



Minister for Public Works Department Naem Akhtar inspecting construction work at Jammu on Thursday

Naeem inspects progress of works on major projects in Jammu

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 12: Minister for Public Works, Naem Akhtar today inspected various mega projects being executed by Public Works Department (R&B) and Jammu and Kashmir Projects Construction Corporation (JKPCC) in Jammu city.

Vice Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu Prof Anju Bhasin, Chief Engineer, PWD (R&B) Jammu Sudheer Shah, Managing Director, JKPC Vikar Shanthoo, General Manager Javed Iqbal, Executive Engineers and other engineers of the department accompanied the Minister during the visit.

The Minister inspected the ongoing construction work on 100 bedded Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Hospital at Gangyal being constructed at the cost of Rs. 22.17 crore. He was informed that the building would be completed by end of 2019 which would house the facilities of OPD, Ultrasound, X-ray, Blood bank and 50 bedded Children's Hospital.

While inspecting 200 bedded Government Maternity Hospital at Gandhi Nagar, being constructed at the cost of Rs. 50 crore, the Minister directed the engineers to complete the left over works by

the end of June this year.

Expressing dismay over the sluggish pace of works, the Minister said that the work on the hospital should be completed within the fixed time or strict action would be taken against those responsible for delay in execution of works.

The Minister also inspected School of Humanities and Liberal Arts at MAM College being built at the cost of Rs. 3.34 crore. He was informed that the building would be handed over to the University authorities soon.

He also inspected newly constructed complex of Department of BCA housing six classrooms, two computer labs, two libraries and two conference halls constructed at the cost of Rs. 7.49 crore by JKPC.

He also visited School of Engineering, Technology and Computer Technology, Cluster University of Jammu in Govt. College for Women, Gandhi Nagar to be constructed at the cost of 4.46 crore, besides Hostel building and canteen block at the cost of Rs. 3.25 crore and Rs. 44 lakh respectively.

The Minister also inspected the Administrative Block of Cluster University coming up at the cost of Rs. 4.46 crore and School of Sciences at GGM

Science College, Classroom Block and Canteen Block at the cost of Rs. 4.46 crore, Rs. 4.46 crore and Rs. 44 lakh respectively.

It was further informed that the work on Central Library and Auditorium Block to be executed at the cost of Rs. 8.92 crore and Rs. 4.46 crore respectively would be completed soon.

Later, the Minister reviewed the works being executed at Women Hostel Block in Govt Medical College and Government Dental College, Jammu and directed the engineers to complete the works within the fixed timelines.



CEC LAHDC Dorjey Motup addressing General Council Meeting at Leh on Thursday.

LAHDC committed to provide basic amenities to people: CEC

Excelsior Correspondent

LEH, Apr 12: Chief Executive Councillor, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Dorjey Motup today said that LAHDC is committed to provide all basic amenities in the district.

This was stated by the Chief Executive Councillor while addressing the General Council Meeting at Council Secretariat Assembly Hall, here today.

Minister for Cooperatives and Ladakh Affairs, Chering Dorjay, Executive Councillor for Agriculture Tsering Wangdus, Executive Councillor for Health Gyal P Wangyal, Executive Councillor for Tourism Tsering Sandup, Executive Councillor for Animal and Sheep Husbandry Mumtaz Hussain, Member Parliament Ladakh Thupstan Tsewang, besides Councillors of Hill Council, Deputy Commissioner/CEO, LAHDC, Leh Avny Lavasa and heads of various departments were present on the occasion.

The CEC informed that Planning and Development Department has conveyed Rs. 57.02 crore under regular schemes, Rs 12 crore under NABARD loan assistance, Rs 2 crore as NABARD State share, Rs. 55.45 crore under centrally sponsored schemes and Rs. 9.42 crore as State matching share for centrally sponsored schemes under capex budget for the year 2018-19 for the Leh district. He asked the officers to gear up their men and machinery for mitigating developmental related issues of the people.

During the year 2017-18, Dorjey Motup informed that

LMD team raids booksellers, imposes fine for overcharging

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Apr 12: A team of Legal Metrology Department today raided various booksellers and fined those indulged in over charging.

The raids were conducted on the direction of Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, who had constituted a team of Legal Metrology to check the overpricing of school books by certain sellers.

The raids were conducted at Rattan Stationery, National Book Depot, Gupta Stationery Mart and other stationery shops.

The LMD team was comprising Deep Singh, Anil Sharma (District Pollution Control Officer), Arti Bardwaj (Assistant Labour Commissioner), Jai Dev

Officers of Accounts Service (G) given additional charge

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 12: The Finance Department has assigned additional charge to the two officers of J&K Accounts (Gazetted) Service, with immediate effect.

Mohammad Rafiq, Director Finance, Health & Medical Education Department, has been assigned additional charge of the post of Director Finance, J&K Medical Supplies Corporation, in addition to his own duties till further orders.

Kulbushan Kumar, FA&CAO, Medical Supplies Corporation, has been transferred and posted as FA&CAO Technical Education Department. He will hold the charge of the post of FA&CAO Youth Services & Sports and Information Technology Department, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

Delegation of Pahari speaking people, AOC call on Governor

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 12: A delegation of Pahari speaking people comprising Zafar Iqbal Manhas, MLC; Kuldeep Raj Gupta, VC State Advisory Board for the Development of Pahari speaking people; Shah Mohammad Tantray, MLA Poonch, Vibodh Gupta and Pardeep Sharma - MLCs; Mirza Abdul Rashid, former Speaker and Minister; Syed Rafiq Shah, former MLC; and Dr. Zakir Hussain, Secretary State Advisory Board for the development of Pahari speaking people; met Governor N.N. Vohra at the Raj Bhavan here today.

The delegation brought to Governor's notice various serious problems which are faced by the Pahari speaking people of the State, which include difficulties being faced by them on account of frequent cross-border firing along the LoC in Poonch, Rajouri, Karnah and other sectors which result in repeated evacuations. They demanded provision of permanent alternate housing at safer locations, away from the LoC and IB. In order to bring peace and normalcy in the disturbed areas, the delegation suggested organisation of frequent and regular people to Government contact pro-

grammes, particularly in the rural areas, and conduct of Panchayat elections in the State.

The delegation also discussed certain important issues relating to the grant of reservation to Pahari speaking people in Government jobs.

Governor assured high consideration to the issues raised by the delegation and urged them to sustain their endeavours for promoting peace and normalcy.

Air Vice Marshal Sanjay Nimesh, Air Officer Commanding, J&K also called on Governor and briefed him about various important matters relating to the IAF's role in the State.

The Governor lauded IAF's prompt and valuable support on all occasions, particularly in airlifting people residing in difficult and unconnected areas of the State.



Encroachment by Barista Coffee shop being removed.

Basant seizes ex-MLA's vehicle, challans 2 army vehicles

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Apr 12: The Inspector General of Police, Traffic, Basant Rath today seized the security vehicle of a former lawmaker of ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), challaned two army vehicles for lack of requisite documents and filed a criminal complaint against a hotelier for obstructing him during his duty.

The IG traffic intercepted the vehicle of a former PDP lawmaker, Abdul Razaq Zawoora, who was travelling in his official car provided by security wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police.

The driver of the vehicle was not carrying certain documents which required the seizure of the vehicle. He seized the vehicle instantly and offered his own vehicle to the politician that dropped him at his home.

The incident has taken place near Rajbagh Bridge where the IG Traffic along with SP Traffic Muzaffar Ahmad Shah were checking the vehicles.

The officer also challaned two army vehicles at Hyderpora Bypass in Srinagar. The army vehicles were not carrying proper

2nd phase of PMUY being launched to cover SC/ST households, others: Zulfkar

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 12: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) and Tribal Affairs, Choudhary Zulfkar Ali today said that the Government is soon going to launch second phase of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) to cover additional households in the State.

The expanded phase of PMUY will cover the households belonging to scheduled categories, beneficiaries of PMAY- Gramin, Antyodaya Anna Yojana, forest dwellers.

The beneficiaries to be covered, which are in addition to the households identified under Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC), will also be provided deposit free LPG connections, the Minister told a meeting here today.

The meeting was attended by FCS&CA functionaries, representatives of Oil Companies. The Deputy Commissioners of various districts attended the

meeting via video conferencing. The Minister directed all the Deputy Commissioners to frame the list of eligible beneficiaries at the earliest as the Government has decided to launch the second phase in the first week of May.



Minister for FCS&CA, Ch Zulfkar Ali chairing a meeting at Jammu on Thursday.

The Minister informed that J&K has been ranked No 1 in the country for implementation of the scheme, adding that around four lakh free LPG connections have been issued under PMUY to the beneficiaries against the 5.07 lakh beneficiaries whose KYC have been done.

He said the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has decided to organize "Ujawala Diwas" on April 20, 2018 under "Gram Swaraj Abhiyan" of Ministry of Rural Development. The Minister informed that on the day 18,600 new LPG connections would be distributed among the already identified beneficiaries.

The Minister asked the Deputy Commissioners to play role in organizing the "Ujawala Diwas", laying platform for sat-

urating LPG connection in identified villages and giving momentum to the prestigious scheme. It was informed that the day will be celebrated at 186 places in the State.

that on the day 124 villages of nine districts of Jammu province would be declared smokeless which include 8 villages of Rajouri, 19 villages of Kathua, 2 villages of Doda, 1 each of Ramban and Kishtwar, 19 villages of Udhampur, 3 villages of Reasi, 58 villages of Jammu and 13 villages of Samba.

Meanwhile, the Minister asked the representatives of oil companies to expedite the process for the establishment of LPG bottling plants at Anantnag, Kargil and Rajouri.

However, the Minister took serious note of negligence and lack of safety measures during supply of LPG by taking loaded trucks to heavily populated localities.

He said that the LPG should be delivered to homes of each consumer, adding that practice of taking loaded trucks pose serious safety risk to the people.

For this, he directed the officers of FCS&CA and Legal Metrology to monitor and keep a vigil to check such lapses.



Make up artists and customers during workshop organized by The Headmasters Wellness Zone at Jammu on Thursday.

The Headmasters Wellness Zone holds workshop on makeup, hair

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 12: The Headmasters Wellness Zone organized a workshop on makeup and hair, showing varied make up trends by their master team, Senior Makeup artist Bindu Goel and Kumud, Directors, Headmasters Wellness Zone.

According to Kumud, it's good to be aware of the latest makeup trends, so that you can use the best available makeup options & use the products that are in vogue. Besides you have to be aware of the latest make up trends so that you can make a face look better than what the eyes expect and you shall also be aware what enhances your looks. Varied courses on self-grooming and professional make ups can be followed to be well-groomed and look confident.

She said the makeup trends change every now and then. However, the essence of good makeup is still the same that it must make u look better, naturally, she said, adding that The Headmasters Wellness Zone offers a variety of makeup products and style by sculpting and camouflage that makes you feel fresh, young and

rejuvenated and best of all happy.

Bindu Goel added that sometimes tragically women go to low cost or low quality parlors which spoil their most important day of life by unbalanced makeup giving them a weirdly look. Latest buzz in the world of beauty is invisible make up done with high definition and air brush products, which needs to be very close to your natural skin tone.

Clinic Director, Barkha also gave a presentation on current makeup trends. She added that with good products and make-up techniques people of Jammu will have best of latest trends available in make-up industry at par with any of top of the line salons across the country.

The Headmasters Wellness Zone represented the models at a management fest, "Youtharva 2018", held at The Business School, University of Jammu. Distinguished guests, Prof Alka Sharma, Director, The Business School, Prof Vinay Chauhan and Dr Rachna chaired the fest. Shikha Jamwal and Nikhil Sharma from The Business School co-ordinated the fashion show and helped to make it a success.

HC rejects SWD report on JJBs

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Apr 12: High Court today sought status report from Government indicating constitution and functioning of Juvenile Justice Boards already established by the Government.

Rejecting the report filed by Social Welfare Department, the Division Bench of Justice Mohammad Yaqoob Mir and Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey directed the State counsel to file a fresh status report indicating therein whether the JJBs already established have been constituted and are functional or not.

In compliance of directions passed two days ago, SWD in its report has mentioned nothing about constitution and functioning of these 8 JJBs as such court today rejected the same with the observation that the same is not satisfactory.

Court granted two weeks time after the counsel submitted that the department is without Commissioner Secretary as such it may take some time for providing the information as court

meeting via video conferencing. The Minister directed all the Deputy Commissioners to frame the list of eligible beneficiaries at the earliest as the Government has decided to launch the second phase in the first week of May.

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PNB Circle Head B S Raina inaugurating medical camp in Jammu as a part of Foundation Day celebrations.

PNB celebrates its 124th Foundation Day

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 12: Punjab National Bank (PNB) celebrated its 124th Foundation Day today.

The bank commenced its business operations on April 12, 1895 and opened its first branch at Anarkali Bazar, Lahore (now in Pakistan). The first branch in J&K was made operational in the year 1904. Inspired by the spirit of nationalism and the idea that Indians should have a national bank of their own, PNB was founded as first Swadeshi Bank by far-sighted visionaries and patriots, which included Lala Lajpat Rai, EC Jessawala, Babu Kali Pranso Roy, Lala Harkishan Lal and S. Dayal Singh Majithia.

PNB's journey of 124 years had a humble start with first branch in 1895, with a capital of Rs 2 lakh. Today, we are all proud contributors across 7000 branches and 11000 ATMs catering to over 100 million customers with a domestic business of 11 lakh crores. Since 1895 seven banks have merged with PNB.

To commemorate the Foundation Day, bank organized various activities under CSR in the Jammu Circle. Bikram Singh Raina, Circle Head Jammu inaugurated free medical camps at Shamachak and Pawan Kohli, Dy Circle Head inaugurated the camp at RS Pura wherein large number of people of the area availed the facility of health check up during the day.

Under PNB LAADLI Scheme adopted girl students of villages Dabb Karamdin and Dabb Ditta at Shamachak and village Harsha Dabbar, Bishnah were distributed school bags and study kits. Later, in the day, 25 beddings were donated at Red Cross - Home for differently-abled children, Udhaywala. Bank also distributed daily use articles like foot-wears, trolleys and fans to Home for Mentally retarded Children, Channi Rama, Jammu. Customer meets were also held at various branches and bank's products and schemes were discussed and shared with esteemed customers of the bank.

IOC inks MoU with SFC to set up 'Ban Padoo' for wayside amenities

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 12: An MoU was signed between J&K State Forest Corporation and Indian Oil Corporation Limited to set up Ban Padoo (Forest destination) for wayside amenities along with fuelling facility on J&K State Forest Corporation land in an event held at Khanpur Jammu.

The MoU was signed in the presence of Choudhary Lal Singh, Minister for Forest, Ecology & Environment, J&K and Sandeep Jain CGM I/c, J&K, HP & Punjab State Office, and other officials.

"It is indeed a moment of pleasure to have IndianOil on board with us in this project. When it comes to development initiatives in the State, the oil PSUs have been highly supportive", said Choudhary Lal Singh in his address to the audience.

The Minister further said that this was a golden milestone in the history of J&K State Forest Corporation as it would create a first of its kind model where the infrastructure is developed by a Central PSU and the land provided by the State.

These wayside amenities along with fuelling facility halting places (Ban Padoo) for pilgrims

from neighbouring States visiting Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, Katra will be set up as a joint initiative of J&K State Forest Corporation and the Indian Oil Corporation.

Being a responsible corporate, it was found immensely pertinent by Indian Oil to join hands with this project that aims to provide standardised and hygienic facility along with fuelling facility for commuters at regular intervals. These facilities shall have hygienic food courts, clean toilets, washrooms, facility for short stay, minor vehicle repairs, plants seeds and kiosks of other regular usable items. Distinct facilities will be developed for car and bus passengers, for truck drivers and transporters to cater to their diverse requirements, expectations and to suit the budget of each user.

J&K State Forest Corporation has identified sites for setting up wayside amenities along State/ National Highways. These sites will be developed to provide facilities such as separate parking for vehicles, restaurant/food court, telephone ATM, plant seeds, fuel station and minor repair shop, rest rooms for short-stay, clean toilets, landscaping, kiosk for sale of miscellaneous sundry items in a systematic and planned manner.

* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com



CITU leader M.Y Tarigami leading workers' protest march in Jammu.

CITU leader leads protest of workers

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 12: On the resolve of Central Trade Unions to continue their protest action against the anti-labour policies of Central and State Governments, all trade unions affiliated with State CITU held a large rally in the winter capital city.

MLA Kulgam and top CITU leader, Mohd Yousuf Tarigami was leading the protest. It was started from Press Club and passed through Jewal Chowk, Gumat, Bus Stand and culminated at Indira Chowk. A large number of workers from all over the State from organized and unorganized sector assembled at Press Club Jammu holding red flags, banners and placards in their hands and shouted slogans. They were demanding Rs 18000 minimum wages, pension for all, equal pay for equal work and regularisation, recognition of scheme workers (ASHA, Anganwadi Mid-Day-Meal) as worker, minimum wage, social security and increase in remuneration, check price rise, to resolve unemployment, against labour law amendments, against privatization of PSUs, FDI in Defence, Rail and Insurance and against communal and divisive policies, rehabilitation of Rehdi-Fadi workers of Jammu city etc.

While addressing the protesting workers Tarigami, president, J&K CITU said that the Central Government has been desperate-

ly moving ahead for mega strategic sale of huge national assets of PSUs, anti-working class labour reforms, unremitting rise of prices of all essential commodities, wide-spread contractualization, dismantling existing social security system like EPF and ESI, cutting in social security coverage, ignoring pension to scheme workers such as ASHAs, Anganwari, MDM, unorganized sector workers, non-implementation of labour laws as well as

weakening of law enforcement of machinery and non-implementation of minimum wages of Rs.18000 per month. The neo-liberal economic policies being implemented by the Government have broken the back of working class and marginalized sections of the society as the same has resulted into price escalation, cut in employment opportunities and social security measures, non adherence to basic labour laws etc., he exhorted.

Tarigami said that all these have created miserable impact on the lives and livelihood of the working class both in the urban and rural areas across the country. He called upon the workers to fight untily against these policies of the Government.

CITU leaders Om Prakash and Sham Kesar also addressed the gathering. They demanded to rehabilitate Rehdi- Fadi workers of Jammu.