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World leaders gather...

will enjoy the warmth of the Indian hospitality." "I will also be holding bilateral meetings with several leaders and Heads of Delegation to further deepen the bonds of friendship and cooperation," he added. The G20 leaders will deliberate on pressing global issues at the grouping's annual summit here on September 9 and 10. India is hosting the summit in its capacity as the current G20 chair. The leaders of the influential grouping are being welcomed at the airport with cultural performances. In its G20 presidency, India has been focusing on various issues such as inclusive growth, digital innovation, climate resilience and equitable global health access. The G20 member countries represent around 85 per cent of the global GDP, over 75 per cent of the global trade and about two-thirds of the world population. The grouping comprises Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the UK, the US and the European Union (EU).

Modi, Biden stress...

last US President to visit India was Donald Trump in February 2020. "Prime Minister Modi and President Biden reaffirmed the importance of the Quad in supporting a free, open, inclusive, and resilient Indo-Pacific," the statement said. India welcomed the US decision to co-lead the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative Pillar on Trade Connectivity and Maritime Transport, further to the US decision to join the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI) in June 2023, it said. Continuing to share the view that global governance must be more inclusive and representative, President Biden also reaffirmed his support for a reformed UN Security Council with India as a permanent member, and, in this context, welcomed once again India's candidature for the UNSC non-permanent seat in 2028-29, the statement said.

Sunak interacts with...

-- a reflection of the living bridge that exists between the UK and India," Sunak wrote on X. He also shared pictures of his interaction. In an interview to PTI earlier this week, Sunak, the first Indian-origin prime minister of Britain, said the relationship between the UK and India will define the future of the two countries, even more than it is defining the present.

Kargil local body...

administration added that the request for allotment of the 'plough' symbol by the National Conference was 'bonafide, legitimate and just, for the plain reason that in the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir (which included the present Union Territory of Ladakh), it was a recognized State Party having been allotted the 'plough' symbol." Coming down heavily on the Ladakh administration, the top court stated, "What is also clear is that the appellants (Ladakh administration) are attempting to appropriate and reprobate...."

Two LeT terrorist...

been registered at Police Station and further investigation has been taken up. Meanwhile, Security forces have arrested a 'hybrid' terrorist and his associate in Budgam district and seized incriminating materials from their possession, police said on Friday. The duo was apprehended in the Pakharpora area of the central Kashmir district,

a police spokesperson said. They were identified as Tanveer Ahmad Bhat and his associate Yawer Maqbool Ganai -- both residents of Karapora Charar-Sharief. A preliminary investigation revealed that the duo was operating under the banner of the proscribed terror outfit LeT/TRF in the Pakharpora area, the spokesman said. Arms and ammunition, including a pistol, a magazine and nine rounds, and other incriminating materials were found in their possession, he said. A case has been registered and further investigation has been taken up, the spokesman added. 'Hybrid' terrorists are those who are not listed as ultras but persons radicalised enough to carry out a terror strike and then slip back into their routine lives.

G20 meet 'normal...'

"Why should president invite me? I don't see why the president would invite me," the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said. India is hosting the G20 meeting over the weekend. To another question about the Bharat-India name change row, the former Union minister said the Constitution has both the names and there is no difference between the two. "If you see the prime minister's plane, both India and Bharat are written there as well. I don't see any difference between the two, if anyone sees any difference, then they know that, I do not. They are both the same things. It is the media which creates controversy," he said. On the question about "One nation, one election proposal", he said let the government put it before Parliament, "we will see what we will do". On the fresh notification by election authorities in Ladakh for the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council polls in Kargil, Abdullah said the notification has been issued and the elections will take place and the people will vote in October.

IASOWA J&K members...

encouraged them to pursue these with dedication and commitment. They encouraged them to make best use of their time to shine like stars in their lives. On this occasion, the members went through the classrooms and labs of the school besides distributing stationary, books and other sports goods among the students. They also planted the ornamental and other saplings in the school premises to improve the aesthetics of the campus. They highlighted the significance of trees in protection of environment and their role in the survival of mankind. They also threw light on the past endeavours and future plans of the IASOWA such as afforestation, social plantation and generating awareness in public to change their lifestyle that is more eco-friendly and beneficial for their health and well-being. Besides the teachers and students of the school the local administrators and officers of the School Education Department were present during all these proceedings of the Association. Moreover, in order to expand its activities to other areas of the social concerns, the IASOWA J&K is simultaneously conducting 'Donation Drives' in Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir. They have urged the respectable citizens to come forward and play their part for the betterment of the society.

HC modifies transfer...

their respective place of postings; and Rashi Verma (under transfer as Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board, Jammu vice Sandeep Singh Sen), shall continue to work as Additional Special Mobile Magistrate, R.S Pura.

CJ visits Shopian...

also reviewed functioning of district Court and Subordinate courts. Chief Justice was accompanied by his Principal Secretary, M K Sharma; Principal District & Sessions Judge, Riyaz Ul Haq Mirza; DC Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb; SSP, Tanushree; Chief Judicial Magistrate, Intiyaz Ahmad Lone; Secretary DLSA Susheel Singh; Munsiff Brijraj Singh; Bar President, other officers and Bar members during the visit.

Govt rolls out...

Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, while two districts each in Assam, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal. In Rajasthan, the mandatory gold hallmarking will be implemented in one district -- Jalore -- during the third phase. Nodal agency Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has successfully implemented mandatory hallmarking in the last two phases, wherein more than 4 lakh gold articles are being hallmarking with Hallmark Unique Identification (HUID) every day. Since the implementation of mandatory hallmarking, the ministry said, the number of registered jewellers has increased from 34,647 to 1,81,590, while Assaying and Hallmarking Centers (AHCs) rose to 1,471 from 945. "More than 26 crore articles of gold jewellery have been hallmarking with HUID so far," the ministry said. Consumers are encouraged to verify the authenticity and purity of the hallmarking gold jewellery items with the HUID number purchased by using 'verify HUID' in the BIS Care App, which can be downloaded from the Play Store. The number of downloads of the BIS Care App has increased from 2.3 lakhs during 2021-22 to 12.4 lakh in the current financial year. Further, more than one crore hits of 'verify HUID' in the BIS Care App have been recorded as of date in the span

of the last two years, it added.

19 officers promoted...

As per another order, sanction is accorded to the promotion of 12 Time Scale officers to the Selection Grade of the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service in pay level 12 (Rs. 78800-209200), with effect from July 18, 2023. They include Naresh Kumar, Fareed Ahmad Kohli, Suhail Ahmad, Mita Kumari, Mushtaq Ahmad Chowdhary, Rigzin Spalgon, Gulzar Ahmad, Jasmeet Singh, Shaheena Khan, Saleem Beigh, Babu Ram Tandon, and Kulraj Singh. Sanction is hereby accorded to the promotion of two Time Scale officers to the Selection Grade of Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service in pay level 12 (Rs.78800-209200). As per order, Akhtar Hussain Qazi has been promoted with effect from February 17, 2020 on notional basis and on regular basis from July 18, 2023 while Anil Kumar Thakur has been promoted with effect from August 9, 2021 on notional basis and on regular basis from July 18, 2023. Sanction is accorded to the promotion of six Selection Grade officers namely Joginder Singh Rai, Ranjeet Singh, Surender Mohan Sharma, Tashi Dolma, Deep Raj and Champa Devi to the Special Scale of Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service in pay level 13 (Rs. 123100-215900), with effect from July 18, 2023.

Govt constitutes panel...

the proposed solutions in the document, if any, along with estimated cost." "The committee shall ensure strict compliance to all rules, procedures/guidelines issued by the government from time to time, while vetting the document," it stated and added, "The committee shall submit its report within 07 days from the date of issuance of this order to the indenting department under intimation to General Administration Department and IT department".

JKEDI invites applications...

meeting, Director, JKEDI, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat emphasized on the crucial role that startups play in strengthening economic growth, creating employment opportunities, and advancing technological innovations. He reiterated the Government's unwavering commitment to create an enabling and sustainable environment for startups to flourish in J&K, thereby making significant contributions to the Union Territory's socio-economic development. "It is imperative that startups and business owners in Jammu and Kashmir take full advantage of the benefits offered under the Government's Startup Policy. These benefits can serve as catalysts for the success of their ventures. We must ensure that startups register themselves on 'www.startupjk.com' portal to avail these benefits," he said. "All faculty members and district officers of the Institute should actively work towards increasing the number of registered startups under this initiative. It is crucial to ensure a broad representation from all corners of the Union Territory, including remote, border, and tribal areas", he maintained. "We must provide comprehensive guidance and support to aspiring entrepreneurs to facilitate a smoother registration journey, he added. JKEDI is the UT Nodal Agency for the implementation of the J&K Startup Policy. The policy offers a wide array of incentives and benefits to startups, including support in financial linkages, mentorship programs, and access to state-of-the-art infrastructure. Some of the features of the policy are providing of Office Space, Monthly Allowance, Assistance for Product Research & Development/Marketing/Publicity, Energy Assistance, Patent Filing Cost Reimbursement, Tax benefits/ Exemptions, Public Procurement Self Certification of compliance under Labour Laws, Exposure visits and workshops for Start-ups Infrastructure Support in addition to others. These measures are strategically designed to encourage local talent to transform innovative concepts into thriving businesses, ultimately fostering economic self-sufficiency in the region. Further, the Director encouraged faculty members and DNOs to identify promising startup ideas, and facilitate their seamless integration into the vibrant startup ecosystem. Startups looking to register under J&K Startup Policy can visit the website www.startupjk.com, where they can access registration details and additional information about the policy. Moreover, startups can directly reach out to In Charge CIIBM, JKEDI, Vishal Ray, on 9419216208 and Intiyaz Ahad Malla, Associate Project Manager, JKEDI, on 8825014846 or 01933-222267. For inquiries via email, startups can use jkedipublic@gmail.com. They are also welcome to visit the district offices of the Institute, besides regional campuses at Bari Brahmana, Jammu and Sempora Pampore. More information is available on the Institute's official website, www.jkedi.org.

IGP Bhim Sen...

Hqrs, PHQ, J&K, is appointed as Inquiry Officer to conduct an enquiry into the charges framed against Ashiq Hussain Tak, Superintendent of Police, presently attached with the PHQ, J&K," reads an order issued by Raj Kumar Goyal, Financial Commissioner/Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department. "Further, Jatinder Singh Johar, JKPS, AIG (Trg & P), PHQ, J&K shall be the Presenting Officer," it stated and added, "The Inquiry Officer shall complete the enquiry and submit report to the Home Department within a period of thirty days from the date of issue of this order." In March 2023, Tak was attached after the government allegedly received complaints of corruption against him. Tak was posted as the Additional Superintendent of Police, Bandipora, when he was attached on March 9.

SI Showkat gets one year extension in NIA

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: The government on Friday extended deputation of SI Showkat Hussain of J&K Police to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) for one year. "Sanction is accorded to the extension in deputation of SI Showkat Hussain, PID No. ARP115622, of J&K Police to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), for a further period of one year (4th year), with effect from October 29, 2022, on the standard terms and conditions of deputation contained in Schedule (XVIII) of J&K Civil Service Regulations," reads and order issued by Raj Kumar Goyal, Financial Commissioner/Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department. Dr. Zakir posted as ADC Shopian, Tanwir gets addl charge of GM DIC Poonch

Swami Vivekananda Hospital organises Physiotherapy camp

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Free Physiotherapy camp was held in Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission Charitable Hospital on Friday on the eve of "Physiotherapy Day" being held across the world. The camp was inaugurated by Amar Chand Gupta, Sr. Vice President in presence of B.B Gupta, General Secretary, B.S Jamwal, Secretary, Subash Gupta, Member, Dr Ramesh Gupta, Administrator, Dr Vahini Sharma and Dr Nishtha Watloo, Physiotherapists and other staff members. In a short notice as many as 30 cases were registered and given Free Physiotherapy Treatment including advance techniques.



Doctors carrying out physiotherapy of patients during the camp.

Without prior approval of UGC degree is not valid and the same cannot be used for the purpose of acquiring employment in Government service : HC

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Justice Sanjay Dhar of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court held that any degree issued by a private university through study centre or off-campus centre established without prior approval of the UGC, is not a valid degree and the same cannot be used for the purpose of acquiring employment in Government service. This significant judgment has been passed in a petition challenging selection of private respondents as Data Entry Operators made in terms of the order issued by respondent No.3 vide endorsement No. LA/1569-71/2005 dated 11th July, 2005. A direction has also been sought by the petitioner upon the official respondents to consider him for the post of Data Entry Operator and to grant him all the promotional and monetary benefits. Brief facts leading to the filing of this

writ petition are that an advertisement notice dated 5th May, 2005, came to be issued by respondent No.3 whereby, inter alia, applications for filling up four posts of Data Entry Operators were invited. The minimum prescribed qualification for the said post was Graduation from any recognized University with one year Diploma in Computer Application Software/office automation from any recognised institute. It seems that the petitioner as well as private respondents No.5 to 8 responded to the said advertisement notice. The petitioner came to know that respondents No.2 to 4 have issued the selection and appointment list but he has not been selected/appointed. He filed a writ petition bearing SWP No.878/2005 seeking a direction upon the official respondents to disclose the selection list. After getting copy of the selection list, it came to the notice of

the petitioner that he has not been selected but instead respondents No.5 to 8 have been selected. The aforesaid writ petition was withdrawn by the petitioner where after he challenged the selection of respondents No.5 to 8 by way of another writ petition bearing SWP No.401/2006. The ground urged by the petitioner in the said writ petition was that the selected candidates i.e., private respondents No. 5 to 8 herein are ineligible and inferior in merit to him. Justice Sanjay Dhar after hearing both the sides observed that it is clear that any degree issued by a private university through study centre or off-campus centre established without prior approval of the UGC is not a valid degree and the same cannot be used for the purpose of acquiring employment in Government service. Since the petitioner, admittedly, has

undergone Diploma course in Computer Application from Kava Study Centre, Budgam, and not from a recognized institute, as such, the official respondents have rightly rejected his candidature on the basis of the opinion expressed by Jammu University. Justice Sanjay Dhar while dismissing the petition observed that the petitioner himself being not eligible for selection to the post of Data Entry Operator; cannot call into question the selection of private respondents. Even otherwise the certificates placed on record by the private respondents along with their reply clearly indicate that they have undergone Diploma courses for the requisite period from the recognized institutes. Therefore, the contention of the petitioner that the private respondents did not possess the requisite qualification from a recognized institute is without any merit.

HC dismisses petition challenging BOSE notification regarding compulsory published text books

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Justice Sanjay Dhar of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court dismissed the petition filed by J&K Private Schools United Front challenging the notification No.F (PP-Publication) B/22 dated 26.08.2022 issued by respondent No.4, whereby all the private schools have been asked to ensure that in the first phase, the text books published by the J&K BOSE are implemented/prescribed by all the private schools across UT of J&K for classes 6th to 8th from the ensuing academic session. Challenge has also been thrown to communication dated 4th January, 2023

issued by respondent No.4, communication dated 27.03.2023 issued by respondent No.6, communication dated 28.03.2023 issued by respondent No.5 and communication dated 28.03.2023 issued by respondent No.7, which, in effect, have been issued as a follow-up to the impugned notification dated 26.08.2022. Justice Sanjay Dhar while dismissing the petition, observed that as per the aforesaid Rule, it has been made incumbent upon every school to follow curriculum and textbooks prescribed by the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (BOSE). These Rules have been framed

in exercise of power under Section 29 of the J&K School Education Act, 2002, and have statutory force. By virtue of the resolution adopted by the Affiliation Committee of the Board, adherence to the aforesaid Rule has been made compulsory by the Board. It is pursuant to this Statutory Rule that respondent No.4 has issued the impugned notification making it obligatory upon all the schools affiliated to the Board to use the textbooks prescribed and published by the Board. Therefore, it cannot be stated that the impugned notification has been issued without the approval of the competent authority.

IGNOU opens online link for submission of exam forms for December 2023 Term-End Examination

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Indra Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has thrown open the online link for submission of examination forms for December 2023 Term-End Examinations. The December 2023 Term-End Examinations of IGNOU for various Academic Programmes offered by the university will commence from December 1, 2023 and conclude on of January 6, 2024. The date sheet has been placed on IGNOU website www.ignou.ac.in and the online link for submission of examination forms can directly be accessed following the link https://exam.ignou.ac.in/ on IGNOU website homepage. The eligible students can submit their respective examination fees for all eligible as well as backlog courses, provided the programme validity is not over or minimum duration is achieved and pay examination fee @Rs.200/- per course from their Debit/Credit Cards/Internet Banking. Last date for submission of online examination form without Late Fee is September 30, 2023 upto 6PM. The examination form submission portal would again start from 1st of October, 2023 and will accept examination forms with a Late Fee of Rs.500/- which will close on 20th of October, 2023 at 6PM.

Finally, the examination form submission portal will again open from 21st of October, 2023 and will accept examination forms with a Late Fee of Rs.1100/- which will close on 31st of October, 2023 at 6PM. The University will try to accommodate the students in the examination centre opted by them. In case, the sitting at a particular centre has exhausted, student may choose the nearest/alternate exam centre under the jurisdiction of the same Regional Centre. However, the University reserves the right to shift the students from one exam centre to another exam centre. The University reserves the right to reschedule/cancel examinations/papers at any time in all the Examination Centre across the Country or in any particular Examination Centre/ State due to any exigency or any other reason. "All students who are eligible to take examinations for the December 2023 Term End Examination should hurry up and submit their examination forms well before the deadline and must not wait for the last date to approach since the servers get overloaded towards the end due to huge internet traffic", said Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director In charge IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu.