

The Dispatch

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Etcetera

IUST organises interaction with Presidential Awardee and Model/Material Exhibition

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2 Min Read





IUST's Civil Engineering Students Shine In GATE 2022

Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: Despite the challenges posed by Covid -19 Pandemic, at least fourteen students from the Department of Civil Engineering at the Islamic University of Science & Technology, IUST Awantipora have qualified the GATE 2022 (Graduate Aptitude Test for Engineering) securing good ranks.

Arif Ahmad, a GATE qualifier, has an All India Rank of under 3000 in the Subject while other outstanding achievers including Saliq Bashir, Syed Roman Naqash, Uhozaifa Gani, Irfan Fayaz, Nadeem Ahmad Mir and Basit Farooq Malik. The achievements of these Civil Engineering students are reflective of their

hard work and the exemplary standards of academic teaching displayed by the departmental faculty. Significantly, the qualification percentage of IUST's Civil Engineering is comparable with the top most performing institutes in the region.

In his congratulatory message, the Vice Chancellor and an Eminent Scientist himself, Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo complimented the students and their mentors at the department for their efforts and consistency and wished the best for their future endeavours so that they would contribute towards the well-being of JKUT and society at large. He also encouraged all the students to work hard and be part of a resourceful national workforce.

Srinagar, March 26: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference today said that "J&K is in deep crisis and the party

Kashmir Images

that "J&K is in deep crisis and the party has to live up to the expectations of people by walking shoulder to shoulder with them during the prevailing situation". He, according to the NC spokesperson, said this while presiding over a meeting of workers and parry functionaries of Block Amira Kadal here at the parry headquir-ters Nawa eStubla, Srinagar. Among oth-ers Provincial Women's wing President Er. Sabiya Qadri and Block President Amira Kadal Rafig Klahi were also present on the occasion.

Kndal Rafip Elahi were also present on the occasion.

Addressing the functionaries, Nasir said that beaties ferrying planeloads of central ministers, foreign delegations over a weekend and having a few roud shows run by bureaucrate, the incumbent government has done nothing substantial to give a flip to the existing education, health care, and road infrastructure.

"Not even a single unit of electricity was added to the regional energy pool. No new irrigation, water supply scheme, and mit integration project has surfaced in Kashmir since Said, the situation post 2018 is particularly appalling. All the major connectivity, santiation, transport, health, ed ucation projects and welfare schemes initiated by the successive NC governments have been stalled. All the much toured projects, with the ready example of the ring road, merro train, and Jhelum flood mittigs

tion and dredging plans are yet to translate into reality," he said.

"Much of what was promised while marketing the August 2019 decisions has not been translated into reality. What little was done in the name of the development by painting city walls, roads and poles has also drawn flack. Artists and laborers who were employed for the work have been wandering from pillar to post to get their dues. Except for changing stripes amongst themselves, the officials have done nothing to provide resplic to the people." he said adding. "The painted porticus of the road were barrieaded with much discontinure to the commuters. Thanks to the inelement weather of Kushunir and its rains, the paintings vanished and burricades were subsequently lifted."

"The recruiting agencies JKSSB, JKP.

ings vanished and barricades were subsequently lifed.

"The recruiting agencies JRSSB, JRS-SC are working at snail's pace and far from catering to the employment needs of our educated and skilled youth."

Rhetoric mongering, window dressing and hollow fanfare, Nasir contended are the star attractions of the incumbent J&R and union government. "Development is visible only on papers. Our arisans, renasporters, hawkers, laborers, agriculturalists, horticulturalists have been left high and dry. Our cities, towns, and villages have become bywords of underdevelopment, administrative inertia, unemployment, administrative inertia, unemploy ment, administrative inertia, unemploy ment, and official apathy," he added.

Tourism Secy inaugurates Spring Food Festival at Tulip Garden



SRINAGAR, MARCH 26: Secretary Tourism & Culture, Sarmad Harourism & Culture, Sarmad Ha-feez inaugurated the seven days Spring Food Festival 2022 at Tulip Garden have to fee.

Spring Food Festival 2022 at Tulip Garden here today. The festival is organised by the Directorate of Tourism Rashmir to celebrate the Tulips, Folk Music, local cuisines and other cultural varieties of Rashmir valley. The Speaking on the occasion, the Tourism Secretary said that cuisine, crafts and culture have been intrinsic components of J&K's tourism which the Department has decided to showcase optimally in coming events. He said the Department would soon organize multiple food festivals to promote the concept of food tourism.

multiple rood lestivals to promote the concept of food tourism. Highlighting about the over-whelming response to the food festival, Sarmad Hafeez said it

was very good to know that even the young generation of Kashmir have mastered the craft of ethnic food preparation. He added that the Department has also decided to provide a platform to creative entrepreneurs at this Spring Food Festival. Surmed 17-6.

enreperseurs at this spring root.

Sarmad Hafeez further remarked that the festival will also highlight the tourism potential of Jammi Rashmir valley across the world and enhance the experience of tourists visiting Kalenhurduring this season. He added that the weeklong food festival will also give a chance for tourists and locals to taste different cultural cuismes and ethnic drinks.

The Tourism Secretary further said that Strianger city is emerging

roped into this festival to give a unique kind of experience to the visitors and tourists apart from unditional drinks and foods. He added that this festival will also give a platform to young entrepreneurs to establish themselves who are emerging as the new face of vibrant Srinagar city.

Earlier, Director Tourism, Kaslumir Br. G. N Itoo, explained the features and objectives of the festival.

Pertinently, the festival is aimed at popularizing the local ethnic cuisines and foods to give the tourists a feel of local culture and ethos besides keeping alive the fast disappearing ethnic recipes.

Javid Bakshi, Director, SKICC and other officers of the Department were present on the occasion.

3 drug peddlers arrested in Kupwara: Police

Srinagar, March 26: Police claimed to have arrested 08 drug peddlers in Kupwara and recovered contraband substances from their pos-

substances from their pos-session.

"A police party of Police
Post Awoora led by SI Arliar
Shakeel at a checkpoint
stablished at Water Point
Awoora intercepted 03 suspicious persons. They have
been identified as Anhig
Ahmad Khan son of Ab Hamid Khan, Mushtaq Ahmed Khan
son of Gh Rasool Khan all
residents of Mir Muqaam,
Awoora. During checking,
officers were able to recovor sigrams, 20grams and
30grams respectively from
their possession," said a police spokesperson.

their possession," sold a po-lice spokesperson.
"They have been ar-rested and shifted to Police Station where they remain in custody. Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 14/2022 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Trehgam and investigation has been ini-tiated and more arrests are expected," the spokesperson said.

Police organizes seminar on 'India's response to Covid-19 pandemic'



Srinagar, March 26: As part of on-going countrywide celebrations of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', Kash-mir Zone Police organized a one

Kashmir.
On the occasion,
IGP Kashmir Vijay
Kumar was the Chief
Guest. He was accompanied by DIG CKR Srimagar Suit Kumar, SSP
Srinegar Rakesh Babwal,
SSP PCR Kashmir Zabeir
Almed. Moreover, Prof.
Abdul Manan, Dr. Khalid Parwalz and SSP So
jod Khaliq acted as Jury
members.

jed Khalin acted as Jury members.
Students from Kasl-mir University and col-leges viz. Amar Singh College, Maniana Abridi Jury College Studential Col-lege Bentina. Gove Women's College Navaa Karda, SP College Stringgar, Gandhi Memorial College Stringgar and Govt Women's College Stringgar and Govt Women's College Stringgar and Govt Women's College MA Rood participated in the sentinar.

While speaking at the seminar, While speaking at the seminar, the participants commended the collaborative work done by the policy doctors, civil administration and the people in controlling the situation during the pandemic in the entire country particularly in Kashmir. They also appreciated the sacrifices made by each member of the society to make the anti-covid measures successful. They also appended the role of Health & Police departments who worked as front-line warriors.

departments who worked as front-line warrisors.

IGP Esadunir in his address, ap-preciated the efforts of participating students in delivering their opinion on the topic and wished them best of look for their future. He also advised the students to remain focused in their carses and always take part in such events to showease their talent. Yarraya Bial of Amar Singh College clinched 1st Position, Th-

manna Rehman of Goxt Women's College MA Road secured 2nd Position whereas Albieza of SP College Stringar secured 2rd position between 2nd 2nd position whereas Albieza of SP College Stringar secured 2rd position. The winners were awarded with a merit certificate, trupity and ceab prize of 6000, 4000, and 3000/- respectively by the Chief Gosts. Busides, all the participants were awarded with participants were also awarded with memerione by the Chief Gosts.

The objective of organizing said event was to provide a palaticular event was to provide a palaticular opinions and perspective. At the city copinions and perspective. At the city cylinder of the males was presented by DIG. RS stringar and in his address be thanked all the organizing members, jury members, participants for making this seminar successful. Late can, all the senior officers shared hunch with the young participants and accompanying faculty members.



NC nominates Social Media Analysts

Jammu and Kashmir Na-tional Conference on Sat-urday nominated Bisma Meer and Abrar Hamid as Party's Social Media Analysts.

Chief Spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq, Social Media Chief Sarah Ha-yat Shah, Provincial Spokesperson Ifra Jan, Deputy Political Secretary to VP Mudas-

sir Shahmiri felicitated the duo here at the par-ty headquarters, and hoped that the function-aries will work towards making the party stron-ger at grassroots level.



DC Srinagar reviews implementation of beneficiary oriented CSSs

Directs for 100% saturation of implementation areas

SRINAGAR, MARCH 28: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad today chaired a meeting of zonal and sec-toral officers of the dis-rier to review the proof. trict to review the prog-ress in implementation of the Centrally Spon-sored Schemes (CSSs) at Meeting Hall of DC Office

Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex, here.
On the occasion, the DC was apprised in de-tail about the achieve-ments made so far under Centrally Spon-sored Schemes includ-ing PMAY-G, PMAYL, PM Kissan, PMJBY, PMGSY, PMAY, Soil Health Card, PM Atal Yojna, PMKKY, SVAM-TIVA, SEHAT Cards and National Family Benefit scheme.

The DC stressed upon the concerned de-partments and financial institutions to work for overall development of the district and Welfare

overain development of the district and Welfare of the target population with more dedication and sincerity, so that the 100 percent saturation is made under all mentioned centrally sponsored schemes.

In this regard, he directed Lead District Manager to monitor and follow up the work on a monthly basis in respect of departments and Banks under Government sponsored schemes for eradication of unemployment of educated youth, hasale free lending facilities for generating new income units.

The DC stressed on conducting IEC activities for mass awareness to educate the public about the Employment genera-tion and social security schemes in the district so that maximum people

The DC asked the line

are benefited.

The DC asked the line departments to achieve saturation in all Centrally sponsored schemes under set deadlines to ensure that benefit of schemes percolate to the last beneficiary.

Besides Additional District Development Commissioner Sringar. Zahoor Almand Mir and Joint Director Planning. Mohammad Vassen Lone, the meeting was attended by all District/Sectoral of-ficers.

One day workshop on "Legal Rights of Women" held at Srinagar

SRINAGAR, MARCH 26: To sensitize Women and Girls about their Legal Rights and to encourage legal access in the mat-ters of crimes against the women, the District Level Centre for Women (Mahlla Shakti Kendra) Srinagar in collaboration with Dis-trict Lead Services Au in collaboration with Dis-trict Legal Services Au-thority (DLSA) Srinagar Saturday organized a day-long workshop on "Legal Rights of Women" at Gov-ernment Girl Higher Se-condary School(GGHSS), Kothhagh, here. The workshop was or-ganised by Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK) in collabo-ration with District Legal Services Authority Sri-nagar.

nagar, Deputy Commissioner Srimagar, Mohammad Aijar Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, who is also the chair-man District Mahila Shakti Kendra was the Chief Guest

on the occasion.

While Secretary DLSA,
Noor Mohammed Mir attended the function as Guest

tended the function as Guest ofHonour.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that women folk is a unique creature on the earth which balances rights and duties with utmost ability.

The DC appreciated the efforts of the organizers for conducting such sensitization camps to create awareness regarding legal rights among the women folk the said the purpose of such programmes is to make women folk aware of the laws/statutes and know their legal rights to eliminate crimes

against the women. He further said the society will not develop unless the status of women improves.

Asad said women empowement should begin at home and there should be not discrimination by the parents towards their children based on gender. The male and female child should be treated equally then only it is possible to achieve the desired results.

The DC also stressed upon effective implementation of all schemes and programs that are meant for welfave of women and children. He said that the development of society is directly related to women empowerment.

related to women empower-ment.

Describing recent acid attacks as lack of proper gender samization and dearth of moral education, the DC stressed the need of incorporating issues like this in educational curricu-lum besides responsibility of Active parenting which starts from home.

The DC also said that women victims also have

The DC also said that women victims also have Right to Zero FIR at any police station irrespective of where the incident occurred to provide help on a fast track basis.

Secretary, DLSA highlighted constitutional provisions regarding women empowerment. He said that DLSA is always available to the women in distress and the Authority is working for the welfare of the suffering women. He said DLSA is providing legal aid to many women on a daily basis and

also apprised the gathering about basic rights of women and schemes available for them in legal institutions. Other speakers also highlighted the issues relat-ed to women and provided information about women's rights.

information about women's rights.

Althogy others, the District Social Welfare Officer the event was also addressed by a number of anyses from District Logal Services Anthority-Srinagar who spoke on various topics like Rights of Women; Legislation for Protection of Women, Vloistion of Women Right and its Remedies, Welfare Schemes for Women, etc.

Earlier, District Social Welfare Officer Strinagar, Mohammad Ashurf Akhoon who is also the Nodal officer of MSK welcomed the guests and highlighted objectives of the Mahila Shakit Kendra is meant to provide one stop convergent support to the local fernale and these entities are considered as a Ray of Hope for all kinds of assistance provided under a single window.

Critics are consistent as a Ray of Hope for all kinds of assistance provided under a single window.

The Mahila Shakti scheme provides an interface for rural women to approach the Government to avail entitlements besides to empower them through awareness generation training and capicity building. The workshop concluded with the vote of thanks presented by Women Welfare Officer, MSK Srinagar Ruqaya Ashraf.

IUST's Civil Engg Students shine in **GATE 2022**

AWANTIPORA, MARCH 20: Despite the chal-lenges posed by Covid 19 Pandemic, at least fourteen students from the Department of Civil Engineering at the Islamic University of Science & Technology, IUST Awantipora have qualified the GATE 2022 (Graduate Aptitude Test For En-

as recinology, USA Awamipor a nive quanties the GATE 2022 (Graduate Aptitude Test For Engineering) securing good ranks.

Arti Almad, a GATE qualifier, has an All India Rank of under 3000 in the Subject while other outstanding achievers include Saliq Bashir, Syed Roman Naqash, Uhozufia Gani, Hran Fayax, Nadeem Almad Mir and Basit Farooq Malik. The achievements of these Civil Engineering students are reflective of their hard work and the exemplary standards of academic seaching displayed by the departmental faculty. Significantly, the qualification percentage of USIT's Civil Engineering is comparable with the top most performing institutes in the region. In his congartulatory message, the Vice Chancellor and an Eminent Scientist himself, Prof Shakil Ahmad Romshoc complimented the students and their mentors at the department for their efforts and consistency and wished the best for their future endeavours so that they would contribute towards the well-being of JRUT and society at large. He also encouraged all the students to with bard and the part of a resourcefulents to work hard and be part of a resourcefulents to work hard and be part of a resourcefulents to work hard and be part of a resourcefulents to work hard and be part of a resourcefulents to work hard and be part of a resourcefulents to work hard and be part of a resourcefulents to work hard and be part of a resourcefulents.

contribute towards the well being of JKUT and society at large. He also encouraged all the stu-dents to work hard and be part of a resourceful national workforce. Dean Academic Affairs Prof. Manzoor Ah-mad Malik and Dean School of Engineering and Technology, Prof. A. H. Moon also congratulated the students and faculty of Civil Engineering. The Head of the Civil Engineering Department, Dr. Shujaar Hussain felicitated all the students for their exemplary performances and hoped that these students will be the role models for future generations and serve the society with ut-most dedication and honesty in every field that they work in

they work in

It is noteworthy that every year a number of
students from the department qualify the prestigious GATE examination. Presently a number
of its alumni are pursuing their post graduation
and PhDs in leading HT's, HSC Bangalore and other nationally important institutes, besides, some pursuing their degrees in top ranking for-eign Universities.

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EXCLUSIVE: Nine surgeries later, Srinagar acid survivor breaks silence; vows to fight

Srinagur, Mar 26: More than a morth after a 24-year-old grif was attacked with acid in Strinagur, the haze of pain hasn't yet lifted. But one thing is strikingly clear in her mind that is the obestive quest for justice.

Speaking exclusively to The Kashmir Monitor, the acid survivor said closure for her will only come in the form of justice.

of justice.
"Those who brought me this im

measurable agony should be punished severely. Getting justice will eventually heal my heart and help me get through my life," she said.

my life," she said.

The survivor, who is currently in Chemas for specialized treatment, underwent nine surgeries so far to restore her eyesight and face.

"They will review the progress in my eyes after a month and a balf. Also,



they operated upon my face. I might re-quire a few more surgeries in the com-ing days. Please pray for my recovery,"

of surgeries have left her weak. "The doctors will monitor her situation for a week or so and then discharge her ac-cordingly. But we have to come back af-ter a month for the follow-up," he said. He said the medical treatment is a

long, and expensive, baul in such cases.
"Though the administration has been very helpful and supportive so far, she will require a lot of medical help in the coming days. I am spoor man and don'thave money to meether treatment costs. I don't wish to see my daughter becoming a burden for us."

Recently, the court framed charges against two persons who were arrested for throwing acid on the survivor and the trial will begin at the end of this month.

The two accused were presented before Principal Sessions judge Jawad Ahmad, who framed charges under sections 120-B (criminal conspiracy) and 326A (voluntarily causing give-ous hurt by use of acid) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), officials said. The trial will start at the end of this month, they said.

GATE 2022: 14 Islamic University students qualify

Awantipora, Mar 26: Four teen students from the Depart senstudents routine-repartment of Coll Engineering at the Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST) cracked GATE (Graduate Apritude Test For Engineering) 2022.

Those who qualified include Arif Ahmad, Saliq Bashir, Syed Roman Naqush, Unozaifa Gani, Irfan Fayar, Nadeem Ahmad Mir, Basir Fatrooq Malik, and others.

"The achievements of these Civil Engineering structural was reflective of their lard work and the exemplary standards of academic teaching displayed by the department of Civil Engineer



mental factury, Significantly, the qualification percentage of IUST's Civil Engineering is comparable with the top-most performing institutes in the region," an IUST spokes-man said. Vice-ChancellorProf. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo

-ChancellorProf. Ahmad Romshoo ented the students

and their mentors for their efforts and consistency. He wished good luck to students for their future endeavors so that they would contribute towards the well-being of

Dean Academic Affairs
Prof. Manzoor Ahmad Malik

80% qualify Class 11th exams in Kashmir

Srinagur, Mar 26: With an overall pass percentage of 80 percent, Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (BOSE) on Saturday declared the results of annual regular examinations of 11th stan-

examinations of 11th stan-dard of Kadhurii division. Girl students have yet again cutshined boys.
"Cirids registered a total pass percentage of 83 percent while boys registered only 78 percent, BOSE said.
BOSE also said that a total of 80,801 students were enrolled for the exams and 64,915 candidates qualified the exams.

According to BOSE, at least 31,817 students bagged the distinction in the annual

regular exams of 11th stan-dard, 23,837 students got first division, 8861 secured second division and 398 passed the exams with third division.

The figures also reveal that in the exams, at least two students were having dis-puted eligibility, 151 students were absent, five students were disqualified and exami-nation was cancelled of two

nation was cancelled of two students.

Earlier in February,
the Januma and Kashmir Bourd of School Education (BOSE) amounced the an-man regular results of 10th standard examination 2021 for Kashmir division with a total pass percentage of 78.14 percent—(KNO)

Transforming J&K: CA storage capacity records 700% increase; revolutionize apple industry



Jamma, Mar 26: Jamma and Kashmir have recorded a 700 percent increase in CA (Controlled Almonghere) storage capacity in the last few years. More than 2.5 lakh metric tomes of apple can be preserved in CA stores in Kashmir. Jamma and Kashmir government has encouraged private players to set up cold storage (CS) in a bid to reduce post-larvest fosses.

post-harvest losses. During the past two years,

During the past two years, enabling environment has been created for transforming J&K agaiculture and allied sectors to increase the income of furners, ensure food security, and speed up the economic growth of the UT.

The government has taken several concrete steps for increasing the Agriculture and Horticulture production besides enhancing the quality of crops while laying special focus on post harvesting managements.

on post-harvesting manage-ment infrastructure, especially

ment infrastructure, especially in the private sector.

Apples kept in cold storages in Kashanir help farmers to fetch much better rates by selling their produce as per their will according to demand.

Senior Horticulture Officer, while elaborating on the

initiative, informed that a 10-lologram box of stored apple has been sold at a minimum of Rs 1,000 and Rs 1,800 as the highest price depending on the quality and color of the apple. These rates, according to apple growen and traders, are com-paratively much higher than the rates apples get in harvesting, season. The cold storage based at Lassipora Pulwama, Aglar Shopian, and a few areas in north Kashmir can store about 2.5 lakth metric tromes of apple. He said that the govern-ment-sided cold stores would help in fetching higher rates to the A-grade apples in Kash-mir which amount to around 8 lakth metric tonness Earlier, these apples used to be sold at less than their actual value due to the inadequate availability of CA stores in the valley. These cold stores are much needed to cater to the high density A Grade apple production which has been started by Horticul-tuse Department Kashmir at a large scale.

Director-GeneralHorticulstores, Processing Units, and related utilities are developed across the Valley and the best services are provided to the or-chardists, be added.

At present, we are not upon a foreign early enterpresents to set up CA storage capacity with government support to cater to the animal production which otherwise would result in discuss sales, he said.

DG further said that improved post harvest infrastructures.

ness sues, it esaus.

DG further said that improved post-harvest infastructure like CA stores will help in keeping the Kashmii apple in keeping the Kashmii apple in he mander touud the year and furmers will get good returns for their produce.

As per awailable data, Kashmir produces 20 lakh metric tonnes of apples annually. To ensure that farmers of Kashmir produces at a rest or their products and are not compelled to sell their produce at a relatively lower price due to lear of the fruit getting perished, the Lieutenaut Governor administration is working nor administration is working tirelessly to facilitate farmer with subsidies, technology, ma wan sussues, econology, ma-chinery, and post-harvest setup. The Horticulture department helps entrepreneurs, interested in setting up CA stores with a 50% subsidy. The CA storage system

Come April, essential medicine prices will increase by 10%

percent take messential medi-cines from next month.

Media reports said the bike is expected as the gov-ernment is set to give a nod to drug companies to increase piocs of essential medicines mendading painkillens, anti-infective, and annibiotics.

It is expected that the medicines will become conflict by 10 percent as the change in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) in 2021 were 10.8 percent. Earlier, the hile miprices of essential medicines used to be in the range of 12 percent. In 2019, the prices were biled by around 2 percent whereas, in 2000, the shike was 0.5 percent.

After the outweak of pandemic, the prices of API sugged enormously.

An increase in freight rates, transportation costs, etc., also adds to the input cost.

As most of the plasma impredients are imported from China, supply was disrupted during the pundemic which had led to a spike in input cost during the pandemic.

NPPA regulates the cost of medicines in India.

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) which is a government regulatory agency.

ment regulatory agency controls the prices of medi-cines in India. It comes un-der the Department of

Three-member World Bank team meets CS

Srinagar, Mar 26: The 3 member team of World Bank led by Abhas/ha, Practice Manager, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, South Asia Region with Deepak Singh, Lead Disaster Risk Management Specialist, World Bank and Hemang Karela, Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist of World Bank as members today had a meeting with Chief Secretary J&K, Dr Arun Kunar Mehta regarding the World Bank funded projects being implemented in the Jamma and Kashmir.

The World Bank team lauded the ef-

mm and Kashmir.

The World Bank team lauded the efforts of J&K government in streamlaning implementation of the World Bank thaded. Jhehm Thaw Hood Recovery Project (TI-FRP) during the past two years.

Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Chief Executive Officer, J&K ERA was present in the meeting.

in the meeting. Chief Secretary had a detailed discus-



sion with the visiting team about the prog-ress of the World Bank funded JTFRP in the UT. He emphasized the need for exploring more possibilities for capacity building of engineers in the sphere of scis-mic proof construction. He expressed hope

that World Bank would continue port J&K in the areas of climate char sustainable development, environme sustainability and other significant sectors. Later, the World Bank team visited

COVID-19: J&K reports 15 new cases

large scale.
Director-GeneralHorticul-

ture, Kashmir, Aijaz Ahmed Bhat, said that the department is committed to strengthening the post-harvest infrastructure in the valley. We are exploring every possible opportunity to have infrastructure like CA

Srinagar, Mar 26: Jammu and Kashmir Saturday re-ported 15 fresh cases pushing the number of active cases to 138 while no death was reported in the last 24 hours in the LIT.

reported in the last 24 hours in the UT. With no more deaths, the death toll in J&K stands at 4,750 and 15 fresh positive cases reported on Saturday have pushed the tally of posi-tive cases is 453.652. es to 453,652

Officials said that among 15 new cases, 13 belong to Kashmir division while as 02 are from Jammo division, adding that the total number of positive cases in Kash-

mir division have reached to 287,403 including 284,870 recoveries and 2,423 deaths while as total number of positive cases in Januma divi-sion have reached to 166,249 including 163,884 recoveries and 2,827 deaths. The officials said that the total number of active cases in Januma and Kashmir are 183 including 110 from Kashmir division. With 12 more recover-ies, the tally of total recoveries in Januma division.

percent of the total cases.

"Cases tested positive in

Day 2: Women Entrepreneurs throng 42nd India Carpet Expo

New Delhi, Mar 26: The sec-ond day of 42nd India Carpet Expo witnessed visitors and connoisseurs of handmade carpets at NSIC exhibition ground, Okhla, New Delhi.

capes as Nost, extunsion ground, Okila, New Delhi. The mega expo is re-civing an overwhelming response of 195 oversens buyers from across the world with presence of 230 buying representatives. India Carpet Expo, showcasing new fall winter collection as per the buyers' requirements in terms of size, design, color and quality' is altiming the buyers.

India Carpet Expo is an endeavor of Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC) to provide an exchasive business environment to carpet mess environment to carpet

ness environment to carpet importers as well as manu-facturers and exporters. As



many as, 195 members from many as, 195 members from all over India are participating in the expo which is an ideal platform for international carpet buyers, buying houses, buying agents, architects and Indian carpet transufacturers and exporters to meet and establish long-term business relationships.

A buyer from the USA, said, "It's my third visit to In-dia Carpet Expo. There are dia Carpet Expo. Incre are new unique designs of carpets which one could not find in another part of the world. I am loving product diversifica-tion. Due to COVID19, we had to shut down our business for

down our business for sees continued on page 4

'Spinning magic': Meet Kashmir women who keep 'yender' tradition alive

Srinagar, Mar 26: Mascoda's mother had bome the expenses of her marriage by spinning Pashmina or yender (wheel). But now it is difficult to make ends meet by Pashmina spinning. She said the entry of machine-made shawls had made life head for the Pashmina artisans of Kashmir valley. "This machine should be shut as it has hit us hard. My mother got me married by spinning Pashmina on

as it has hit us hard. My mother got me married by spinning Pashmina on yender. Her finger got damaged due to spinning and I too have been spin-ning Pashmina right from my child-hood. However, it is difficult to make ends meet now," Mascooda told The Kashmir Monitor. She spins' yender' at a Pashmina spinning unit of Khadija and Fahmi-da located at Kathi Darwza area of



"Now it is difficult to feed our families. The main reason for this is amachine-made shawfs," she told The Kashmir Monitor.

As part of efforts to facilita shmina artisans, the Handicraft partment has included the Pash Kashmir Monitor.

As part of efforts to facilitate Pa the Handicrafts De

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Awantipora, March 26: Despite the challenges posed by Covid -19 Pandemic, at least four teen students from the Department of Civil Engineering at the Islamic University of Science & Technology, IUST Awantipora have qualified the GATE 2022 (Graduate Aptitude Test for Engineering) securing good ranks.

Arif Ahmad, a GATE qualifier, has an All India Rank of under 3000 in the Subject while other outstanding achievers including Saliq Bashir, Syed Roman Naqash, Uhozaifa Gani, Irfan Fayaz, Nadeem Ahmad Mir and Basit Farooq Malik. The achievements of these Civil Engineering students are reflective of their hardwork and the exemplary stan-



dards of academic teaching displayed by the departmental faculty. Significantly, the qualification percentage of IUST's Civil Engineering is comparable with the top most performing institutes in the region.

Inhis congratulatory message, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and an Eminent Scientist himself, Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo complimented the students and their mentors at the department for their efforts and consistency and wished the best for their future endeavours so that they would contribute towards the wellbeing of JKUT and society at large. He also encouraged all the students to work hard and be part of a resourceful national workforce.

Dean Academic Affairs Prof. Manzoor Ahmad Malik and Dean School of Engineering and Technology, Prof. A. H. Moon also congratulated the students and faculty of the Civil Engineering. The Head of the Civil Engineering Department, Dr. Shujaat Hussain felicitated all the students for their exemplary performances and hoped that these students will be the role models for future generations and serve the society with utmost dedication and honesty in every field that they work in.

It is noteworthy that every year number of students from the department qualify the prestigious GATE examination. Presently a number of its alumni are pursuing their post graduation and PhDs in leading IIT's, IISC Bangalore and other nationally important institutes, besides, some pursuing their degrees in topranking foreign Universities.