

Passing out parade for 29 Forest Guards held

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Forest Department organised passing out parade for 29 trainees of 58th Forest Guard Training Course on completion of their six month training at Forest Guard Training School, Doomi here on Tuesday.

Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, Sanjeev Verma, was the chief guest on the occasion.

The event was attended by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Dr. Mohit Gera and Chairman Training Schools, J&K Forest Department, along with other senior officers of the department.

The programme started with presentation of Guard of Honour to the chief guest followed by Passing Out Parade by the trainees of 23rd Kashmir Forester's Training Course, contingent of Forest Protection Force



Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, Sanjeev Verma during passing out parade.

and the Brass band of CRPF, Paloura. Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner Secretary congratulated the trainees for completing their training successfully. He praised the frontline staff of Forest Department for their presence in field which creates a deterrence among forest offenders. He applauded

the role of Forest Guards in providing ecological security to the forest resources. He exhorted upon them to dedicate themselves towards protection of green gold of Jammu & Kashmir. He called for effective management of forests with active participation of PRIs and people.

He asked the passed out trainees to gear up for protection of forests against hazards like forest fires, encroachments so that the forest wealth is protected. He assured that all cadre related issues of Forest Department will be addressed in a phased manner.

Dr. Mohit Gera, said that the job of frontline staff is tough since they are serving in their own locality and under harsh conditions.

He spoke in detail about the changing and expanding role of forest frontline staff and highlighted the importance of PRI and other grass root level institutions with which the Forest Guards will be closely working.

Earlier, the dignitaries conferred awards to the best performing trainees.

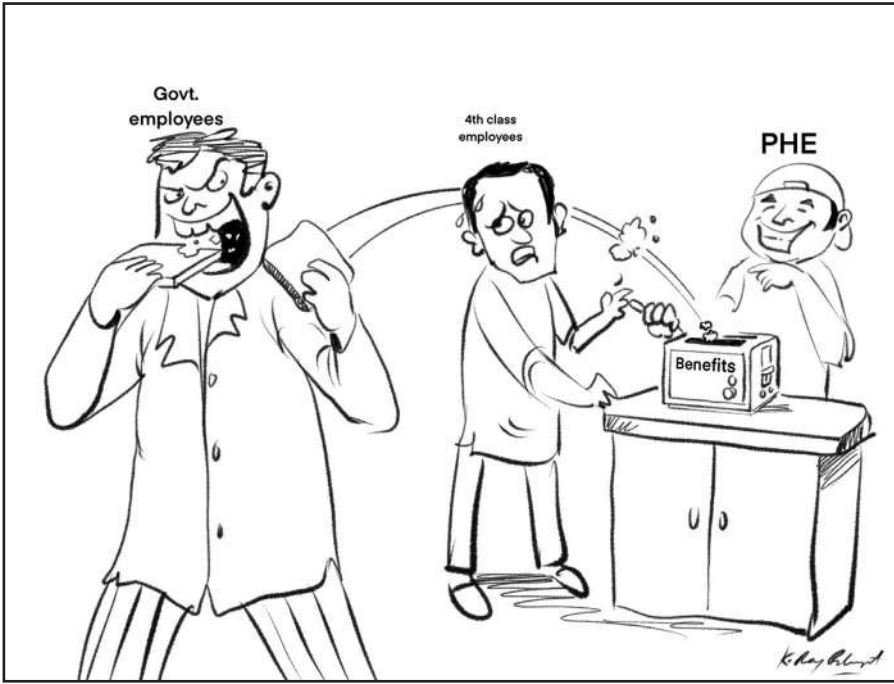
In academics, Arun Kumar, Forest Guard of Nowshera Forest Division secured first position, Bilal Abbas Wani, Forest Guard of Marwah

Forest Division secured second position and Vipin Pathania while Forest Guard of Billawar Forest Division secured third position.

In the Endurance Run, Sanjeev Kumar, Forest Guard of Anantnag Forest Division secured first place, Ajeet Kumar, Forest Guard of Ramnagar Forest Division secured second place and Mohammad Ishaq, Forest Guard of Rajouri Forest Division secured third place.

Besides, Vipin Pathania, Forest Guard of Billawar Forest Division was declared as best Silviculturist and Vipin Jamwal, Forest Guard of Jammu Forest Division as all round best trainee.

Earlier, Sandeep Kujur, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Working Plan Research & Training delivered welcome address while Principal Forest Guards Training School Doomi presented the course report.



IIM Jammu welcomes IPM second batch

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Jammu on Tuesday welcomed the second batch of IPM (2022-27) with the inaugural ceremony of the Orientation Program. A relaxing yoga session, focusing on the theme "Maximize happiness and mindfulness" by Yoga, and Meditation Trainer Gautam Vernamarked the beginning of the three-day program, followed by a faculty-student interactive session.

The program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur, Director, IIT Jammu, and Guest of Honor, Sanjeev Verma, Secretary, Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment.

The event also witnessed the presence of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, Dr. Rashmi Ranjan Parida, Chairperson Admissions, Dr. Kapil Manohar Gumte, Chairperson IPM, and Dr. Minakshi Kumari, Chairperson Alumni Affairs, IIM Jammu. The dignitaries on the dais lit the lamp to commence the inaugural ceremony.



Director IIT Jammu, Prof. Manoj Gaur honouring a dignitary.

emony of the three-day orientation program. This was followed by the chanting of the Saraswathi Vandana by the IPM01 batch.

Post felicitation of dignitaries by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, Dr. Rashmi Ranjan Parida, Chairperson Admissions IIM Jammu gave a brief presentation about the batch profile of the incoming second batch of IPM. It was heartening to notice the representation from around 16 states of the country in the second batch of IPM of IIM Jammu. He further stated that the girls had outperformed the boys this year in the IPM02 admission process.

Sanjeev Verma, Secretary, Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment, welcomed the incoming batch and advised them to be prepared for the forthcoming

academic sessions with rigor. This was followed by the introduction to the Integrated Program in Management (IPM) by Dr. Kapil Manohar Gumte, Chairperson IPM, IIM Jammu. He provided an overview of the course, faculty, and the institute in general.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics and Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu also spoke on the occasion.

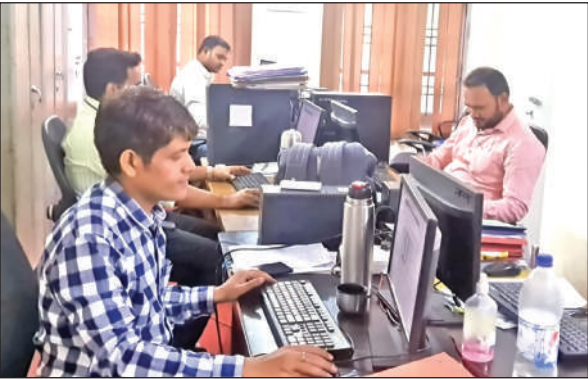
The first newsletter by the name "Prakhyapanam" of the Industry Interaction Cell (IIC) of IIM Jammu was also unveiled on this occasion.

The Orientation Programme ended with the Vote of Thanks by Dr. Minakshi Kumari, Chairperson Alumni Affairs followed by the recital of the National Anthem.

EPFO takes several initiatives to tackle workload

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: EPFO Jammu has taken several initiatives to tackle the workload, redress public grievances. Being a service oriented Organisation, EPFO in J&K and Ladakh has been facing some specific challenges viz. non-compliance, inadequate member details, lack of awareness amongst the members and employers, etc. to overcome these challenges, EPFO Regional Office Jammu has adopted flexi hours for facilitating stakeholders in an efficient manner. The Office from 6 AM to 11PM, and officials have liberty to work in flexi hours. Most of the Senior Social Security Assistants have preferred working in flexi hours, considering system speed in non-peak hours.



EPFO employees working during flexi hours.

Three Hundred Seventy Four claims were initiated by SSSAs in the morning shift (till 9.15AM), whereas by 5.03PM Seven Hundred Claims were initiated by SSSAs.

A number of visitors, facing different issues visited the

office and met P F Commissioner, Rizwan Uddin, where a dedicated team consisted of Mukesh Kumar, SSSA and Kanchan, DEO helped the visitors in best possible manner.

Nitin Bhatia from an employee of M/s Mahavir

Labour Contractor visited the Office to update his missing details. The same was processed by Sanjeev Kumar (SSSA). Md. Bhutwa, an ex-employer of M/s Pahalwan, had submitted a Joint Declaration, which had more than 3 years' variation in date of birth. He provided an ESIC Card and Passport as supporting documents. The Joint Declaration was immediately processed by Arun Kumar (SSSA).

Kishab Jandial, an ex-employee of M/s Gurjeet Labour Contractor visited Office to withdraw his provident fund. It was found that "Date of Exit" was not marked. His employer was advised to mark "Date of Exit". He would accordingly submit his claim in form 19 along with form 15-G. An employer from M/s KC Public School visited the office to enquire how to correct "Date of Exit", he was advised to submit Joint Declaration.

Joint Declaration of Surekha Pathania was updated, which was long term pending grievance.

Dalip Kumar Gupta and Pushpa Devi visited the office to submit Form 19 in part payment. He was advised to submit Form 19 again. Bharat Raina queries about wife's P F account that there was missing entries in his JKEPFO record. He was advised to go to JKEPFO Office and rectify your all entries.

Death case of Ab. Majeed Bhat an ex-employee of M/s Royal Spring Golf Course claim was settled in favour of his wife Saleema amounts Rs.602954/-, who was in urgent need. Sachin Bhardwaj, SSSA, Bipin, AO, Harinder Singh, RC-II processed the same on the insistence of P F Commissioner, Rizwan Uddin, who had a request from Additional Commissioner, J K EPFO, Srinagar.

JYBT to arrange Pitri Paksh Shraadh rituals

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ahead of 16-day long Pitri Paksh (Shraadh), which is commencing from September 10 to 25, 2022, Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust, has announced that like past practice, the Trust shall arrange 'Shraadh' rituals at the Bhawan. Talking to media persons, here today, President Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust, Pawan Shastri said that like in the previous occasions, this year also, the Trust is making elaborate arrangements for religious discourses and rituals to be observed at its Haridwar Bhawan during Pitri Paksh 2022. "Members of the Trust in particular and public in general who intend to perform "Pitri Paksh" (Shraadh)-2022 of their late parents, friends, relatives and well wishers at Shree Ganga Ji Ghat Haridwar, may contact our Central Office Mohalla Darugiran, Kanak Mandi, Jammu over Mobile No. 9419662100, 7051122990 (Helpline Jammu) and 09897128391 (Helpline Haridwar)," he said.

He further informed that those who desirous to perform Shraadh of their late

nearer and dearer, but due to their unavoidable circumstances are unable to attend personally at Haridwar to perform the same, may also contact.

"Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust shall on their behalf arrange to perform rituals of their nearer and dearer as well, clip to this effect may be seen on Facebook page of Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust," he added. "Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust is making elaborate arrangements for ritual of Tarpan to be reserved at Haridwar at their own and to pray the Almighty for their salvation on the day of Amasiya falling due on September 25, 2020 for which 1008 Pinddaan at Ganga Ji Ghat shall be performed through highly learned Pandits. Families of the war heroes who would like to participate personally, may inform us prior so that a proper arrangement for them shall be ensured," said Pawan Shastri.

Among others the press conference was attended by Sh. Gurdas Sharma (General Secretary), Ram Langer, (Treasurer) and Jatinder Aggarwal, (Trustee).

Congress will bounce back with full strength: Bhalla

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Expressing confidence that Congress will bounce back in a revitalized form on the J&K's political scene, JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla on Tuesday said that the party will continue to push for peace with dignity which is the focal point of its agenda. Interacting with prominent persons of Chatha Pind as a part of his mass public outreach programmes, Bhalla said that leadership has started working on a revival plan and party cadre is being revitalised to carry on the



JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla interacting with people.

party's political campaign with renewed vigour. The meeting was organized by Refugee Cell Congress Vice Chairman Anurit Bali while prominent among those present on the

occasion includes Sarpanchs Dheera, Ravinder Singh, Mahinder Choudhary, Pawan Bhagat, Kapoor Lal Dogra, Sunil Kumar Panch, Daljeet Kour Panch, Sudesh Kumar

Panch, Raj Kumar Panch, Rano Devi, Soma Devi, Dr.Ramesh Sharma, Pappal Barber and Babu.

Speaking on the occasion, Bhalla stated that the party has always held the need of dialogue and political approach as the only way out of the unending crises J&K is facing for many decades. "Mainstreaming of the political problems is the lasting contribution of Congress and it will continue to pursue it till durable peace is restored in J&K and people start living a normal and peaceful life,"

Bhalla said.

Bhalla said people of Jammu and Kashmir are eagerly, waiting for assembly elections for teaching a lesson to BJP in J&K. "Congress is serving people with dedication and without self interest. Congress and its leaders are available for service at people 24x7. Congress will manage major win in J&K as people are fed up of anti-people, anti-poor, anti-trader, anti-employee and anti-farmer policies of BJP Government. They will definitely show the saffron party its place in the next elections," he asserted.

Golf: PGTI's J&K Open 2022 to begin today at JTGC



Advisor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar flanked with other dignitaries briefing media persons at Jammu on Tuesday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI) will hold the second edition of J&K Open from 7th of September to 10th September, 2022 at Jammu Tawi Golf Course (JTGC), Jammu in association with Jammu and Kashmir Tourism department.

The mega event will carry a cash prize of Rs. 40 lakh for the winner and the pro-am event will be held on September 11.

The tournament which would be bringing in professional golfers to Jammu for the first time is part of J&K Tourism's unique initiative of promoting golf tourism in the region as J&K is blessed with some spectacular golf courses such as Royal Springs Golf Course (Srinagar), Pahalgam Golf Course (Lidder Valley), Gulmarg Golf Club and

Jammu Tawi Golf Course.

Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, while talking about the event on Tuesday, said "It gives me immense pleasure to welcome the PGTI and professional golfers to Jammu for the second edition of the J&K Open being presented by J&K Tourism. After a successful inaugural edition in the Kashmir Valley last year, we're delighted to host the cream of Indian professional golfers in Jammu region this year as we look to promote golf and golf tourism in both regions of J&K. This will be the first time that professional golfers will come to the city of Jammu and I am confident that the professionals will relish the experience of playing at the magnificent Jammu Tawi Golf Course. The tournament will also go a long

way in inspiring many youngsters from the region to follow and take up the sport of golf."

Secretary, Tourism & Youth Services and Sports, Sarnad Hafeez, said, "We are proud to support the J&K Open 2022, as Golf Tourism is an integral part of our larger objective to promote tourism in J&K. This maiden professional tournament at Jammu will bring Jammu Tawi Golf Course (JTGC), a picturesque 18-hole golf course on the banks of River Tawi, on the international golfing map with an opportunity for local talent to showcase their skills. Besides, this mega event is an opportunity to project J&K as a major hub for Golf Tourism in the country. We look forward to such mutually beneficial partnerships to harness the Tourism potential of UT of Jammu and Kashmir."

Secretary, Jammu Tawi Golf Course, Manav Gupta, said, "With J&K Open 2022, it is nothing less than something historic being done at Jammu Tawi Golf Course. Tourism and Golf has a long walk to do after this."

Chief Executive Officer, PGTI, Uttam Singh Mundy, said, "The second edition of the J&K Open being presented by J&K Tourism helps the PGTI expand its geographical footprint as we make our debut in the Jammu region of J&K. The tournament is in line with our long-term objective of promoting professional golf in different parts across the country in order to grow the sport further. We thank J&K Tourism and the Jammu Tawi Golf Course for all their support in helping us stage this event."

Galaxy of top Indian professionals are participating in

the tournament like Olympian Udayan Mane, Rashid Khan, Khalin Joshi, Yuvraj Singh Sandhu, defending champion Honey Baisoya, Manu Gandas, Karandeep Kochhar and Arjun Sharma. The foreign challenge will be led by Sri Lankans Mithun Perera and N Thangaraja besides Bangladesh's Jamal Hossain.

The local challenge will be led by J&K-based players including professionals Pawan Parihar, Fayaz Ahmed Langoo, Raghav Wahi, Mohammad Din Poda as well as amateurs Prabhnoor Singh, Vedant Handa and Zubair Hasan Zargar.

National, Int'l players to visit Jammu

Field to feature Olympian Mane, Rashid, Khalin, Yuvraj, defending champ Baisoya, Gandas, Karandeep Kochhar New Delhi: The Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), the official sanctioning body of professional golf in India, along with J&K Tourism, today announced the second edition of the J&K Open presented by J&K Tourism which will be held at the magnificent Jammu Tawi Golf Course in Jammu, from September 7 - 10, 2022.

The tournament which brings professional golf to Jammu for the first time is supported by Presenting Partners J&K Tourism and Amazing Jammu, Host Venue Jammu Tawi Golf Course and Hospitality Partner Radisson Blu Hotel, Jammu.

The top Indian professionals in the field include Olympian Udayan Mane, Rashid Khan, Khalin Joshi, Yuvraj Singh Sandhu, defending champion Honey Baisoya, Manu Gandas,



Golfers Manu Gandas and Arjun Sharma with J&K Open 2022 Trophy.

Karandeep Kochhar and Arjun Sharma, to name a few. The foreign challenge will be led by Sri Lankans Mithun Perera and N Thangaraja and Bangladesh's Jamal Hossain.

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Uttam Singh Mundy, CEO, PGTI, said, "A fascinating world of golf is in the offing as the professionals can

expect a whole new set of challenges at a new venue, the Jammu Tawi Golf Course."

Jammu Tawi Golf Course, was commissioned on 24th April 2011. The course has fairways approximately 6600 meters in length, it has two big and three small water bodies and a water channel about 3200 meters long.

The Government of Jammu & Kashmir undertook the construction of this prestigious project of Jammu Tawi Golf Course with the intention of giving a boost to Golf Tourism and grooming young boys and girls to become golf professionals.

after tourist destination. Kashmir is a valley where streams, lakes, flowers and fruits abound, is a place bestowed with the beauty of

four seasons. Pertinently, Jammu Tawi Golf Course, is an 18-hole course, designed by internationally renowned designer

Colonel K.D Bagga, located along the National Highway 1A connecting Jammu to Srinagar, in a valley along the river Tawi.