

DB directs sealing of shops indulging in encroachments

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 11: Division Bench of the State High Court comprising Acting Chief Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar and Justice Sanjeev Kumar today took serious note of encroachments in old city by the shopkeepers and others and issued directions for sealing of shops in case of repeated violations of law.

The direction was passed in a Public Interest Litigation filed by Jagdish Chander Gupta highlighting encroachments by the shopkeepers and other persons in the JDA Shopping Complex, Mohalla Old Hospital Road near City Chowk and also in the adjoining areas.

"The shopkeepers despite being challaned and fined repeat their action and display their merchandise by extending their shops on the public

roads/streets/pathways", the DB observed, adding "the JMC, in addition to invoking penal provisions, shall also proceed against the encroachers in terms of Section 232 of the Municipal Corporation Act, 2000.

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However, in case of repeated violations, the JMC shall proceed against such defaulters/encroachers in terms



A doctor from JU Health Centre examining student on fast unto death on Wednesday.

Fast unto death by JU students enters into 3rd day One protester shifted to GMC after his condition deteriorates

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 11: As the indefinite hunger strike by the agitating Jammu University students entered into third consecutive day today, one of the protesters observing fast unto death was rushed to hospital after his health condition deteriorated this afternoon.

Dildar Ahmad, who along with Abhinandan Sharma has been observing fast unto death since Monday morning, turned semi unconscious following which a team of doctors from the University Health Centre reached the spot. After a check-up, Doctors suggested immediate medical treatment to the student, who was later shifted to Government Medical College Hospital by Policemen from Gandhi Nagar Police Station and a few students.

Till the last reports came in, Dildar Ahmad was admitted at GMC Hospital where he was

administered glucose and his condition was stated to be out of danger.

Meanwhile, a girl student namedly Sapna also joined the hunger strike and sat on fast unto death this morning at the protest venue near Vice-Chancellor's Secretariat on the University campus

Even as Prof Jigar Mohd, Prof Dipankar Sen and other members of the JU Negotiating Committee personally visited the protesting students this morning, the later refused to suspend their indefinite hunger strike till the University administration concedes their demands, particularly immediate removal of Prof Satnam Kour as Dean Students Welfare.

Pertinent to mention that a number of Jammu University students are protesting for the last 21 days demanding certain basic facilities in the JU hostels and also action against Prof Satnam Kour who had allegedly beaten up a student during protest on the campus on March 22.

FoIJ demands package on North-East pattern

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 11: Federation of Industries Jammu (FoIJ) led by its chairman, Lalit Mahajan, met the Minister for Industries and Commerce, Chander Parkash here today and demanded package of incentives for the J&K industry on the pattern of North-Eastern states.

During discussion, the delegation raised the issue in respect of uncertainty prevailing in the mind of Micro and Small Scale sector units having less than 1.50 crores turnover and not covered in the Central Excise prior to GST, as the Fiscal Incentives granted vide SRO No. 63 for the refund of SGST only, whereas, the units covered under the SRO No. 521 entitled for the refund of 58% CGST as per Central Govt package of incentives and 42% refund by the State Govt due to which unhealthy competition foreseen in near future by the Micro and Small Scale sector of the State as

Govt orders ban on transfers of teachers

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 11: The Department of School Education today ordered ban on mid-term transfers of Teachers, Masters and Lecturers in the Summer Zone of Jammu Division.

"In view of the beginning of the new academic session and in pursuance of the Government order number 622-Edu of 2015, dated 22-12-2015, it is hereby ordered that the Directorate of School Education Jammu as well as his Subordinate Officers (Summer Zone) shall not effect any mid-term transfers of Teachers, Masters and Lecturers except rationalization wherever required, till further orders," says the Government circular number 09-Edu of 2018, dated 11-04-2018.

As per the circular, it has been further ordered that while undertaking rationalization, the subordinate officers shall obtain prior approval of the Director School Education Jammu.

these units not able to get any benefit for the CGST paid and we fear that in future majority of Micro & Small Scale units may be closed.

The matter, regarding the cumbersome procedure in respect of Inspection of Units and the Audit defined in the said SRO for claiming the Refund, also brought in to the notice of the Minister, resulting harassment being faced by the unit holders in future in contrary to the simplified procedure prior to GST under the VAT regime for the remission to the industrial units and we termed the cumbersome procedure as per SROs as hurdles in the refund mechanism, encouragement to 'Inspector Raj' and also against the concept of 'Ease of Doing Business' adopted by the Industries Department.

The major issues projected before the minister included, issuance of requisite notification for the refund of 5% amount on the sale value to those units not covered under the Central package of incentives, refund of 42% share of CGST under the State package of incentives to the MSME sector; simplification of procedure for the refund of CGST/SGST to MSME Sector of the State, issuance of notification for the reimbursement of 2% amount on sale value on the interstate sale in case of CST and transport subsidy up to destination for the dispatch of finished goods, take up the matter with the Central Govt for the extension of Central package of incentives at par with the North Eastern States to attract the new investment in the industrial sector of the State.

The minister gave a patient hearing to the issues of FoIJ and assured the delegation that the matter shall be taken on priority basis with the State/Central Govt. Rattan Dogra, Deepak Dhawan, Jatinder Aul Co-Chairman, Pardeep Vaid secretary general, Ajay Langer convener, Bansil Lal Gupta, Gagan Jain- Executive Committee members of the Federation of Industries, Jammu also accompanied.

Army pays tributes to jawan martyred in Kulgam encounter

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Apr 11: Army paid tributes to the soldier who was martyred in a gunbattle with

Bhatt, led all ranks in paying homage to the soldier on behalf of the nation.

"In a show of solidarity, representatives from other security



Tributes being paid to martyr at Srinagar.

militants in Kulgam district today. "Army paid befitting tributes to Sapper Sada Gunakara Rao, who attained martyrdom during counter terrorist operations in Kulgam district," an Army spokesman said in a statement.

Rao sustained bullet injuries during the fierce operation at Khudwani early today. He was provided immediate first aid and evacuated to 92 Base Hospital but he succumbed to injuries, the spokesman said.

General Officer Commanding of Chinar Corps, Lt Gen A K

agencies also joined in paying their last respects to the martyr," he said.

Rao (24) had joined the Army in 2012 and belonged to Atisurkaviti village of Srikakulam district in Andhra Pradesh. He is survived by his parents.

*** Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com**

"The mortal remains of the martyr were flown for last rites to his native place, where he would be laid to rest with full military honours," the spokesman added.

People protest over closure of Ramban-Maitra road

*Tehsildar asks SHO to lodge FIR

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Apr 11: Despite lapse of over two months, the district administration and the concerned construction agency have failed to repair the Ramban-Maitra road, which forced the people hailing from different areas of the district to hold protest here today.

A large number of people residing in Maitra and surrounding areas assembled near Masjid Market here and held protest against the construction company Gammon India Limited and the district administration. The protest was led by EX-MLA Congress Ashok Kumar and District President Congress Ramban Arun Singh.

The protesters alleged that no preventive measures were taken before construction of the flyover from Khow Bagh to Cafeteria Morh, due to which Ramban-Maitra road developed cracks on February 8.

"As cracks got developed on the Maitra road due to construction of the flyover, the people residing in different areas of the district are facing manifold problems to get their work done", said Ex-MLA Congress Ashok Kumar and District President Congress Ramban Arun Singh while addressing the protesters.

They further informed that the total distance from Ramban to Maitra



People during protest in Ramban on Wednesday.

—Excelsior/Parvaiz

is around 2 kilometers, but now due to cracks on the road, a person have to take route via Karol to reach Maitra, which is around 12 kilometers.

"No cracks have been developed on the Maitra road, if the construction company Gammon India Limited and the district administration had taken preventive measures", they stated.

After getting information, officials of the District Administration including Tehsildar rushed to the spot and assured the protesters to redress their grievance related to restoration of vehicular movement on Ramban-Maitra road in the shortest possible time.

On getting assurance, the protesters dispersed.

73 officials absent, 36 centres found locked during inspection

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Apr 11: In a simultaneous district-wide well planned inspection of Animal and Sheep Husbandry offices 73 employees were found absent while as many as 36 centres of the department were found locked.

A one-hour long drive was conducted across 10 Tehsils under supervision of Additional Deputy Commissioners and Sub-Divisional Magistrates involving a team of nearly 90 officials. It was 4th such major drive after ICDS, Education and FCS&CA apart from Health Department.

During the inspection, 104 centres were inspected out of which 36 were found locked and out of 213 employees posted at these centres as many as 73 were

absent, 10 on leave and 13 on deputation for various official assignments. The inspection was conducted in backdrop of complaints regarding non-availability of staff for livestock treatment and health-care. District Officers of both departments have been served notices for gross negligence.

Seven officials were found absent in Nowshera Tehsil, 5 in Koteranka, 8 in Darhal, 9 in Manjakote, 1 in Qila Darhal, 7 in Tryath, 13 in Rajouri, 2 in Sunderbani and 21 in Kalakote which has maximum nomadic population. Four centres were found locked in Nowshera, 2 in Koteranka, 5 in Manjakote, 4 in Tryath, 5 in Rajouri and 6 in Kalakote among others. No official was found absent in Thanamandi.

District Administration has constituted a committee headed by Addl Deputy Commissioner, Sunderbani for initiating stringent action against the absentees as well as controlling officers of the department. Salaries of the absentees centre heads as well as Controlling Officers and Drawing & Disbursing Officers have been withheld. Meanwhile, 3 officials who attempted to influence the inspection team have been placed under suspension with immediate effect.

Deputy Commissioner, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary informed that strict action is being taken against the controlling officers who failed to discharge their duties while the absentees have been summoned on April 17 for enquiry and action under service rules.



Governor N N Vohra chairing a meeting of Red Cross Society on Wednesday.

Provide first aid kits to Red Cross volunteers: Governor

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 11: Governor N. N. Vohra, President, Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), J&K, chaired the 176th meeting of State Managing Committee (SMC) of IRCS, J&K, Branch at the Raj Bhavan here today.

Bali Bhagat, Minister for Health and Medical Education, participated in the meeting.

For creating awareness about the objectives of the Red Cross movement and generating funds for the IRCS, Governor stressed the importance of organising Red Cross Melas in each district. Lauding the exemplary work done by members of a local NGO from Ramban in providing immediate aid to the large number of Shri Amarnathji Yatra pilgrims who were killed and injured in a ghastly road accident in July last, Governor emphasised the importance of imparting first-aid training programmes to youth on an extensive scale as this would help in saving precious lives in case of arising emergencies. He directed the Hony General Secretary Red Cross to provide a well designed first aid kit to every Red Cross volunteer.

Governor directed the Divisional Commissioners Jammu and Kashmir and Deputy Commissioners to timely identify Red Cross volunteers whose

work merits conferring awards for their humanitarian services.

Farooq Shah Secretary School Education Department was asked to actively involve all Government, Private and CBSE schools for increasing the enrolment of students in the Red Cross family and to also frame a pragmatic policy for the schools utilising their share of Red Cross funds.

Stressing the need to make Red Cross activities progressively more and more meaningful, Governor emphasized that the need of the hour is to build a large pool of committed volunteers for ensuring wider participation of people in the humanitarian and charitable endeavours of the Red Cross.

M.S. Rather, Honorary General Secretary IRCS informed that the Indian Red Cross Society, J&K State Branch, with support of IRCS-NHQ and ICRC, is implementing Livelihood Support Activities which are aimed to enhance livelihoods of Women Headed Households in village R.S Pura and adjoining hamlets (District Jammu) and in village Hayihama (District Kupwar). This programme will support the women who are heads of identified economically vulnerable households with vocational trainings for manufacturing

handicrafts, cutting and tailoring, book keeping and accounting, live stock rearing and maintenance, basic IT skills and other need-based trainings after proper assessment of the beneficiaries.

B. B. Vyas, Chief Secretary; Dr.S.P. Vaid, DGP; Umang Narula, Principal Secretary to the Governor; R.K Goyal, Principal Secretary, Home; Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Principal Secretary Health and Medical Education; Hemant Kumar Sharma, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu; Farooq Ahmad Shah, Secretary School Education Department; Brig. Ajay Malik, Commandant, MH Jammu; Harminder Pal, DIG, BSF Jammu; Mool Chand Panwar, DIG CRPF; Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, Deputy Commissioner Jammu; Ravinder Kumar, Deputy Commissioner Udhampur; Rohit Khajuria, Deputy Commissioner Kathua; Tariq Hussain Ganai, Deputy Commissioner, Ramban; Rajinder Singh Tara, Deputy Commissioner Samba; Avtar Singh Chib, ADDC Rajouri; Hanief Malik, ADDC Doda; Dr Gurjeet Singh Soodan, DHS Jammu; Roma Wani; Seema Shekhar Khajuria, Members of the SMC-IRCS J&K; G.A. Qureshi; Dinesh Gupta, M.R. Mattoo were among those who participated in the meeting.

Prof Gupta opposes demand regarding restoration of pre-1953 position

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 11: Ridiculing the demand for restoration of pre-1953 autonomy of J&K, the former Union Minister, Prof Chaman Lal Gupta termed it as misnomer and obnoxious. No right thinking person, he said can think even to have those black days back as much water has flown in Jehlum and Chenab during past over six decades.

In a statement issued here, today Prof Gupta said that prior to 1953, there was no jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, Election Commission and even that of Comptroller and Auditor General of India in this State. There was a strange dispensation and new rulers were totalitarian. The extent of intolerance could be gauged that great visionary Dogra leader, Pt. Prem Nath Dogra who organized a

Shab-I-Miraj holiday tomorrow

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 11: The holiday on account of Shab-I-Miraj shall be observed on April 14, instead of April 13 in the Government offices and Educational Institutions of Jammu and Kashmir State.

An order in this regard was issued today by the General Administration Department in partial modification of Government order number 1584-GAD of 2017, dated 14-12-2017.

nationalist party, Praja Parishad, with a democratic outlook, was not only arrested but also shifted to Srinagar jail to face the vagaries of severe Winter for months together. His supporters were put to torture but for satyagrah to seek the release of Pt. Dogra and others who were jailed without any trial, he added.

Several youth were shot dead while trying to hoist the Tricolor, he recalled and pointed out that in the absence of jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, the towering opposition leader of Parliament, Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherji was arrested for entering the State without "Permit" and detained in Srinagar, where he died in mysterious circumstances but no enquiry was held despite the demand of his aged mother as also by the CM of Bengal, B.C Roy.

Prof Gupta also recalled that the Maharaja of the State, Hari Singh was forced to live and die in exile at Mumbai, away from his

people, although he had signed the Instrument of Accession by virtue of which J&K came became the legal entity of Indian Union. Maharaja Hari Singh was made to stay away as he was opposed to cease fire, especially when the Indian forces were marching fast in liberating the Pak held areas and the invaders were on the run.

In the absence of the jurisdiction of Election Commission of India, the Assembly elections were held in an arbitrary manner. There was no proper delimitation of the constituencies. Jammu was not given due representation and in the House of 75 members as many as 72 were declared elected "unopposed" and thus there was no member of the opposition, he added.

Prof. Gupta also pointed out that there was no financial integration and prior to that the entire State budget was confined to just Rs five crore per annum.

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