



DyCM Dr Nirmal Singh chairing a meeting at Jammu.

## DyCM reviews arrangements for President's visit

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 15: Deputy Chief Minister, Dr Nirmal Singh, today convened an officers meeting to take stock of arrangements being put in place for visit of President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, to Jammu and Kashmir on 18th April at a high level meeting convened at Hari Singh Palace.

Deputy Chief Minister exhorted upon the concerned departments to make sure that all necessary arrangements are made in time for this high profile visit to the State and called for a coordinated effort to make the visit a success. He said that a foolproof

mechanism should be put in place to ensure that every aspect of providing the requisite protocol and facilities is ensured.

Vice Chairperson Advisory Board for Development of OBCs, Additional Director General of Police Security, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Inspector General of Police Jammu range, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, heads of various departments and senior officers of various departments were also present on the occasion.

The Deputy Chief Minister stressed on maintaining close coordination among various departments including the security officials to ensure that the visit

could go successfully. He also directed the officers to ensure that the cultural items to be presented should reflect the rich culture and heritage of the State in a proper perspective giving equal preference to every region.

The Deputy Chief Minister, while reviewing traffic plan for the event, asked the officers to ensure that common people are not put to any inconvenience due to the arrangements being made for the VVIP visit.

Dr Singh also reviewed the arrangements being made for the stay of the dignitaries.

He also went around the venue and inspected the arrangements being made.

## Perverse order can't fall within definition of PC Act: HC

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 15: While quashing FIR registered by the Vigilance Organization in the year 1986 against Asgar Ali, the then Assistant Custodian and former PDP MLC, High Court has said that wrong or even an illegal or perverse order cannot fall within the definition of an offence under the provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act merely because some procedural irregularities are noticed by the court.

After hearing Advocate Abhinav Sharma appearing for Asgar Ali and Deputy AG Raman Sharma appearing for the Vigilance Organization, Justice M K Hanjura observed, "no finality is attached to an order passed by the Assistant Custodian. It can be challenged before the authority designated under the Act as has been done in the instant case. The power to be exercised by the Assistant Custodian is a power vested with him under a statute and under the colour of his office he exercises the power of a civil

court. Therefore, the action of the petitioner in passing an order under Section 8 of the Act would not fall within the purview of Section 5(1)(d) of Prevention of Corruption Act".

"An order passed by the civil court which is bad or perverse would not per-se mean that its maker can be prosecuted under the provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act. In such a case the scheme as provided and postulated under the Act has to be followed by the aggrieved person", Justice Hanjura said.

According to the case, one Abdul Majid, son of Abdul Aziz of Chak Mohd Yar R S Pura filed an application under Section 8 of the Evacuees (Administration of Property) Act, 2006, on 20.02.1981 before the then Tehsildar, Agrarian Reforms, Jammu, at that moment. In the year 1983, the petitioner came to be posted as Tehsildar (Assistant Custodian) Jammu, and the application was ripe for final determination at that juncture.

Since the application was filed after a period of 35 years approximately from the date, the evacuees had left the place, therefore, the Assistant Custodian made an endorsement on the application to that effect. However, the then Custodian proceeded ahead in the application and issued a notice inviting objections from the general public and thereafter the court recorded the statements of the witnesses produced by the applicant in support of his application seeking restoration of the land.

The application came to be dismissed for non-prosecution and was consigned to records. Subsequently, the same was restored to its original number by the then Custodian namely Meharban Singh posted as Tehsildar, Agrarian Reforms, Jammu, at that moment. In the year 1983, the petitioner came to be posted as Tehsildar (Assistant Custodian) Jammu, and the application was ripe for final determination at that juncture.

## BJP castigates NC for its communal agenda

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 15: Bharatiya Janata Party has castigated National Conference Provincial President Devender Singh Rana for blaming BJP for "hobnobbing with Congress to further its agenda of division, hate and polarization."

"For Rana everybody (including his alliance partners Congress) are communal while his bosses across the Pir Panjal are most secular. What else can be expected from a person who has always sabotaged the interests of Jammu people at the expense of pleasing his 'akas'?" said BJP spokesperson Brig Anil Gupta, in a statement, issued here today.

The BJP spokesman further alleged that Rana belongs to a party which is responsible for unleashing communal politics in the State by launching "Quit Kashmir" movement against the then Dogra ruler of the State. "NC was responsible for forcible introduction of Article 370 in Indian Constitution. It thereafter systematically organised ethnic cleansing of Valley to convert it into an intolerant monolith society from multi-ethnic tolerant society. Through its political agenda, it sowed the seeds of dividing the

peaceful Jammu region into religion based sub-regions. It changed the names of towns, villages, localities and Hindu religious places in the Valley to Arabic names, an alien language as far as the people of Kashmir are concerned, just to impose the radical Wahhabi culture. Despite these facts, he dares to label the peaceful people of Jammu as communal. He is speaking at the behest of his masters to change the entire existing narrative by portraying Jammu as communal, blamed the statement," he alleged.

Continuing his tirade, Brig Gupta dubbed National Conference as a party of chameleons, whose leaders change colours with every changing season in Kashmir, sometimes more than once during the same season. "Known to speak in three different languages in Jammu, Srinagar and Delhi, their true face has become very familiar with the youth," he said.

The BJP leader further reminded that the National Conference, which claims to be secular, refused to add the word "Secular" in the preamble of the State Constitution when it was introduced in the Constitution of India by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

## DDC takes stock of development works in border areas

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, Apr 15: District Development Commissioner (DDC), Rajinder Singh Tara conducted an extensive tour of border villages in Ramgarh sector and took stock of development works.

The DDC was accompanied by Assistant Commissioner Development, Aijaj Qaiser, Executive Engineers of PDD, PHE, PWD and other district officers.

The DDC inspected the works especially under MGNREGA in convergence with centrally sponsored schemes BAPD and 14th FC that are being executed by RDD and PDD, including compound wall at Rarian, culvert at village Garwal, Panchayat Ghar Chang and 5 kilo-meter road from Gho Brahmana to Bandral road, 1.5 km road at Kamala village and 3km road from Gho to Raika along-with lane under construction at Nandpur.

The DDC directed the concerned departments to adhere to the timelines for completion and continuous monitoring for maintaining the quality of works.

While inspecting flood prone areas at Kamore and Barota, the

DDC directed the officers of Irrigation and Flood Control Departments to expedite the construction work on bunds in these areas well before monsoon season.

The DDC also inspected and assessed the damage caused by floods especially to the fencing on the border and border out posts of BSF and directed ACD to chalk out a convergence plan with soil conservation and irrigation and flood control to ensure safety of security installations.

He further directed Chief Agricultural Officer to provide assistance to flood affected farmers of 2014 who faced problem of land silting at that time.

The DDC also visited Swankha temple and Baba Chamlyal shrine and directed Tourism Department to speed up the pace of work on all ongoing renovation and other works and complete them in before Chamlyal Mela scheduled to be commencing in June.

During the tour, the DDC also interacted with various deputations to have a firsthand feedback of the working of various departments as per the aspirations of people of this border belt.

# Civil society, Bar vow to continue agitation

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 15: Civil society and Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association Jammu today vowed to continue agitation over the serious issues concerning Jammu province.

According to Gagan Basotra, Incharge Media Cell, J&K High Court Bar Association Jammu, a meeting of various associations of civil society and prominent leaders of various organizations was held in the High Court Complex.

In the meeting, all the leaders of the civil society held thread-bare discussions and vowed to continue agitation under the leadership of JKHCBAJ President Senior Advocate B S Slatia.

The Bar and civil society are demanding deportation of illegal immigrants/ Rohingyas and Bangladeshis from Jammu region, withdrawal of minutes of meeting/ illegal directions of Tribal Affairs Department and CBI probe into Rassana murder case.

The speakers in unanimous voice appreciated the selfless efforts of the members of

JKHCBAJ who have always come forward and supported the genuine cause and demands of nationalist people of the region whenever and wherever the Government has failed to redress the genuine grievances of the public.

The representatives of various organizations felt that the circumstances being created by the certain vested interests and supported by Kashmiri centric politicians under the camouflage is a threat to the social fabric, brotherhood and communal harmony of the Jammu region.

"The people of Jammu have felt betrayed as they have tested every political party but injustice and discrimination with the people of Jammu is increasing day by day so much so that now the people are fearing for their security and safety", they said.

The President of Bar Association assured all the participants of the civil society that their proposal shall be placed before the General House tomorrow for approval.

Those who attended the meeting included Naryan Singh

(Amar Kashatriya Rajput Sabha), Paviter Singh (President JPPF), Zorawar Singh (Chairman Team Jammu), Dr Ajay Charang (Chairman Panun Kashmir Advocate Vikram Pangotra (State President Rashtriya Sarvodaya Party), Yash Pal Gupta and Neeraj Anand of Traders Federation, Rajeev Mahajan (President Shri Ram Sena), Interjeet Khajuria (Chairman Hotel and Lodges Association), M.L Sharma (JPPF), Dheeraj Mahajan (Warehouse Association), Deepak Gupta (General Secretary Warehouse), Harsh Kumar Gupta (President Jammu Nav Nirwan Society), Ajit Jamwal, Shailender Aima, Ashwani Sharma, Dr Agnishekar, Gourav Kapoor (State President National Youth Front J&K), Tarun Uppal (National Core Committee Member Anna Hazara Movement), Pushpinder Singh (President JJSF), Atul Soodan State Vice President JJSF, Pawan Chhib (Rajput Sabha), Ajay Sharma (General Secretary IHRC), Sanjay Kumar (National Coordinator Panun Kashmir), Rajinder Singh (Sikh Progressive Front Jammu), Prem Nath (Stone Crushers President), Jatinder Kumar Sharma (President Bar Association Samba), Vishal Tandon, Kunal Kohli and Munish Chopta (Yuva Khatri Sabha J&K leaders) and Sumeshwar Kohli (Dogra Khatri Sabha General Secretary).



Bhagwan Parshuram Shobha Yatra being taken out in Udhampur town on Sunday.

## Parshuram Jayanti Shobha Yatra taken out

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Apr 15: In connection with Bhagwan Parshuram Jayanti celebrations, an impressive Shobha Yatra was taken out in Udhampur town, here today.

A grand function was organised by the Yuva Parshuram Dal, The religious procession took off from Kargil Hanuman Mandir,

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adjoining National Highway Udhampur.

A large number of people from all walks of life including women and children participated in the Shobha Yatra. They were raising slogans in the praise of Bhagwan Parshuram. Some people in the Jhanki were singing devotional songs. Different Jhankis depicting the role played by different incarnations of God were shown.

In the morning, a 'Yagya' was performed at Kargil Hanuman Mandir. A large number of people including women and children participated in it. A community langar was also arranged by the management committee of the (YPD). It was followed by 'Bhajan-Kirtan' by the devotees who arrived here from various parts of Udhampur and surround-

ing villages and towns.

At around 11am, an impressive Shobha Yatra was taken out from Kargil Hanuman Mandir. Several tableaux of Bhagwan Parshuram, on the highly decorated vehicles/ trolleys were witnessed during the Jhanki. Shobha Yatra after passing through Domail, Barrian, Salathia Chowk, Court Road, Mukerjee Bazar, Dabber Chowk, Gole Market, Main Bazar, Chabutra Bazar and Talab Sallian and Vinas Chowk later concluded at D N Palace.

Subash Shastri, a renowned Saint along with followers, MLA Udhampur Pawan Kumar Gupta and District Development Commissioner Ravinder Kumar, senior Congress leader Brij Mohan Sharma, INTUC State Secy Sumeet Magotra, Sumit Magotra, Ex MLA Balwant Mankotia, heads of various other Sabhas and organisations also attended the programme.

Meanwhile, at DN Palace, 25 poor ladies were given sewing machines by Parshuram Yuva Dal and 35 children's were honored with mementoes. Two girls namely Saras Bharti and Pooja Bharti, daughters of local Dogri folk artist Romalo Ram were also honoured for promotion of Dogri.

## Plus 2 Lecturers highlight issues

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Apr 15: The monthly meeting of the District Udhampur unit of All J&K Plus 2 Lecturers' Forum, was held here today under the chairmanship of district president Ashok Sharma.

The speakers demanded strict implementation of the School Education Department order to detach all employees attached in other departments. They said that it will go a long way in improving the standard of education in the State and further demanded that all attachments in the School Education Department be also cancelled and teaching staff be rationalised on the basis of strength and need of schools.

They also expressed their resentment over the order issued by SDM Mahore, in which he has directed all Patwaris to inspect schools on his behalf for necessary action against absent teachers. They said that absenteeism is a chronic problem and it cannot be justified but why single out only teachers.

The speakers said that before issuing such orders, the SDM ought to have given a thought to the hierarchy as a Patwari is far junior to the Principal of a Hr Sec School or the Headmaster of a

High School. They demanded that the said order be revoked immediately and also urged the Education Minister to frame and implement a uniform policy at the State level to check absenteeism and not allow officers to issue such whimsical orders.

The members also discussed the problem of those candidates who appeared in SSE (10th class) Biannual Pvt and whose result was declared in Oct, 2018. The candidates who passed the SSE were not given admission in HSP-1 as Regular Candidates but their examination forms alongwith requisite fee, as Private Candidates for HSP-1 were accepted but now they are not allowed to appear for HSP-1, they explained and demanded that these candidates be allowed to appear in HSP-1 summer zone, 2018.

The members resented that the question papers of HSP-1 of some subjects were found opened by some private institutions but all the schools, including Government institutions, have now been asked to collect fresh question papers from the nearby Police Stations.

Among those, who addressed the meeting, included Ashok Sharma, D P Sharma, Arunesh Kumar, Joginder Kumar, Parjesh Kumar, Luxmi Kant and others.



Natrang artists presenting Urdu comedy play 'Jhootha Khwaab'.

## Natrang presents hilarious comedy 'Jhootha Khwaab'

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 15: This Sunday, Natrang presented a hilarious performance of an Urdu comedy play, 'Jhootha Khwaab' in its weekly theatre series, Sunday Theatre.

The play has been written by Shawkat Thani and directed by Neeraj Kant. The play opens at a room of one 'Jhuffman Miya' who had a nightmare that he is going to die after two hours. His father and grandfather visited him in a dream that he shall go to them at 4:00 am sharp.

As he had impression that they would never tell a lie to him, he got scared and wakes up in the fit of fear that he is going to die in just two hours. He calls every one present at the home, his wife and servants, to narrate the unfortunate incident. But the dramatic turn was this that he was more bothered about settling the financial accounts with the people rather than leaving this world.

He wanted to update his wife about all his financial transactions and how much money he still has to recover from people and gives a stern direction that she shall not let a single penny unrecovered

from the people after he leaves this world to which she replies that there would be no fun of collecting the money if he is not with her and prays that this dream turns to be a false dream.

But 'Jhuffman' was more materialistic, who was not ready to leave his materialism even at the end of his life, he settles the accounts with his servants also and even levies penalties on them for their carelessness during work.

Exactly at 4 am, he goes to sleep and considers that he is dead as per the prophecy, his wife started wailing and crying to which even neighbours arrive to mourn but after some time, hearing the noise, he wakes up and realizes that he is not dead and the dream was a false dream.

Natrang young artists who acted in the play were Goutam Sharma, Mohit Kaul, Meenakshi Bhagat, Gautam Kumar, Ajay Kumar Lalotra, Sushant Singh Charak, Shivam Sharma and Manoj Kumar Lalotra. The lights of the play were designed and executed by Shivam Singh whereas music was scored by Bhisham Gupta. Mohd Yaseen coordinated the show.

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