

'New initiatives are windows that open up to infinite world of ideas' LG launches contemporary digital shows 'Inspire Gen-Z', 'The Beats of J&K' created by DIPR

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Oct 21: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today launched 'Inspire Gen-Z' and 'The Beats of J&K', two contemporary digital shows created by the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) to engage, entertain and inspire the youth of J&K.

The Lt Governor also inaugurated the Study Lounge and Reference Library and dedicated DIPR Auditorium, Srinagar as 'Pandit Bhajan Sopori Auditorium' in the honour of the Santoor Maestro.

He congratulated the Information & Public Relations Department and the talented youth of the UT of J&K. New initiatives of DIPR are like windows that open up to an infinite world of ideas, imagination, wisdom and culture, said the Lt Governor.

From communicating Government programmes and policies to the public to disseminating cultural tradition, the Information Department is playing an important



Lt Governor Manoj Sinha felicitating the winners of National Anthem Round-2.

role by offering new ideas and perspectives, he added.

"Youth is the hope of our nation. Young generation of J&K wants to

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drive social progress, contribute to the economic growth and a better future for the society and the nation. Our effort is to ignite their dreams and aspirations and to ensure they realise their true potential of

changemakers', the Lt Governor said.

He further observed that the dreams and aspirations of people can be truly realised only in conditions of peace and terrorism is one of the gravest threats to peace.

"I call upon the young generation to come together to foil the efforts of elements disrupting normal life and economic progress of J&K," the Lt Governor added.

Young generation should always rise above narrow considerations of caste, religion to build an inclusive and equitable society in today's inter-dependent world. The spirit of oneness can bring the most effective transformation in our society, the Lt Governor observed.

He called upon the officials and employees of the Information department to play the role of master communicators.

There is a need to counter deliberate dissemination of falsehoods, propaganda with the intent to cause harm to the society. We also need to safeguard press freedom. A large number of newspapers, TV Stations & digital users reflect the vitality and vibrancy of our media and democracy, the Lt Governor said.

We have to keep in mind that medium is the message. So we must choose the right mass media tools to reach out to the people with factual information, he added.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also urged all departments and common citizens to purchase local products. On this

Diwali, we must strengthen the resolve of self-reliant J&K and Vocal for Local campaign by giving preference to local products and empower youth, women associated with the self help groups, he added.

Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary to the Government, Information Department, while speaking on the occasion, congratulated the department and everyone

associated with the new initiatives.

With the new shows launched today, we are aiming to take the talent of J&K to the national and international level in digital, contemporary and modern forms and show the world what the youth of the UT are capable of, he added.

Akshay Labroo, Director, Information & Public Relations, J&K, in his welcome address, provided an insight into the new initiatives and programmes of the department to showcase the inspirational stories of change makers and providing a platform to the talented youth of the UT.

State-of-the-Art Reference Library will not only be limited to archival use but also provide a space to the intelligentsia to hold seminars and discussions, he informed.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor honoured Prof. Aparna Sopori, wife of Santoor Maestro Pandit Bhajan Sopori. He also felicitated the winners of National Anthem Round-2.

Live performances by the renowned artists of J&K including Gulzar Ahmed Ganai, Kusha Sharma, Chinmaya Sharma, Irfan and Bilal remained one of the major highlights of the evening.

Short videos highlighting the objectives and vision of the initiatives were also showcased.

Dr Darakshan Andrabi, Chairperson J&K Waqf Board; R R Swain, Special DG, CID; Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Sujit Kumar DIG; Mohammad Aijaz, DC Srinagar; Naresh Kumar, Sanna Kotwal and Inam Ul Haq Siddiqui, Joint Directors, DIPR; Family members of Pandit Bhajan Sopori, besides senior officials, artists, youth, students, volunteers of Gen-Z, and prominent citizens from all walks of life were present on the occasion.

CEO inspects B2V works in Rajouri, Poonch districts

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 21: The Chief Executive Officer, IWMP, J&K Dr Bharat Bhushan conducted an extensive tour of the twin districts



CEO, IWMP and ACD Sunderbani inspecting an executed work at border village Nah in IWMP inspected works in

of Rajouri and Poonch and inspected 'Back to Village' works executed in the Panchayats.

Dr. Bharat Bhushan, told that as per the directions of Commissioner/Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Mandeep Kaur he took an extensive visit of Sunderbani, Siot and Nowshera Blocks of district Rajouri and inspected works under Back to Village Programme, Swach Bharat Mission, Amrit Sarovar and under convergence mode.

Vinod Kumar Behnal, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Sunderbani, Block Development Council Chairman Balkrishan Sharma, Vijay Kumar, Assistant Commissioner Development, Rajouri, Dr. Sunil Sharma BDO Siot/ Sunderbani, Khalil Chowdhary BDO Nowshera & Chanderkant Bhagat, BDO Rajouri accompanied CEO, IWMP during the tour.

The works were inspected in border Panchayat Nah, Prat, Rajal "A" and Muradpur. He also visited Govt Primary School Channi Prat and Health and Wellness Centre in Prat in Block Siot, Rajouri.

Similarly in Poonch district, accompanied by Abid Hussain, ACD Poonch and BDOs of Bafliaz and Surankote, Block Sukote

Draba, Bhatta Durian and Lower Pota Panchayats.

The CEO exhorted the officers to identify site for village Haat in every Panchayat where local artisans, farmers and members of SHGs can display and sell their produce/products and improve their economic profile besides giving them an opportunity for exposure, learning and competition.

He asked ACDs to achieve the deliverables and ensure formulation of the Comprehensive Village Development Plan incorporating the requirements of all sectors/Departments.

Dr. Bharat Bhushan also attended Jan Abhiyan Programme organised in Panchayats Ghar, lower Pota where SDM Surankote, also participated. Five Sanction letters were also handed over to the unemployed educated youth on the occasion to start income-generating units under PMEGP Scheme.

ABVP meets Vice Chairman Higher Education Council, highlights issues

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 21: A delegation of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) today called on Vice Chairman of Jammu Kashmir Higher Education Council, Padam Shri Professor Dinesh Singh and apprised him about the resentment against proposed Public University Bill 2022.



ABVP delegation submitting a memorandum to Vice-Chairman of Higher Education Council at Jammu.

The delegation led by ABVP Jammu Kashmir State Secretary Mukesh Manhas said that the proposed amendment in the Bill is an infringement in the academic domain of the universities and amounts to a malafied attempt to increase unwanted interference of the bureaucracy into the affairs of the universities.

The major amendment proposed in the Public University Bill 2022 is the appointment of Assistant Professors, Professors in Jammu Kashmir Universities will be now made by Jammu Kashmir Public Service Commission (JKPSC) and not by the universities while for non-gazetted positions, it has been proposed to do away with interviews altogether and conduct recruitment through the

Service Selection Board.

ABVP stressed that universities are autonomous bodies and interference of the Government bodies in the working of a university will surcease the working atmosphere and kill the basic spirit of autonomy of these institutions in higher learning. The delegation demanded immediate withdrawal of the proposed Public University Bill 2022 without any delay.

The ABVP delegation also drew attention towards controversial notification of J&K PSC on new recruitment rules for the appointment of Assistant Professors in the Higher Education Department. As per the notification, a written examination will now be conducted in addition to an interview while weightage of academic marks has been reduced to 15. ABVP demanded that the JKPS should follow UGC norms and conditions while making recruitments of Assistant professors in college cadre.

The Vice Chairman assured the delegation that all the genuine issues and demands would be taken up before the higher authority for examination and for early redressal.

The delegation comprised of ABVP State Joint Secretaries Ramnik Sharma, Shaweta Sharma, Shubam Amar, Abhishek Dutta, Paritosh, Bhushan Sharma and Neha Spolia.

JKEEGA resents deferment of PDD Enggs' promotion

* To go on mass casual leave on Oct 28

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 21: Expressing strong resentment over the deferment of the promotion cases of PDD engineers, the Jammu and Kashmir Electrical Engineering Graduates Association (JKEEGA) today resolved to go on mass casual leave and hold strong protest on October 28.

A meeting of the Association was held here in Jammu as well as in Srinagar under the chairmanship of Sachin Tickoo, president JKEEGA and Pirzada Hidayatullah, general secretary in which members of the Guidance Council, an apex body of the Graduate Engineers of Power Development Department participated.

The members expressed strong resentment over the deferment of the proposal of promotion of Chief Engineers by the Establishment Committee headed by Chief Secretary J&K and ignoring the case of senior most engineers who are retiring in this month. The said proposal has twice been recommended by the department for consent of the establishment committee, which has turned down the proposal causing an impending permanent damage to the superannuating senior most engineers who are due for promotion since last one year now and eligible since long time now.

In earlier few months, number of senior Executive Engineers retired without due promotion as Superintending Engineer despite eligibility and vacancy. All promotions files are languishing in General Administration Department.

It is pertinent to mention that post unbundling, there has been constant systematic attempt to deprive the PDD engineers of the promotions and regularization and in recent past two years, hundreds of vacancies at all levels have piled up and despite eligible engineers being available. The situation has taken alarming proportion with positions of Managing Director-two, Executive Directors-three, Chief Engineers-five, Superintending Engineers-15, Executive Engineers-30, Assistant Executive Engineers-94, Assistant Engineers -250 and Junior Engineers-300 vacant since over an year now.

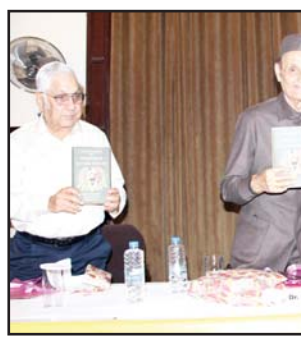
The agreement dated Dec 21,

Birth anniversary of Maharaja Gulab Singh celebrated with great fervor

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 21: 230th birth anniversary of Maharaja Gulab Singh was celebrated with great enthusiasm and fervor as a grand function in this regard was organised by the Maharaja Gulab Singh Memorial Trust at Amar Mahal, here today.

On the occasion, Dr Karan Singh, Chairman Trustee Maharaja Gulab Singh Trust, presented the Maharaja Gulab Singh Award 2022 to Dr Jitendra Udhamপুরi for his appreciable contribution in the field of the Dogri language and literature



Dr Karan Singh and others releasing a book during a function to celebrate birth anniversary of Maharaja Gulab Singh on Friday.

over several decades. This was followed by the release of the book entitled 'Life and Legacy of Maharaja Gulab Singh' explaining significant articles from a number of historians.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Karan Singh said that Maharaja

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Gulab Singh was a multifaceted personality and therefore he needs to be brought into the centre stage of academic discourse and research. He further said that the essential greatness of Gulab Singh and his achievements and contributions unfortunately have remained a matter of marginal concern in the existing historiography on him.

Dr Karan Singh also released a book 'Aksai Chin to Ladakh', edited by J P Singh. Finally, he presented a set of 11 volumes on the Bhagavad Gita that had been released last year by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Dr Karan Singh's 90th birthday. On this important occasion, Dr Karan Singh presented this important set of Bhagavad Gita to Prof M M Jha, Director, Ranbir Campus Jammu, Central Sanskrit University.

IMPCC Meet calls for strengthening coordination between media units

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 21: A meeting of the Inter-Media Publicity Coordination Committee (IMPCC) was today organized by Press Information Bureau (PIB), Jammu here, today. The meeting was chaired by Additional Director General (Region) PIB J&K and Ladakh, Rajinder Chaudhary.

During the meeting, Rajinder Chaudhary highlighted the working of (PIB), Jammu and Kashmir and Central Bureau of Communication, J&K & Ladakh Region. Chaudhary emphasized that there is an essential need for strengthening inter-media relations between different media units of Information and Broadcasting Ministry, J&K DIPR and Central Government Departments in Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh Regions.

Chaudhary further stressed upon the cooperation between the departments in giving meaningful information and data and better media integration and synergy in achieving better media coverage.

Assistant Director (PIB) Jammu, Ayushi Puri said that PIB Jammu whenever approached by any of the Central Government Departments based in J&K provides best media coverage to their events, even arrange media for making the events successful.

PRO Defence Udhampur, Abhinav Navneet suggested more coordination between the media units and departments for better media coverage of important events like those organized by Defence.

Field Publicity Officer, Udhampur, Khurshaed Yousuf gave an overview about the department and functioning of its various units.

BOPEE notifies Counseling dates for BE/B Tech courses

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 21: J&K Board of Professional and Entrance Examination (BOPEE) has notified the Counseling dates for the candidates, who have applied for BE/B Tech courses in various Engineering colleges across Jammu and Kashmir.

As per the notification, counseling shall be held on October 22, 23 and 24 at BOPEE office Jammu/Srinagar through video conferencing for the allotment of seats.

Counseling for the candidates upto 500 rank shall be held on October 22 while October 23 and 24 have been scheduled for the candidates from 501 to 1050 and 1051 onwards, respectively.

The function started with a welcome speech by Dr Jyotsna Singh, Director, Amar Mahal Museum and Library. This was followed by a lecture by Prof Shyam Narayan Lal from the University of Jammu who deliberated on the life and illustrious career of Maharaja Gulab Singh which made him one of the most compelling warriors and empire builders in 19th century history of India.

Prof Shashi Pathania, former faculty from the Department of Dogri, University of Jammu, gave a detailed overview about the rich cultural heritage of the Jammu



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh interacting with Corporators of Srinagar Municipal Corporation at IIPA, New Delhi on Friday.

Dr Jitendra holds interaction with Srinagar Corporators

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Oct 21 : 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 today held an interaction with Srinagar Municipal Corporators wherein he reiterated Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment to strengthen grassroots democracy in Jammu & Kashmir.

The interaction was held at Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), after completion of three-day orientation programme on Urban Governance, Dr Jitendra Singh said, right from the first day, when he took over as Prime Minister in 2014, Narendra Modi has made it clear that he would bring all the peripheral regions of the country like Jammu & Kashmir and North East at par with the rest of the country.

Responding to complaints of Corporators that 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts that were applicable in Panchayati Raj System and the Municipality system in rural and urban areas are not being fully implemented in Jammu and Kashmir, Dr Jitendra Singh said,

On this occasion, Chairman MGSB Shivang Satya Gupta, President Rajay Jammwal, Working President Anil Singh Rakkwal, Vice President Tarsem Singh, Secretary Aman Gupta and activists of the brigade participated in the event with much fanfare. They were joined by YRS President Rajan Singh Happy along with members of Yuva Rajput Sabha.



PoJK DPs staging protest demonstration in Jammu on Friday.

PoJK DPs protest, demand release of pending relief

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 21: The displaced persons from Pak occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) today held strong protest demonstration and demanded release of pending relief package in favour of displaced families.

A large number of DPs led by Capt (Retd) Yudhvir Singh Chib, under the banner of PoJK DPs Front 1947, 1965, 1971 and Non Camp-71 assembled near Press Club Jammu today and held protest demonstration. They were shouting slogans in favour of their demands and also against the J&K Relief authorities. They pointed out that after long struggle, Prime Minister Modi released Rs 2000 crore relief package in favour of PoJK refugees/DPs but the authorities in J&K have failed to disburse the same to all the deserving families. While about 25 % families are struggling for it while many have been left out on different pretexts.

While addressing large gathering Capt Chib said that till today, the Relief authorities have distributed relief to the tune of Rs 5.50 lakh/ family to hardly 75 % of the families.

Many families are moving from pillar to the post for justice. The Government has stopped this process which is needed to be resumed.

The DPs leader further pointed out that JPC had recommended Rs 30 lakh relief per family and the Government must release remaining Rs 24.5 lakhs relief per family. This Rs 5.5 lakh was just first installment of the amount declared by the Joint Parliamentary Committee.

Singh also demanded issuance of identity cards for the DPs, relief to DP families residing in Himachal, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and elsewhere, reservation to the wards of DPs in education field and Govt jobs, 12 Assembly seats be reserved for PoJK DPs, implementation of JPC report on relief package, ownership rights be given to the Camp DPs of 1965 and 71 etc. Capt Chib sought the intervention of Lt Governor into the matter.

Senior DP leaders JP Sharma, Kulbir Singh Chib, Kuldip Singh, Sakandya Devi (Women wing president), Kehar Singh, Kamal Kumar and others also joined the protest.

IIM Jammu faculty members win best research paper award

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 21: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu faculty members, Dr Vaseem Akram, Chairperson Doctoral Programme and Prof Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, were awarded the Best Research Paper in the Economics domain in Gold Category at the prestigious ICAI International Research Awards 2022 at New Delhi.

They were awarded for their research paper, titled, "Output Convergence at Sector Level across the Indian States: Evidence from Weak Sigma and Club Convergence Analysis".

The award was given by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), the premier accounting body which has been holding the annual competition for these awards

since 1958. The International Research Award aspires to build a global research community promoting a research-based ecosystem, sharing learning, and solving problems, and stimulating debates and dialogues.

The award aims to raise the profile of individuals, teams, and institutions undertaking research, recognize innovative approaches to research, encourage multi-disciplinary research, bridge the gap between research and practice, and recognize success stories of researchers in Accounting, Auditing, Finance, Economics and Taxation with an objective to enhance the research activities in Accounting, Finance, Taxation, and allied areas, to name a few.

including Economic Modelling, Renewable, and Sustainable Energy Reviews, Energy Policy, Environmental Science and Pollution Research, Utilities Policy, Economic Analysis and Policy, Applied Economics Letter, Journal of Economic Studies, International Economics and Economic Policy, and Global Economy Journal.

Prof Jabir Ali has successfully completed more than 30 research/consultancy projects funded by State/ Central Government and international agencies and coordinated several Management Development Programmes for participants from Asian and African Countries. He has published more than 40 research papers in refereed national and international journals.