the Guest of Honour. Prof. Umesh Rai lauded the speaker for the outstanding work he is carrying out at BHU and for giving the wonderful talk.

Prof. Manoj Kumar Dhar, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu also graced the occasion. A large number of students, scholars and teachers, from School of Biotechnology, Institute of Human Genetics and Department of Zoology were present and were greatly benefited from the lecture. The vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Madhulika Bhagat. The proceedings were carried out by Dr. Sheetal Ambardar.

## JPDCL Gangyal carries out drive against power theft, imposes penalties worth Rs 40 lakh

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL) Gangyal led by Nitin Mahajan Assistant Executive Engineer, Electric Division-II, Gandhi Nagar under the directions of MD JPDCL, Shiv Anant Tayal carried out a massive drive to disconnect illegal connections and imposed huge penalties on consumers involved in power theft at various areas including Hari Vihar, Digiana, Govind Nagar, Uttam nagar Kunjwani, Jawahar Nagar, Raipur Satwari, deli among others.

During the drive to remove illegal connections and impose fine on households involved in power theft, 553 households were inspected and people were made aware of the rules and regulations of the department. Penalty amounting to Rs. 40.07 lakh has been imposed on erring consumers involved in power theft.

A total of 1400 KW load has been revised during various drives by JPDCL Gangyal.

The members of the Inspection team include Er. Nitin Mahajan, Assistant Executive Engineer, Rajesh Sharma Assistant Engineer, Keshav Khajuria, Assistant Engineer, Hiteshwar Sood, Junior Engineer, IP Singh, Junior Engineer, Jagjit Singh, Junior Engineer, Sarvinder Singh, Technician, Rajesh Gupta Technician, Tara Chand, Technician, Goutam Kumar, Rohit Kumar and Sat Kumar.

## CRPF Group Centre celebrates 55th Raising Day

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Group Centre CRPF Jammu celebrated its 55th Raising day with full Zeal and enthusiasm at Bantalab, here on Thursday.

The chief guest, Bhanu Pratap Singh, DIG visited the Quarter Guard where he was saluted by the guard. Thereafter, a special record was made by him in the visitor's book of the Quarter Guard.

Later, DIG addressed "Sainik Sammelan", in which he gave best wishes to the gazetted officers, subordinate officers and jawans of CRPF present on the occasion.

He welcomed and congratulated everyone for raising day and described about golden history of Group Centre Jammu and said that this Group Centre was raised on September 01, 1968 under command of Lt



Bhanu Pratap Singh, DIG saluting at war memorial.

Col Shiv Charan Das.

Primarily the GC office was established at Talab Tillo (Deewan Kothhi), Jammu, which was shifted to this campus in 1971.

The command of this Group Centre was first handed over to "Lieutenant Col Shiv Charan Das" and since its inception till now 26 Commanding Officers have been played the main role to enhanced the Group Centre, CRPF Jammu.

Bhanu Pratap Singh, DIG, Group Centre CRPF, Jammu has been inspired everyone to keep themselves fit through exercise, yoga, meditation, sports, and also made them aware that Trees are helpful in maintaining and cleaning our environment and essential for ecology conservation.

CRPF has detailed Nodal Officers for each 10 District of Jammu region to supervise and manage Mega

## Implement all recommendations of ICHRRF: KPC urges PM

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Kashmiri Pandit conference (KPC) urged Prime Minister and Home Minister of India to implement all the recommendations of International Commission of Human Rights and Religious Freedom (ICHRRF) made to Government of India, recently in respect of Displaced Kashmiri Pandits.

In a letter to Prime Minister and Home Minister of India on behalf of victim displaced Kashmiri Pandits and it's organisation, KP President urged and appealed to implement all recommendations recently made by the ICHRRF based at Washington DC, in respect of Displaced Kashmiri Pandits in exile from the last thirty two years.

"This Commission has taking serious note of genocide and ethnic cleansing, of indigenous community of Kashmiri Pandits in Kashmir valley, at the hands of Islamic terrorists, as well as Muslim dominated Jammu and Kashmir and, Government policies, after verified the testimonies and getting of witnesses, recently on March 27, 2022," read the letter.

It added, "This ICHRRF have also notes and agreed that the intent of the ethnic cleansing of Kashmiri Hindus has been broadcast brazenly, and accomplished by political, legislative, and finally violent means and were killed with the active or passive complicity of their Muslim neighbors or colleagues."

Commissioner has also agreed and said that it was not due to an underlying class struggle, but based on religious ideology, it stated and added, "Commission has recommended to the Government of India for urgent implementations in respect of Displaced Kashmiri Pandits."

The letter further stated "Commission recommended to the Government of India to appoint a special Judicial Commission of Inquiry (COI) headed by a retired judge of the Indian Supreme Court to investigate the circumstances and scale of atrocities of the Kashmiri Hindu Genocide, at least in the period starting from 1986, and publish a white paper within 12 months.

The role of foreign and domestic state and non-state actors (including former Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, and former Home Minister of India, late Mufti Mohammad Saeed), sources of terror funding, illegal money laundering and terror support networks must be included in the scope of investigation.

The prominent, brazen, and celebrated perpetrators of genocide, murder, rape, and other crimes against humanity must be brought to justice under the Indian Penal Code by appointing fast track courts with daily hearings

The prosecution may be carried out under two appointing fast track courts with daily hearings. The prosecution may special TADA

courts, UAPA 3 , or other existing mechanisms like the NIA 4 .

All victims and survivors of genocide must be rehabilitated by the GOI unconditionally. Government jobs be given preferentially to them, and pensions for elderly survivors. Refugees and internally displaced persons must have the right to return to their properties in the Kashmir valley. Ownerships that were usurped using threat, force and intimidation must be restored back to survivors. A financial compensation pack-

age must be announced by the Government of India from the consolidated funds of India for the loss of life, loss of property, psychosomatic and physical disabilities sustained due to terror/trauma, and for emotional pain and suffering sustained by the survivors.

The comprehensive efforts are made to promote and preserve indigenous Kashmiri Hindu culture. The Commission recommends that the GOI take adequate and time bound steps to restore all Hindu shrines and

temples desecrated during the latest period of ethnic cleansing, undertaken by a trust with multiple stakeholders including the Ministry of Culture, the Archeological Survey of India, and representatives of the Kashmiri Hindu Community.

More importantly, the Commission (ICHRRF ) recommends creation of a safe haven, a sanctuary, or a Union Territory carved out in the Kashmir valley ( One place settlement in the valley ) where Kashmiri Hindus can live peacefully without any

further fear, force, and intimidation.

Kundan Kashmiri, President KPC, We hope Government of India lead by Hounrable Prime of India Narendra Modi and Hounrable Home Minister Amit Shah would implement these recommendations of International commission of Human Rights and religious freedom ( ICHRRF ) at the earliest for which victim community of Kashmiri Pandits in exile is waiting from the last thirty two years.



Officials along with students during the programme.

Pal Singh, Deputy Registrar and Dr Asha Upadhyay, Assistant Regional Director were the resource persons from the Regional Centre Jammu. Chairman of GK Educational Trust, Gaurav Khajuria was also present during the Orientation Programme.

As a part of MoU between IGNOU and the Ministry of

Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, for linking vocational education and training to higher education for trainees attached to National Skill Training Institutes (NSTI), ITIs, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras (PMKK) and Jan Shikshan Sansthans (JSS) for their upward mobility, IGNOU

has so far opened six Extension Centres for the prospective students in Jammu region. "The opening of Extension Centres will go a long way not only in expanding the reach of IGNOU to every nook and corner of the region but also in creating a sustainable and inclusive society. The reach of IGNOU to unexplored areas of the region is going to increase the strength of IGNOU extended family and also strengthen the Learner Support services. Prospective students across the region can visit these Extension Centres for availing admission guidance and pre-admission counseling related to IGNOU programmes FREE OF COST", said Dr Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director.