

Govt working hard for State's all round prosperity, development: Lone

Excelsior Correspondent
SAFAPORA (BANDIPO-RA), Sept 3: Minister for Higher Education, Mohammad Akbar Lone today reiterated Government's commitment towards State's all round prosperity and development, adding

ber of people and public representatives of the area. Mr. Lone said number of welfare and developmental schemes have already been completed and various schemes and projects in this regard are being implemented to further

ry block in the Girls High School Safapora. He also announced 15 ceiling fans for the class room and new furniture for the school. He also directed the concerned executing agency for speedy completion of science laboratory in the school.



Minister for Higher Education, Mohd Akbar Lone addressing Public Darbar at Safapora on Tuesday.

While inspecting irrigation canal at Kolpora, the Minister directed Irrigation Department to take up the necessary repair work of the canal for the benefit of local people.

Later, a Public Darbar was held at Barkathi Mohalla Safapora which was attended by a large number of people besides public representatives and officers of various departments.

On the occasion people put forth various demands of the area before the Minister.

Mr. Lone, while responding to these demands, directed the officers of the concerned departments for their redressal on the spot and assured the people that their other issues will be looked into for consideration and addressed gradually.

30 candidates selected for placement under UDAAN

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Sept 3: Pinkerton India, world's largest Risk Management Company, in collaboration with Career Counseling & Placement Cell of GGM Science College, Jammu, conducted selection process for the candidates of Jammu & Kashmir under UDAAN project of Jammu & Kashmir Government.

In the selection process, which was held on Monday and Tuesday, 30 candidates have been selected for training at Delhi by International College of Security studies for six months before being absorbed by the company.

While speaking on the inaugural ceremony of the drive, Dr Satinder Singh, Principal GGM Science College, Jammu, stressed for more and more such drives so that youths of J&K could get maximum benefit of such opportunities being provided by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

Dr Sanjay Verma, Coordinator Career Counseling Cell assisted the whole process.

Pensioners protest against non payment of pension

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Sept 3: The pensioners across the State have expressed their grave resentment for non payment of pension for the month of August to them till date.

The pensioners said that they could not collect their pension for the month of August even on third day of the new month today from treasuries and J&K bank branches due to non availability of funds.

Meanwhile, the Pensioners Welfare Association Ganderbal held a demonstration in front of Ganderbal J&K Bank and in front of Deputy Commissioner's Office for non payment of pension to them till date.

The protestors led by Mir Ghulam Rasool a veteran trade unionist shouted slogans against the Government for its callousness towards the pensioners. Later they took a procession to DS Office Ganderbal and staged a demonstration there too. As the DC was on tour they contacted him on phone and expressed serious concern over non payment of pension to them. They also alleged that the third installment of 6th Pay Commission arrears have also not been paid till date and the pensioners who had retired before 2006 were not given the benefits of SRO 52.

The DC assured them to take up the issue with Government. The pensioners leaders Ali Mohammed Dar, Mohammed Subhan Dar and Ghulam Nabi Larwal addressed the protest.

Poswal for disposal of petition pertaining to ST

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Sept 3: President, Bharatiya Gujjar Mahasabha Ishfaq-ur-Rehman Poswal urged the National Commission of Schedule Tribe to adopt Maharashtra modal in utilizing the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) funds of J&K.

A petition was submitted before the Chairman National Commission of Schedule Tribe by Poswal here today. He discussed and requested the Commission regarding the expeditious disposal of petition pertaining to Schedule Tribe of J&K.

The petition envisaged various issues including granting of representation of Schedule Tribe (Gujjars and Bakarwals) in



Ahead of the Zubin Mehta's concert at Shalimar Garden German Ambassador to India Michael Steiner visits Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages at Srinagar on Tuesday.

German Ambassador in Valley ahead of concert

Excelsior Correspondent
SRINAGAR, Sept 3: Ahead of Zubin Mehta's concert in Shalimar Garden later this week, the German Ambassador to India, Michael Steiner, today took stock of preparations.

Accompanied by instrumentalist Bhajan Sopori and his son Abhay Sopori, Steiner visited Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages at Lal Mandi this morning to take stock of different musical items to be used by Bhajan Sopori and his team at the concert.

Steiner and his team were briefed by Bhajan Sopori and cultural academy officials about the preparations done for the programme.

Later, the Ambassador visited Nishat Garden and inspected the lanes, fountains, street lights especially decorated for the musical show. Steiner, however, didn't speak to reporters.

The Floriculture Department, which has been doing facelift of the Mughal Garden has spent a huge amount of Rs 3.65 crore. It has installed 114 fountains in black pavilion, 65 in channels and 23 in the centre of garden.

"We have tried to restore the

Shabir orders attachment of Store Keeper, fines 5 Para-medicos

Excelsior Correspondent
SRINAGAR, Sept 3: Minister of State for Health, Shabir Ahmad Khan today during his surprise visit to Sub-District Hospital, Nowshera issued instructions for attachment of Store Keeper, Mehnder Singh with District Hospital, Rajouri for his carelessness in maintaining and up keeping the records of drugs supplied. He also issued directions for imposing fine of Rs 500 each to 5 Para-medical staff members of the hospital for their indiscipline.

about the different health care facilities kept available by the Government for the convenience of the patients.

The Minister said that Government is considering construction of 100 bedded hospital complex at Nowshera and Sunderbani and directed concerned authorities to identify the land and prepare DPRs. He also inspected the pace of progress of under construction PHC building, Seri, coming up at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.44 crore and directed concerned executing agency for its time bound completion.

During the inspection, the Minister directed the concerned authorities to ensure all facilities to the patients as well as pregnant mothers and neonates. He

underscored the need of proper sanitation in and around the hospitals and instructed for holding of RKS meetings regularly in consultation with local MLAs for arranging repairs and purchase of day to day essential items for use in the hospitals.

He called upon the medicos and para-medicos to remain punctual to their duties for convenience of the patients. He cautioned that any complaint received from the people about non-punctuality of the hospital staff should be dealt with by initiating stern action. He said it should be ensured that patients are not made to wait in long queues for hours together for doctors or other staff during their treatment.

Paul H Appleby Award conferred to Veeranna Aivalli

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Sept 3: Veeranna Aivalli, former Commissioner, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India and founder Secretary of the J&K Regional Branch of IIPA has been awarded prestigious Paul H Appleby Award by Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi for his distinguished services to IIPA and Public Administration.



The award will be handed over to Swarna Aivalli by H Ansari, Vice President of India posthumously in the annual general meeting at New Delhi in IIPA Auditorium on October 18. He is the first person from J&K to receive this award.

Every year, Paul H Appleby Award is conferred by IIPA to honour its members who have rendered their distinguished services to IIPA and to Public Administration by way of their association with important committees of the institute or have made substantial contribution in the activities of institute.

The Minister said that State Government has installed mega solar power plants in almost all the District and Sub-District Hospitals of the State and measures are afoot to install the same in educational institutions and

Niaz calls on Jora

Excelsior Correspondent
BHADERWAH, Sept 3: Former Minister and sitting MLA Bhaderwah, Mohd Sharief Niaz today brought into the notice of Local Bodies' Minister, Nawang Rinzin Jora, about the strike by the local body employees of Municipal Committee Bhaderwah for the non-payment of salaries for the past six months.

Niaz called on the Minister on Phone and also told him that there was an unhygienic condition in the town and there is every possibility of break out of disease in the town.

The Minister assured Niaz that the salaries will be released within two days to the employees.

Anti-ragging squad constituted in GMC

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Sept 3: To keep a check on ragging in the Government Medical College Jammu, the GMC Principal Dr Shashi Gupta has constituted an Anti-ragging Committee with immediate effect.

The three-member committee comprises Dr Satish Parihar (Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery), Dr Farid Bhat (Lecturer in the Department of Orthopedics) and Dr J B Singh (Lecturer in Department of Medicine).

The agitated supporters alleged that Asaram Babu was framed under a conspiracy by the UPA Government. Meanwhile, chain hunger strikes by 10 devotees of Asaram on rotational basis continued for the second day today.

As many as 5 organisations including Yuva Sava Sangh, Mahila Uthan Mandal, Sri Yog Vedant Seva Samiti, Bharat Jagriti Morcha and Dharam Parchar Mandal are protesting on a common platform to highlight their concern on the most sensitive issue in which a saint having crores of followers is being given a militant's treatment by putting him behind the bars, thereby hurting the sentiments of the devotees across the world.

Feroz inaugurates Solar Power Plant at Panjbakhtar Temple

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Sept 3: Minister of State, Science & Technology and Information Technology, Feroz Ahmed Khan today inaugurated 10 KV Solar Power Plant at Panjbakhtar Temple established by Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA) with a cost of Rs. 24 lakh.

MLA, East, Ashok Khajuria besides District Officer, Science and Technology, Deepak Sharma, Regional Manager Sova Power Limited (North India), Ashwani Raina, member of Temple Managing Committee and prominent citizens were present on the occasion.

While speaking on the occasion, the Minister said that solar energy is among one of the best and cheaper source of power to meet the global demand. He said that Government of India has launched various programmes to provide solar energy to the un-electrified areas besides minimizing the consumption of fossil fuels.

He informed that more than 200 solar plants have been installed in J&K besides 50,000 solar domestic lights have been provided in un-electrified belts of the State.

The Minister said that State Government has installed mega solar power plants in almost all the District and Sub-District Hospitals of the State and measures are afoot to install the same in educational institutions and

Plus-2 Lecturers highlight demands

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Sept 3: All J&K Plus 2 Lecturers Forum held its monthly meeting under the chairmanship of State president N S Jamwal and discussed various issues and problems being faced by the cadre in the present educational scenario.

The meet highlighted various demands which include the promotions of Lecturers as Senior Lecturers, filling up of the vacancies of the Principals, repatriation of Principals and Lecturers from Ladakh who have completed their tenure, running pattern, re-organization of school education, non-vocational status to the Principals and 40 per cent college quota.

The Forum lamented that about 150 institutions are headless for the last more than two years resulting into low performance & de-standardization of education in these schools.

The Forum's also demanded removal of officers of Higher Education Department from BOSE and giving the assignment to the competent officers from the School Education Department. The Forum announced not to take any assignment of BOSE if the officers from the Higher Education Department are not removed from the Board.

N S Jamwal urged the Deputy Chief Minister, who holds the portfolio of School Education, to personally intervene for early redressal of all genuine issues of the cadre.

Others who spoke on the occasion include Charan Dass, Ashwani Sharma, Tarsem Singh, Arunesh Kumar, Pardeep Singh, Mulk Raj, Yash Pal, Ghar Singh and Deepak Sharma.

Employees lock all block offices in Kathua district, protest

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Sept 3: All the Block Development Offices of Rural Development Department were locked today by the agitating employees demanding arrest of Sarpanch, Chak Desa, Dilip Singh who had manhandled the SO of Block Kathua over 12 days back in his office Chamber and also fled away with some official records.

Since then the employees of the Block Office Kathua were on complete strike and dharna. They were supported by the employees of other departments but to intensify their agitation and protest against the failure of Government

Dead body of missing girl found

Excelsior Correspondent
RAJOURI, Sept 3: Police recovered a dead body of a 6 year old girl in the field at Thandi Kassi this morning. The girl has been identified as Shabnam Kousar, daughter of Suliman Kousar resident of Thandi Kousi Rajouri.

According to reports the girl was missing since last night and in the morning her dead body was spotted in the fields. The Rajouri Police after getting the postmortem of the girl conducted in District Hospital Rajouri has handed over the body to her parents for last rights. The police has also registered a case and started investigations.

PHE Drivers, Cleaners Union elects new president

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Sept 3: PHE Department Drivers /Cleaners Union of Jammu province in its meeting today held under the chairmanship of Kulwant Singh chairman of the Union.

The meeting elected Mohan Singh Charak as the new president of the Union as the election to the post has become due after the retirement of S Swaran Singh ex president.

Mr Charak thanked drivers and cleaners for his election to the post.

John Samuel bids adieu to J&K; Chandra Prakash is new Chief PMG

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Sept 3: Chandra Prakash, Postmaster Delhi Circle on his promotion has been posted as new Chief Postmaster General of Jammu and Kashmir as the incumbent John Samuel today bid adieu to the State on his transfer as Director Postal Staff College of India, Gaziabad.

The outgoing Chief Postmaster General, who gave a new identity to Department of Posts in Jammu and Kashmir and brought people of the State closer to the Post Offices, was accorded a warm farewell by the officers and officials of Chief PMG's office, here today.

During his tenure of over two years here, Mr Samuel accelerated the modernization and technology induction program in the State and brought the Post Offices again in lime light for various positive reasons.

The revenue of Jammu and Kashmir Circle touched new heights and more than 100 Post Offices were revamped and modernized across the State. He launched the Night Post Office Services in Jammu and Kashmir besides introducing many innovative services like Gift post, same day speed post service, Post Shop etc services. He

CMP driver killed in accident

Excelsior Correspondent
RAJOURI, Sept 3: An Army jawan was killed in a road mishap at Seema Chowk near here, today after he was hit by a bus which was in high speed.

Army jawan was identified as Sukhdev Singh, driver of CO, CMP and son of Baldev Singh, R/o Harni. As per reports the Army jawan had parked his vehicle on the road side and was himself standing by its side when the bus bearing number JK02 G 2071 hit him.

The driver of the bus fled from the spot after the accident and was still at large.

The Rajouri Police has registered a case against him and started man hunt. The body of the jawan was handed over to Army after postmortem.

Poppy straw seized, drug peddler arrested

Excelsior Correspondent
UDHAMPUR, Sept 3: Police seized one kg and 100 gm poppy straw, which was being smuggled in an Auto Rickshaw at TCP Domail, here today and also arrested the drug peddler.

Based on a specific input, a Police party led by SHO Udhampur Deepak Jasrotia laid a surprise naka near TCP Domail and intercepted an Auto bearing registration number JK02AA-4951.

During thorough search of the said Auto, 1kg 100 gm of poppy straw (bhuki) was recovered. The accused namely Romesh Kumar of Adarsh Colony Udhampur, was also arrested on the spot and Auto seized.

In this connection, a case has been registered under NDPS Act in Police Station Udhampur.



Students of Indian Institute of Mass Communication Jammu posing for a photograph during their visit to Suchgarh in R S Pura tehsil on International Border on Tuesday. The students included Ashim, Avantika, Darpan, Divya, Gourav, Megha, Pooja, Kritika, Supriya, Hema, Younis, Rajiv and their mentors Prof Srivastava, Prof Mathur and Prof Khajuria. The students were overwhelmed after seeing the IB and existing security arrangement made by BSF.