



Clerical cadre employees being arrested during protest march to Civil Secretariat, near Indira Chowk in Jammu on Tuesday.

Clerical cadre employees' Sectt 'Gherao' prog foiled, many detained

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 24: The police today foiled Secretariat 'Gherao' march of clerical staff from various Govt departments and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and detained about a dozen employees' leaders.

The employees from Jammu and various other districts, under the banner of Jammu Kashmir Ladakh All Department Clerical Staff Coordination Committee (Jammu province) on the second day of their agitational program assembled at Press Club Jammu near Dogra Chowk at around 11 am and held strong protest demonstration. They were demanding removal of anomalies in pay grade of clerical cadre.

Various senior leaders including Babu Hussain Malik, Ravi Singh Bhat, Bharat Bhushan, Sukhbir Singh and several others addressed the gathering and criticized the State

Government for adopting delay-tactics in the implementation of the Committee framed by Govt for the purpose and also rejecting J&K High Court order with regard to the pay anomalies.

On the second consecutive day the clerical cadre employees observed complete strike and the normal work in many offices was affected with the ongoing three-day strike. A large number of employees of all the factions, under the single banner of 'Coordination Committee' have chalked out second phase of this agitational program. On first day of their program, they held strong protest at Udhog Bhawan in Jammu and also at their respective district headquarters. They were shouting slogans in support of their demands. They also raised slogans against the Government for ignoring their issues despite recommendations of the Cabinet Sub Committee and High Court

directives. As the protesting employees in the shape of large rally moved towards Civil Secretariat from Press Club via Dogra Chowk and Gumat, they were stopped by strong contingent of State police at Ranbir Market, near Indira Chowk. The employees showed some resistance and also had little scuffle with the cops but the Police and CRPF deployed by administration foiled their protest march to Secretariat. The police also arrested about a dozen employees' leaders including Ravi Singh and Nazir Bhat. They were taken to Bus Stand Police Station but released later in the afternoon.

The cadre leadership has appealed the colleagues across the region to paralyse the work of State Government while observing the strike program. Prominent among those who accompanied Anil Mehta, Gurmeet Singh, Ashok Singh, Yash Pal Sharma, B B Kotwal, Meenakshi Sharma, Ravi Kumar, Mohd Saleem, Mohd Latief, Onkar Verma, Arun Sharma, Sewa Ram Rathore, Manohar Singh, Balbir Singh, Zahir Abbas, Mansoor Ahmed, Farida Bano, Umar Jan, Kripal Singh, Anusya Gupta and others.

ing hot and cold over the issue, Singh lamented the varying stands taken by its leadership at different places and on different occasions depending upon their political expediencies. Not only had they toyed the PDP line over the issue but accused their own electorate of being communal besides levelling accusations of supporting rapists and criminals. Accusing the BJP of brazenly defying the sensitivities of the Jammu people, Singh said that such outrageous conduct on the part of saffron leaders would leave a permanent scar on the hearts and minds of the people.

Maintaining that Jammu had a time tested history of communal harmony and brotherhood, Singh accused the vested interests of trying to dub the people of the region as communal. The way the BJP responded to the demand for CBI had shocked the collective sentiment of Jammu, said Harsh. Harsh Dev said that NPP would continue its campaign for CBI probe in its pursuit for justice to the Rassana victim for bringing to fore the perpetrators of heinous offence.

Lambasting the BJP for blow-

Probe loses sanctity as tainted men in CB team Justice in Rasana case possible only through CBI probe: Harsh

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 24: With one more officer associated with CB probe into Rassana case having been found to be tainted and suspended in the past for his alleged dubious role, the justification for the people's demand for CBI probe gets further strengthened, NPP chairman and former minister Harsh Dev Singh said here today.

Talking to media-persons here, Singh said that with credentials of

* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

the two officers constituting the probe team being doubtful, the findings of such a committee surely become questionable. Why should the Govt opt for officers of doubtful integrity and disputable antecedents for probing a sensitive issue which had international connotations, he said.

"What will be the sanctity of the findings of a committee comprising tainted officers?" Singh questioned seeking the handing over of the said probe to CBI in consonance with the public sentiment in the region.

Lambasting the BJP for blow-



Guests releasing souvenir of conference during inaugural at SMVDU on Tuesday.

Conference on 'Renewable Energy' begins at SMVDU

Excelsior Correspondent

KATRA, Apr 24: A two-day national conference on "Renewable Energy and Sustainable Environment: Challenges and Remedies (CRESE-2018)", being organized by School of Energy Management, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, began here today.

Prof V Verma, Dean Faculty of Engineering and Pankaj Kumar, Senior Technical Expert Solar, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, formally inaugurated the conference, which is supported by TEQIP-III.

In his inaugural address, Prof Verma stressed upon the contribution of science in the field of renewable energy. He also stressed on the various naturally existing plants and animals which recycle energy for their use and said that the engineers should derive inspirations out of such phenomenon.

Pankaj Kumar deliberated on the importance of concentrated solar power and its applications in various areas. He also mentioned about the policies adopted by Government of India for improving the usage of renewable energy thereby reducing the carbon footprint. In addition, he encouraged the young researchers, participants

and students to think out of box and find the multiple alternative solutions rather than their conventional one.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Dr Sanjeev Anand, convener of the conference, said that this conference will act as channel for creating an atmosphere which will encourage and inspire students and young researchers for their overall academic growth.

About 100 delegates from all over India are participating in this conference. There will be 10 invited talks covering various aspects of renewable energy and its applications in sustainable environment, 53 oral and 54 posters presentations on various themes.

Parminderjeet Singh Sandhu, Director, Softech Industries Pvt Ltd., presented the industry perspective on concentrated solar power systems. He stressed on the shortage of skilled manpower in the areas of renewable as the same is having huge potential. Dr Vineet V Tyagi, organizing secretary of the conference, presented the vote of thanks. He stressed that this was possible with the support of Dr Yathesh Anand and Dr Ankush Gupta, Co-Organizing Secretaries, Amit Verma and all M Tech. and Ph.D. students.

Advisor to CM, others call on Governor

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 24: Prof. Amitabh Mattoo, Advisor to the Chief Minister met Governor N.N. Vohra at the Raj Bhavan today.

Prof. Mattoo briefed Governor about the initiatives underway, on various fronts, for advancing the higher educational interests of J&K.

Governor urged Prof. Mattoo to focus on the crucial importance of well planned initiative being implemented to nurture and advance the aspirations of youth and, besides, safeguarding the functioning of educational institutions at all levels while ensuring against the academic schedules of students being recurringly disrupted by unrest and disorder.

D.C. Raina, Member Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board and Legal Advisor to the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board also called on Governor and discussed certain legal and other matters relating to the efficient management, maintenance and administration of both the pilgrimages.

A.G Mir ADGP CID also met Governor and briefed him about various important developments relating to the State.

Meanwhile, Rajesh Gupta, Chairman Tourism Federation Jammu (TFJ), called on Governor and informed him about various important issues relating to the conduct of the approaching Shri Amarnathji Yatra and stressed the need to ensure the safety and security of the pilgrims. He requested the Governor, who is Chairman of the Shri Amarnathji and Shri Mata Vaishno Deviji Shrine Boards, about the usefulness of special skill development programmes being organized for the Service Providers involved in both the pilgrimages; enhancing the involvement of Jammu based traders and tour operators with the support of both the Shrine Boards; and steps being taken for boosting tourist visits to various leisure locations and pilgrim circuits in the entire State.



Health Minister Bali Bhagat launching a blacktopping work at Jammu.

Bali launches blacktopping work

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 24: Minister for Health & Medical Education, Bali Bhagat has launched the blacktopping work on 2-kms road in the Ward Nos. 59 and 60 at Paloura today.

The up-gradation and blacktopping which was a long pending demand of the locals involves a cost of Rs. 72 lakh and will benefit scores of habitations in these two wards.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said that Government is committed to upgrade the basic facilities for the people across the State with special thrust on the road sector. He said road is key to the development and prosperity and during the past over three years this sector has received focused attention and conditions of almost all roads is satisfactory. He said standards and specifications of blacktopping have been revised by the Government to ensure their durability and contractors have been made responsible for the repair of the roads if they are damaged before the time limit fixed by the Government. People themselves can supervise and satisfy with the quality of works in their areas and can approach the higher authorities with regard to any deficiency so that the same can be taken care off.

He called upon the engineers to personally monitor the quality of material, width and specifications of blacktopping to ensure longevity of roads, adding that there shall be no compromise on quality and any lapse in this regard will entail penalty on the engineers concerned, he asserted.



Provincial Co-ordinator of Mahila Samanway, J&K, Mamta Singh, during a meeting with First Lady of the country, Savita Kovind, at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.

Mamta meets First Lady of country

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 24: Provincial Co-ordinator of Mahila Samanway, Jammu and Kashmir, Mamta Singh called on the First Lady of the country, Savita Kovind, to discuss the women related issues being worked upon by the organization in J&K, at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.

Mamta apprised Savita Kovind with the activities and welfare measures undertaken by the organization for the betterment of women folk. She said that their organization is particularly focused on the broader outlook of the problems being faced by the women folk at the multiple levels. She stressed that the entrepreneurship among the women folk will act as morale booster to

self reliance and recognition in the society.

Savita Kovind listened to all the deliberations by the Provincial Coordinator of Mahila Samanway and encouraged her for the positive works being done by the organization for the women folk.

While sharing her happiness with the First Lady over the bold decision by present dispensation for the ordinance recently approved by the President of India, Ram Nath Kovind regarding the death penalty for the rapist for the heinous offence against the women under the age of 12, Mamta said that the society must rise above the geographical, linguistic or ethnic barriers, to raise voice for the victim with empathy so that the menace could be contained.

Council panel takes stock of Narwal Mandi

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 24: The Department Related Standing Committee (DRSC-IV) of Legislative Council headed by its Chairman, Ramesh Arora today visited the office of Director Horticulture, Planning & Marketing at Fruit Market Narwal here and took stock of its functioning and problems being faced by the business community dealing with fruit and vegetable etc.

The other members of the committee including Vibodh Gupta, Giridhari Lal Raina and S Charanjeet Singh.

On the occasion, a number of delegations of Fruit and Vegetable market, including Fruit & Vegetable Association Narwal met with the Committee members and apprised about the problems being faced by the business community and all those visiting the market with their daily business activities.

They highlighted the important issues of the market relating to the improvement in basic facilities like sanitation, power infrastructure, drinking water, street lights, installation of CCTV Cameras, transfer of lease hold right, security and other allied issues for smooth running of their business and demanded upgradation of these facilities on priority.

The Committee gave

patient hearing to the problems of the traders and members of the Association and assured that the same will be discussed at the appropriate fora for their early redressal. They also issued necessary instructions to the officers of Horticulture Marketing to look into the basic issues and take immediate steps to redress these.

The Committee also directed the Director Horticulture, Planning & Marketing to formulate a DPR for the expansion of Fruit & Vegetable Market, Narwal and submit the same to the Government in view of the increased business activities as this is the only terminal market of the Jammu Division catering to the work laod. The Committee observed that in view of the unprecedented business activities and to ease out the crowd, a durable and sufficient infrastructure is required for efficient functioning of this business hub of Jammu.

Director Horticulture, Planning & Marketing, Nazim Z Khan, Director Horticulture, Anuradha Gupta and other senior officer of both these organizations, besides senior officers of Council Secretariat were also present in the meeting.

Dr Jitendra visits Loknayak Bhawan offices, interacts with employees

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Apr 24: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today visited Loknayak Bhawan offices of Department of Personnel &

as CPENGRAMS, Sankalp, Anubhav, Bhavishya and Mobile App. The Minister appreciated the online processing of Pension settlement on Bhavishya. The Minister appreciated the Department's initiative of Pension Adalats considering the fact that the number of Pensioners now exceed the number of working staff.

While briefing him, Joint Secretary, Pensions informed the



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh going around the offices of DoPT, Pensions and Space, during his visit to Loknayak Bhawan at New Delhi on Tuesday.

Training (DoPT), Department of Pensions & Pensioners' Welfare and Department of Space, and interacted with the employees there. This was a surprise visit paid by the Minister to personally understand various grass-root functional aspects of these departments.

During his visit, Dr Jitendra Singh met the officials working in the departments and interacted with them regarding their working conditions and difficulties, if any, faced by them. He conducted an inspection of the offices and also supervised the Swachhta/cleanliness status of these departments. While going from seat to seat, he interacted with the entire staff of all the three departments. These visits help in keeping the morale of employees high and also motivate them, he said.

Thereafter, Dr Jitendra Singh conducted a joint meeting of all the officers in which welfare activities of employees, cadre management activities of 19,000 officers of CSS, SSCS and CSSS as well as welfare activities pertaining to Central Government Pensioners were discussed. The Minister also visited the DoPPW NIC centre which manages the Pensioners' portal and all the online activities of the Pensions Department such

Minister that there was an abandoned store-house on the ground floor outside the building which had been lying in a dilapidated state from several years. The same is being renovated and shortly would be used as a facilitation centre for Pensioners as well as a convention centre for small activities of the Department of Pensions.

Dr Jitendra Singh suggested to the officers of DoPT that it might be a good idea to have some institutionalized mechanism from the department's side for carrying out personal outdoor obligations of officers and staff so that they can give their maximum time to sit in office and attend to their work.

After the visit, Dr Jitendra Singh said that the purpose of his visit was to understand the ground working conditions of the employees working in various departments located here. He said that DoPT is an important department of Government of India and performs various important functions including cadre management and meeting training requirements.

The Minister also visited the Department of Space Branch Secretariat located in Lok Nayak Bhawan. It also has a liaison unit for ISRO which represents the DoS ISRO Headquarters at Bangalore.

JKGB conducts camp under Gram Swaraj Abhiyaan

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, Apr 24: J&K Grameen Bank (JKGB) conducted an awareness camp under "Gram Swaraj Abhiyaan" (campaign at village Mirpur Jagoo (unbanked area) under the Branch Office-Nagri Parole.

Sharma, advised all the bank staff to conduct door to door banking under this campaign so that everyone should get benefit.

Vipan Gupta, Senior Manager, Micro Finance & Financial Inclusion, JKGB, was also present at the occasion. Speaking at the campaign, he



Grameen Bank officers during awareness camp.

The camp was organized by Micro Finance and Financial Inclusion Department under the chairmanship of RK Chhibber, Madan Lal, DDM NABARD, was the chief guest on the occasion. He highlighted that the campaign will continue till May 5, 2018.

At least 250 people attendant the camp wherein gathering of people comprising of men, women and youth participated. At least 150 enrolments were done during the programme. A touching 2000 enrolments have been done by the bank so far under this campaign in just 10 days.

Narinder Singh Jasrotia, Branch Head, Nagri Parole, while speaking, made the people aware about various lending schemes like Housing Loan, Transport Loan, Car Loan, Education Loan, etc., tailored by the bank for general public. RuPay debit cards were also distributed to the customers.

Regional Manager, JKGB, Kathua & Samba, Kasturi Lal

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Tender No. CVPP/KIRU/II/C&P/ NIT-01/2018-19/06 Date: 21.04.2018
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