

Heated arguments in CC, meet ends in deadlock

Oath ceremony of LAHDC Kargil postponed

Fayaz Bukhari

SRINAGAR, Sept 6: Following strong exception by Congress party Ministers over Chief Minister's nomination of four councillors to the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Kargil, the oath ceremony of the councillors that was scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed after the coalition partners in the State Government agreed to resolve the issue through negotiations.

The State Congress president, Professor Saif-ud-Din Soz told Excelsior that in order to defuse the crisis, he flew from New Delhi to Srinagar and drove directly to the venue of the Coordination Committee meeting.

"Both NC and Congress members presented their view points in the CC meeting that last for about one and a half hour. We tried to find out a solution to the issue of Chief Minister's nomination of four NC members to LAHDC in Kargil", said Soz, who is also chairman of the CC.

The meeting which started at 12.00 pm was attended by

Saif-ud-Din Soz, Deputy Chief Minister, Tara Chand, Finance Minister Abdul Rahim Rather, Floriculture Minister Peerzada Mohammad Syed, Rural Development Minister Ali Mohammad Sagar and CAPD Minister Choudhry Mohammad Ramzan.

Rather was pleading the NC's case in the meeting. He told the meeting that since Congress nominated the councillors for the LAHDC, Leh and the NC was well within its rights to nominate the members for LAHDC, Kargil. It may be mentioned here that Congress had nominated its 4 councillors to LAHDC, Leh after elections that were held last year.

The Congress representatives were adamant that NC violated the coalition dharma by nominating 4 NC members to LAHDC, Kargil. They said that they were not taken into confidence at the time of nominations and it was done secretly without informing them when they had majority in LAHDC, Kargil.

Congress Ministers had been arguing that the nomination normally takes place after the formation of the Council and the Chief Executive

Councillor is the nominating authority. They argued, how could the members be nominated without formation of the council? They declared the NC move as an 'unethical' and 'undemocratic'.

Sources said that there were heated arguments over the issue in the meeting that finally ended in a deadlock.

The Congress Ministers and the president Professor Soz held an emergency meeting at Deputy Chief Minister's residence at MA Road, Srinagar soon after the coordination committee meeting ended in a deadlock. The meeting began at around 2 p.m. and continued upto 8 p.m.

The Congress marathon was attended by JKPC(C) chief, Saif-ud-Din Soz and several other Ministers including Deputy Chief Minister Tara Chand; Minister for Urban Development and Urban Local Bodies, Nawang Rizgin Jora; Irrigation and Flood Control, Sham Lal Sharma; Minister for Housing, Horticulture and Culture, Raman Bhalla; Minister for Tourism, Ghulam Ahmed Mir, Minister for R&B

(Contd on page 9 Col 3)

CM takes up matter with MoD

Illegal occupation of Govt land in Delhi

Neeraj Rohmetra

JAMMU, Sept 6: Peeved over the refusal of the Defence Ministry to vacate the land under their illegal occupation at Kashmir House, Rajaji Marg, New Delhi, Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah has himself take up the issue with senior officials of the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

Reliable sources told EXCELSIOR, "the Chief Minister's Office has also written formal letter for the early vacation of around 96 kanals of land, belonging to Jammu and Kashmir Government, which has been under the occupation of Military Engineering Wing of MoD since 1946" adding, "efforts are also being made to hold parleys with the officials of concerned Ministry to retrieve the prized land at the earliest possible".

The issue had also cropped in

the meeting of Northern Zonal Council (NZC) meeting held last year at Chandigarh, where in Deputy Chief Minister, Tara Chand had discussed the issue with the then Union Home Minister, P Chidambaram. "The State Government had sought the intervention of Government of India for getting back the control of its multi-crore rupees assets in Delhi, Mumbai, Chandigarh and Kolkata", sources said.

Nearly 114 kanals and 11 marlas of prime land located at Rajaji Marg, New Delhi belongs to the State Government. Out of these, only 17 kanals is under the possession of State, while 96 kanals is under occupation of MoD and one kanal and 17 marlas of land is under control of Central Public Works Department.

On the 17 kanals of land under the possession of State Government, 75 staff quarters allotted to employees of various

departments has been made. "State Government is also under the process of reviewing the status of the occupants of these Government quarters for optimum usage of the accommodation and a team of officials will visit New Delhi to take required steps for augmentation of the accommodation in New Delhi", sources asserted.

Another startling case is that of illegal occupation of land measuring nearly 1251 kanals and 4 marlas at Sirsa in Haryana. The land had been initially leased out

(Contd on page 9 Col 1)

'No question of ceding territory'

India building infra on LoC to catch up with China: Antony

NEW DELHI, Sept 6:

Facing attack over its China policy, Government today asserted in Parliament that capacities are rapidly being built along the Line of Actual Control and China "fears" India is trying to catch up with it which sometimes results in face-offs between the two armies.

Rubbishing reports that China had occupied 640 km of Indian land in Ladakh, Defence Minister A K Antony asserted in both Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha that no territory has been ceded to that country.

He conceded that China was "superior" in terms of border infrastructure as India, because of 1962 war, was late in deciding on building roads

and other capabilities near the Line of Actual Control, which he described as a "collective failure".

Making statements in the two Houses, he said all steps are being taken to safeguard national security while seeking a peaceful solution to the long-pending boundary disputes between the two sides.

His statements came after Opposition parties and UPA ally Samajwadi Party targeted the Government over its dealing with China despite repeated incursions and other provocative acts.

"I have no hesitation to say that China is in a better position than India in terms of border infrastructure. It is a mistake, it is all of us who are to be held collectively responsible for it. It is a historical

legacy," Antony said. After "years of neglect", he said India is fast developing capabilities near the China border, including building of roads, raising of two mountain Divisions, many new airfields and landing grounds.

"It is their fear that India is trying to catch up with them," he said answering questions over the reason for increased incursions by Chinese troops over the last few years.

Antony said, "Infrastructure is also coming up in disputed areas (along the LAC) also. Patrols are coming closer and as a result, we see there are incursions. They come and go, they come and go and sometimes, situations of face-off also take place. We

(Contd on page 9 Col 3)

3000 more posts for migrant youth: Omar

Raising building finances to Rs 20 lakh taken up with Centre

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 6: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today said his Government has taken up the issue of enhancing financial aid to construct buildings for Kashmiri migrant pandits with the Centre from Rs 7.5 lakh to Rs 20 lakh.

"The State Government has vehemently taken up the issue of enhancing building construction finance available to migrants who want to return and construct their houses from present Rs 7.5 lakh to over Rs 20 lakhs with the Union Government and is being persuaded constantly," Omar said chairing the meeting of Apex Advisory Committee for migrants here.

The Chief Minister asked the Relief and Rehabilitation Organisation to make migrants intending to return aware that if they avail the present available assistance of Rs 7.5 lakh for construction of houses they would not be debarred from receiving the enhanced amount.

"Any migrant taking Rs 7.5 lakh would get all the enhanced amount when the ceiling will be raised as proposed by the State Government to the Centre," Omar said.

The CM gave nod to the proposal to effect modification to the Prime Minister's package to enable all migrant families who opt to return to Valley to avail the benefits under the package for reconstruction of houses even if such families have sold their properties after 1997.

The amendment will also ensure establishing of clusters at District level besides making employees living in transit camps entitled to avail the benefit under the scheme and also reduce the demand for construction of additional transit camp units.

The Chief Minister said his Government would also work out a strategy to engage another 3,000 Kashmiri migrant youth in Government jobs in the Valley who are ready to return to their native place and serve here.

While 2,160 Kashmiri

migrant youth have been employed so far in the Valley, the selection for another 1,443 posts is under process, he said, adding as soon as these posts are filled up the process for recruit-

(Contd on page 9 Col 1)

Govt allows parallel concert

"I'm happy", says Zubin, on his arrival

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 6: The renowned conductor the Bavarian State Orchestra Zubin Mehta today arrived in Srinagar amid tight security for the concert that is being held on Mughal era Shalimar Garden.

Accompanied by former Chief Minister and Union Minister Dr Farooq Abdullah and German Ambassador Michael Steiner, Zubin Mehta visited the Shalimar Garden this evening amid tight security.

Mehta told the waiting media persons outside Shalimar Garden: "I am not going to say anything. I am happy to be here."

(Contd on page 9 Col 5)

Stop construction in Katra town: DB

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 6: Division Bench of High Court comprising Chief Justice M M Kumar and Justice Hasnain Massodi today directed that no construction activity in the Municipal area of Katra including the area around Railway Station by all and sundry should be allowed till further orders.

This direction was passed by the Division Bench in a Public Interest Litigation seeking check on illegal construction activities in the holy town of Katra.

After hearing Advocate Ajay Sharma appearing for the PIL whereas AAG Seema Shekhar for the State, DB observed, "on July 30, 2013 directions were issued to Divisional Commissioner Jammu and Deputy Commissioner Reasi to personally visit the

(Contd on page 9 Col 1)

Police arrests 2 LeT militants

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 6: Police arrested two Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) militants from Srinagar, a day ahead of music concert featuring world renowned orchestra conductor Zubin Mehta while they are looking for a third one who has probably fled from Srinagar city.

Sources identified the militants as Javed Ahmad of Chanpora and Irfan of Sopore. They were arrested from Chanpora locality of Srinagar during the intervening night of September 4 and 5.

Sources said that an AK rifle and a pistol were recovered from their possession.

During questioning, the two militants led the police to a shop in Maisuma where they had stored two hand grenades for possible

(Contd on page 9 Col 1)

Internet Edition: www.dailyexcelsior.com
E-Paper: <http://epaper.dailyexcelsior.com>

INSIDE	WEATHER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * SC on convicted MPs/MLAs ...Page 8 * Save while you earn ...Page 8 * Amarnath tents scam: Accused threaten complainants as Police delays action ...Page 3 * CJ treats letter as PIL; one more arrested another remanded to PC ...Page 3 * NCM to take all steps to resolve issue of Leh minorities: Habibullah ...Page 5 * BJP must drop idea of projecting Modi as PM candidate: Parveen Davar ...Page 5 * IOC sets Oct 31 deadline for IOA to clean house ...Page 14 	<p>JAMMU Possibility of light rain/thundershowers.</p> <p>TEMPERATURE Max: 31.5 Degree C Min: 21.5 Degree C</p> <p>RELATIVE HUMIDITY Highest: 79.0 per cent Lowest: 69.0 per cent Sunset on Saturday: 06.50 p.m. Sunrise on Sunday: 06.11 a.m.</p> <p>KASHMIR Mainly dry.</p> <p>TEMPERATURE Max: 29.8 Degree C Min: 15.0 Degree C</p> <p>RELATIVE HUMIDITY Highest: 80.0 per cent Lowest: 43.0 per cent</p>

Army exposes new strategy

Under garb of houses, Pak runs launch pads, fortified bunkers

Sanjeev Pargal

JAMMU, Sept 6: Army has completely exposed Pakistan's deceptive strategy on the Line of Control (LoC) opposite twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri, where it had constructed launching pads and fortified bunkers looking like the civilian houses with a view to target forward Indian posts.

"Appearances are deceptive. What appeared to be normal civilian houses on Pakistan side opposite Balakote, Mendhar and some other sectors of Poonch and Rajouri districts, are in fact, fortified Pakistani posts and launching pads, which were being used by the enemy troops to target Indian posts and facilitate infiltration of trained mili-

tants inside the Indian territory," official sources told the Excelsior.

Sources said the Pakistani posts and fortified bunkers were exposed during heavy firing and shelling from across the LoC, which was going on in Poonch sector for past about one month now, when troops observed movement of Pakistan Army personnel and militants coming out of some of the houses especially opposite Balakote and Mendhar sectors.

Intercepts and Intelligence reports later established that one of the houses, close to the LoC on Pakistan side, was, in fact, Pakistan's notorious Aurangzeb post, which was continuously targeting forward Indian posts and civilian areas with heavy fire arms,

rockets and mortar shells.

After few days of intense firing and shelling, Indian Army had succeeded in damaging Aurangzeb post and bring to a halt to some extent the mortar firing by the Pakistan troops in forward areas of Balakote.

The shelling from Aurangzeb post had led to injuries to three Army jawans.

Adjacent to Aurangzeb posts, there are many other structures that too appeared like civilian houses but these are, in fact, terror launch pads, where more than 40 militants owing allegiance to Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and Hizbul Mujahideen outfits are waiting to sneak into the Indian side taking cover of Indian Army's firing.

(Contd on page 9 Col 1)



RIGHT TO FAIR COMPENSATION

The Land Acquisition Bill stipulates that the land owners get compensation up to four times the market price



Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson, UPA
Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister



Union Cabinet approved the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill on 5th Sept 2011. The bill is under the consideration of the Parliament.

UPA - 10th Year of Reaching People Changing Lives