

## DC visits Nunwan Base Camp, reviews yatra arrangements

Excelsior Correspondent

ANANTNAG, June 17: District Development Commissioner, Anantnag, Dr. Farooq Ahmad Lone today visited Base Camp Nunwan to review arrangements for the smooth conduct of Shri Amarnathji Yatra.

Threadbare discussions were held pertaining to establishment of medical camps, sanitation, availability of essentials, traffic management plan, drinking water facilities, telecommunication and repairs of roads enroute to Holy Cave.

Regarding the telecommunication facilities, special Public Call Offices will be established at Mir Bazar, Nunwan, Pahalgam, Chandanwari, Sheeshnag and Panjtarani halting stations besides mobile connectivity will be made available throughout the route leading to Holy Cave.

The District Development Commissioner directed the concerned officers to ensure proper sanitation and cleanliness in the towns at camping sites besides enroute to Holy Cave.

He directed installing sign boards regarding yatra at different locations for facilitating the yatratis and also asked the con-

cerned officers to upload information regarding different utilities on the website of the district administration.

Dr. Lone also asked the officers of JKTD to ensure adequate accommodation for the employees deployed for yatra well before its commencement.

District Development Commissioner stressed upon the officers to put in arrangements in advance and ensure coordination among the officers for smooth conduct of the Yatra.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag also visited Mattan and inspected the arrangements made at the temple complex for the devotees. He directed the officers to ensure that devotees do not face any sort of inconvenience.

He interacted with the devotees and inquired about the facilities made available for them in and around the shrine.

He directed the Chief Medical Officer, Anantnag to keep available medical and paramedical staff alongwith adequate of medicines for the devotees at the Shrine.

On the occasion, Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Anantnag was directed to ensure cleanliness of the whole area in and around the temple.



MLA SS Slathia addressing public gathering at Rera on Monday.

## Slathia launches work on link road, inaugurates CFC

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 17: MLA Vijaypur and former Minister, Surjeet Singh Slathia today launched the construction of link road to village Rera and inaugurated a community hall at Rahya.

The link road to village Rera, being constructed by PWD (R&B) is estimated to cost Rs. 25 lakh, while the Community hall has been completed at a cost of Rs 5 lakh provided by the MLA from his Constituency Development Fund.

Addressing the gatherings, Mr. Slathia said that Omar-led Coalition Government was committed to provide all basic amenities in remote and far-off pockets like road connectivity, power and water supply, better medicare and education facilities.

Mr Slathia said that State and Centre Governments have launched a number of flagship programmes and schemes to uplift the socio-economic status of the people, particularly living in rural and far-flung areas. He

said that the development and welfare programmes would be further accelerated during the current year.

He cautioned the people against the divisive forces and asked them to maintain communal harmony and brotherhood. The MLA said that the Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed tremendous development during the last four years.

Referring to the launch of construction work on link road to village Rera, he said on its completion the people of Rera and adjoining villages would be provided better road network, adding that serious efforts are being initiated to develop other important sectors. He said that there was no constraint of funds and every panchayat would be provided adequate funds to meet the developmental needs.

He also inaugurated Community Facility Centre at Rahya which has been constructed at a cost of Rs. 5 lakh sanctioned by the MLA from his Constituency Development Fund (CDF).

## Gul enquires about working of Amar Singh Club

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, June 17: Speaker Legislative Assembly Mubarak Gul today visited Amar Singh Club and enquired about its working with the members of the board.

On the occasion, the board members including Dharmbir Singh Oberoi and Ghulam Nabi Monga brought to his notice certain demands pertaining to the construction of Swimming pool and other demands and sought release of the funds for the same.

Gul assured them that their demands would be addressed on priority by the Government.

On the occasion Oberoi and Monga announced donation of Rs 5 lakh each for the development of the Club.

## Two bovine smugglers held

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, June 17: Police today rescued three bovine animals and arrested two smugglers from Kud.

Police spokesman said that, on specific inputs, police party from Kud Police Station laid a naka and intercepted a Tata mobile bearing registration number JK18-3066.

During checking, police recovered three bovine animals and arrested two smugglers who have been identified as Arshad Ahmed, son of Mohd Sayed of Naikpura, Kulgam, Srinagar and Faiz Ahmed, son of Ghulam Rasool of Churt, Kulgam, Srinagar.

A case under Section 188 RPC and 3 PCA Act has been registered at Kud Police Station and investigation started.

## 25 bovines rescued, 3 smugglers held

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, June 17: Police today rescued 25 bovine animals and arrested three smugglers.

Police spokesman said that, on specific inputs, police party from Rajouri police station led by SHO Varinder Gupta under the supervision of SP Mubasir Latif laid a naka and intercepted two trucks bearing registration numbers JK02AF-1785 and JK11-3272.

During search, police recovered 25 bovines and arrested three smugglers, who have been identified as Mohd Yunus of Khablan, Shahid Iqbal of Didasan Bala and Mohd Iqbal of Behrot.

A case under Section 188 RPC and 3 PCA Act has been registered at Rajouri Police Station and investigation started.

## JU employees' strike enters 39th day

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 17: The ongoing protest by the Jammu University Class-IV employees entered into 39th day and their chain hunger strike in 7th consecutive day today.

Shouting slogans in support of their demand for regularization of the casual labourers, who have completed seven years in service, the protesting employees took out a peaceful rally on the campus under the banner of Non-Gazetted Employees Union.

While addressing the employee, NGEU president Krishan Chand and general secretary Vijay Kumar urged the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor to settle the issue of regularization at an earliest.

Meanwhile, fresh batch of five employees, comprising Subash Chander, Satpal Sharma, Mohd Bhat, Balbir Kumar and Ravi Kumar sat on fast to continue the chain hunger strike.

## LMD imposes Rs 18,900 fine on shopkeepers

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 17: Legal Metrology Department (LMD) officials under the supervision of Deputy Controller (Enforcement) has conducted surprise inspections of the shopkeepers dealing with fruits, vegetables, milk, jewellery and general use items in Sidhra, Parade, Reshamgarh, Jain Bazaar and Bakshi Nagar.

During the inspection, officials detected eleven shopkeepers violating the various provisions of J&K Weight and Measures (Enf) Act, 1997.

The shopkeepers were booked under relevant provision of J&K Weight and Measures (Enf) Act, 1997 and a fine of Rs 18,900 was imposed on them.

# Govt mulling development of 3 pilgrim tourist circuits: Mir

Excelsior Correspondent

KULGAM, June 17: The Government would develop three pilgrim tourism circuits one each at Kashmir, Jammu and Ladakh regions to promote pilgrim tourism in the State.

This was stated by the Tourism Minister, Ghulam Ahmad Mir while visiting Kheer Bhawani, Manzgam and Mata Tripur Sundari Shrine at Khana Baran, Devsar today on the eve of Mela Kheer Bhawani.

Interacting with the devotees, the Minister said that Jammu and Kashmir was also rich in pilgrim tourism and to develop pilgrim sites with infrastructure facilities, the Government has mooted a comprehensive project report of Rs. 150 crore to the Centre for funding development of Sufi circuit in Kashmir, pilgrim circuit in Jammu and Buddhist circuit in Ladakh. He said the project is under active consideration of the Central Government which in

principle has agreed to provide funds for creation of these circuits in the State.

The Tourism Minister said that around eight shrines of South Kashmir would be developed under Sufi circuit Kashmir with a view to promote pilgrim tourism and provide tourist related infrastructure.

The Minister said that a detailed project would also be formulated for landscaping of these shrines. He underscored the need for providing parking facilities at these shrines and directed the District Administration to identify State land so that necessary work would be taken up.

The Tourism Minister said that the area had a rich tourism potential and Government encourages partnership of private players. He called upon the youth of the area to opt tourism as their occupation, for the purposes Government would provide them soft loans with subsidies for setting up of various ventures under the sector.

Mr. Mir said the Kheer Bhawani Mela serves as a reminder of communal harmony between Muslims and Kashmiri Pandits as the former make almost all the arrangements for the latter's stay at the place of their worship.

Mr. Mir said the remarkable increase registered in the number of Kashmiri Pandits visiting Kheer Bhawani during last few years is an encouraging phenomenon.

"Government would continue to work to improve the facilities for the increased number of devotees visiting Kheer Bhawani at different shrines of the Valley," he said and added Kashmiri Pandits are integral part of the culture and ethos of Kashmir and Kashmiriyat. He said that their return to the Valley is the cherished goal and yearning of the government and the civil society.

Former MLC, Mohammad Amin Bhat also addressed the devotees.

## Engineers discuss demands

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, June 17: A meeting of all the engineers of district Ramban was held at community hall (Maitra) Ramban under the leadership of Engineer Tanveer Ahmed Wani. A large number of Engineer's from all the departments of district Ramban attended the meeting in which the various burning demands were discussed. The main focus was given on maintaining of cadre strength, restoration of grade -1, enhancement FTA from mere Rs. 30 to Rs 2000 per month adjustment of all promoted AE's of all wings. Moreover, the strategy for forth coming elections of Diploma Engineer's were discussed.

While addressing the meeting Wani called for unity and clear vision among all the wings of Engineering Departments to get their demands redressed from the Government.

## ABVP organises guidance bureau in GDC Boys

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, June 17: Akhil Bhartiya Vidyarthi Parishad, (ABVP) Udhampur unit opened a guidance bureau in Government Degree College for Boys, Udhampur on the first day of admission in the college. The bureau camp was inaugurated by former State secretary ABVP and ex-vice president Municipal Council, Udhampur, Rakesh Gupta.

On the occasion, Sushant Gupta, president, Degree College, Udhampur, while interacting with media persons disclosed that to avoid the social evil ragging, the ABVP has decided to organize this camp. He further said that this type of programs help in healthy co-ordination and good relation between fresher and seniors.

Udhampur district ABVP girls wing president Kunjum Bhatt and vice president Seema Dhari interacted with girls students.

## PDD employee electrocuted

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, June 17: A Power Development Department employee was electrocuted in Baramulla district last evening, police said today.

Ghulam Mohammad Magray, son of Abdul Reshi, of Wanigam was seriously injured when he got an electric shock while repairing an HT power cable at Wanigam, police said.

Magray succumbed to his injuries on way to the hospital.

## Four injured in road mishaps

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, June 17: Four persons were injured in two separate road accidents in the Valley today, police said.

Three passengers were injured when a Maruti car (JK03B/6480) they were traveling in skidded off the road at Prang in Ganderbal. Police said the injured were shifted to Bone and Joints Hospital for treatment.

In another accident a driver of a truck (PB06N/4810) was injured when his vehicle met with an accident near Dalwaach crossing in Kulgam, police said. He was identified as Manjeet Singh of Gurdaspur, Punjab. They said Singh was shifted to a hospital.

## NMC demands constitution of 7th Pay Commission

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, June 17: President of the National Mazdoor Conference (NMC) Subash Shastri today asked the UPA Government to announce the time limit for appointing 7th Pay Commission in favour of both Central and State Government employees so that the confusion and uncertainty in this regard will come to an end.

While talking to media persons at Vijaypur in district Samba, Shastri said that the constitution of the 7th Pay Commission is a major issue in the coming election of Lok Sabha. He said that the delay in the Constitution of Pay Commission has caused many financial problems to the salaried class. Pleading the cause of both Central and State Government employees and pensioners Shastri pointed out

that presently DA is touching 80%. He also demanded immediate merger of 50% DA into basic pay/pension.

Shastri highlighted various problems of the State employees and the pensioners which included the removal of pay anomalies of clerical cadre, amendment in SRO 64, regularization of the services of all daily wagers working in the various Government Departments who have completed seven years of the service till March 2012, increase Medical Allowance from Rs 300 to 1000 per month, declaring Jammu and Srinagar cities as B-1 cities and deduction of CP Fund of casual labour, seasonal labour and other categories of contractual/ adhoc/employees.

Among others Rajan Babu Khajuria, Sham Lal Sharma, Rampaul Sharma etc were present in the press conference.

## Unfair means against five 12th class students

Excelsior Correspondent

MENDHAR, June 17: The administration has made unfair means cases against five students of class 12th at Centre 423 and 424 of Mendhar respectively for indulging in mass copying during the examination of Political Science today.

As per reports the Mendhar Police which had received reports of mass copying going on in the two examination centres today conducted a raid under the supervision of SHO Mendhar Dr Aijaz Ahmed Malik Probationer DySP. However, some examiners on duty at the examination centres objected to it. The SHO rang up SDM Mendhar Shafiq Ahmed and informed him about the issue.

The SDM deployed the flying squad to the examination centres led by Dy CEO,

Mendhar, Mohammed Sadiq and other officers of Board of School Education including Naib Tehsilidar Mendhar. They on spot caught five students copying one from Centre 424 and four from Centre 423 and registered a case of unfair means against them.

SDM Mendhar later informed that he will recommend that the paper be cancelled. Later when contacted DC Poonch said that he had received the complaints of mass copying and the authorities will hold probe into the matter and action will be taken against the examiners found guilty.

## One killed, 3 hurt in road accident

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, June 17: One person died while three others were seriously injured when a speedy motorcycle hit two pedestrians at Phenter Billawar this evening.

According to police Devinder Kumar driving his motorcycle in high speed hit two pedestrians Kaka Ram son of Titro Ram and Bipan Kumar son of Rattan Chand at Phenter this evening. While Kaka Ram died on spot, Bipan Kumar received seriously injuries. Besides the motorcyclist and his pillion rider Hari Singh of Chatisgarh were also seriously injured. All the three injured were admitted in Billawar Hospital and as their condition has deteriorated doctors have decided to refer them to GMC Jammu when last reports came in.

The Billawar Police has registered a case.

## Congregations

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 17: Sapolia Padha Biradari is going to hold congregation of Biradari at the shrine of Bua Ji Baba Ji Mandir Paloura, Jammu on June 23.

All Biradari members have been asked to participate and get invoked blessings of Kuledevta.

The congregation of Khangan Biradari will be held at Bua Sajawati temple at village Majua (Near Chang) on June 23. All Biradari members are accordingly informed to attend the same and have blessings of the deity.

## PEEU holds protest, highlights demands

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, June 17: Provincial Electric Employees Union (PEEU) held a protest demonstration against the Government for not conceding their demands.

Hundreds of union delegates and members participated in the protest and expressed resentment against the Government for not fulfilling the demands of the PDD employees.

While speaking, PC Sharma, provincial president of the union said that Government is not serious to redress the issues of the PDD employees, thus compelling them to adopt agitational path.

"If the Government will not redress the problems of the PDD employees at the earliest, then they will launch a crusade against the Government and for any untoward incident, the Government will be responsible", Sharma warned.

He demanded release of technical grade to all linemen, SBSs and all ITI trained employees, insurance scheme for all PDD employees/workers working in risk prone areas, reorganization of the department with creation of sufficient posts of Asstt Linemen, Linemen, Foremen, SBS, Meter Readers and Junior Engineers, conduct of DPC at all levels, regularization of daily wagers with preview of concrete policy, allotment of proper designation to the employees working as linemen/SBSs, etc.

Among others who spoke were Kabla Singh, district president, Low Paid Employees Federation, Davinder Sharma, district president, Hardarshan Singh, Yash Raina, Shivcharan Singh, Chanchal Singh, Yashpaul Raina, Joginder Kumar, Mohinder Singh, Makhan Singh, etc.



The teachers and students of 'Streak-The Art Leaders' in summer camp on Monday.

## 'Streak-The Art Leaders' introduced in Jammu

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 17: To explore the hidden talent of the youth and to enhance their potential, in various fields, "Streak-The Art Leaders" has come up with various courses for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

The various courses related to fashions, interiors, textiles, cutting and tailoring, embroidery, art and craft, painting, personality development and cookery for 3, 6 months and 1 year. It provides opportunity even to the

regular college going boys and girls to channelize their interest and hobbies in a constructive and organized form so that they can be self sufficient.

The training is provided by the experienced faculties including Pooja Sagar, Preeti Sultan, Tina Jasrotia and various other visiting faculties' experts in their respective fields.

The special attraction is summer camp for kids in sketching, painting, art and craft. Also moonsoon attraction is for teenagers.

## 3-day religious function culminates at Kailash Dham

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 17: The three-day long religious function culminated at Kailash Vidya Dham Chinore today.

The annual Mahayagya was held in shrine which started on June 15 for world peace and prosperity.

A large number of devotees drawn from different parts of Jammu attended the religious function which culminated with Puranahuti this afternoon. The devotees were served with prasada after puranahuti.

The function was organized by Kailash Vidya Dham Trust Chinore under the supervision of

A K Ogra its trustee.

The religious activity continued in the Ashram during all the three days and religious sermons were given by the scholars also.

Meanwhile, Bhagawan Shri Ramakrishana Mahasammelan Ashram Trust Nagdandi, Achahabal, Anantnag Kashmir of which Prof Ogra is chairman cum managing trustee also opened a free langar at Tulmulla in Kashmir valley for the yatratis on the occasion of Jeshashtami today. The Trust has been doing this social service at holy shrine every year for the devotees visiting the shrine on Jeshashtami from different parts of the country.

## PYC appeals Valley youth to contribute in nation building

Excelsior Correspondent

BARAMULLA, June 17: Pradesh Youth Congress vice-president Pranav Shagotra today appealed the Kashmir valley youth to come forward and dedicate their services for the nation building.

Addressing a function where large number of youth from Uri Assembly segment joined Youth Congress, Mr Shagotra said, "peaceful atmosphere is must for the development of the State and the county as such it is the duty of all of us to work unitedly towards this direction".

"Unemployment is the major problem which needs to be addressed on top priority basis both by the State and the Central Governments", he said,

adding "youth of this State needs special care so that they may not fall in the hands of anti-national forces". He demanded special recruitment drive for the unemployed youth in the Central Government services as the State has limited resources.

He reiterated demand for amendment to the State Panchayati Raj Act to bring it at par with 73rd Amendment. He also demanded early holding of Urban Local Bodies election in the State.

Mr Imtiyaz Ahmed Parray, Lok Sabha President Baramulla, Dr Kursheed, Bashir Ahmed, Altaf Ahmed Malik, Mir Iqbal and Raja Raheel Khan were among others who attended the function.



Jammu students with scholarship cheques provided by Vodafone on Monday.

## Vodafone awards scholarship to Jammu students

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 17: As part of its customer connect initiative, Vodafone India awarded token scholarships to over 100 students who scored more than 90 percent or CGPA equivalent in their 10th and 12th board exams for the academic year 2012-13.

All students scoring above 90 percent or CGPA equivalent have been assured an amount of Rs 1,000 and the highest scorer among them is entitled to a scholarship of Rs 5,000.

Vodafone India had announced a scholarship programme in March for students excelling in their 10th and 12th grade examinations. The programme has been instituted for children of all existing and new Vodafone customers in the State and can be participated in

by depositing a copy of the mark sheet at any Vodafone Store/ Mini Store. The entries to participate in this programme are open till 30 June 30, 2013.

Commenting on the scholarship programme, Asit Shekhar, Business Head, Punjab, HP & J&K, Vodafone India, said, "This initiative is part of our Vodafone Delights programme that aims to acknowledge and nurture excellence. We, at Vodafone, have always endeavoured to connect with our customer and delight them with innovative offerings. This initiative is a small step towards the larger social cause of promoting competitive spirit and academic excellence among students in J&K, preparing them to compete at the national level to fulfill their career aspirations."

## AJKKU demands Degree College at Teryath, ITI at Chingus

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, June 17: As a part of ongoing 11 day awareness campaign, All Jammu and Kashmir Kissan Union (AJKKU) organised meetings at Teryath and Chingus.

Addressing the gathering, Ashok Sharma, Chairman, AJKKU, demanded creation of teshil and setting-up of a Degree college at Teryath in Kalakote and also demanded establishment of community health centre and Industrial Training Institute (ITI) at Chingus.

Sharma stressed for formu-

lating a comprehensive tourism plan for Rajouri and Poonch districts in view of tremendous tourism potential to ensure rapid economic development and generating employment avenues for the youth of these border districts.

He also emphasized for developing airports in Rajouri and Poonch districts besides ensuring early rail connectivity to these districts.

Among others who spoke were Hans Raj, vice president, Balwant Singh, Roshan Din, Sham Lal, Vinod, Behari Lal, Kamal Singh, Ajay Kumar, etc.